



Licensing Committee Supplement

Wyre Borough Council
Please ask for: **George Ratcliffe**
Assistant Democratic Services Officer
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**Licensing Committee meeting on Wednesday, 22 November 2023 at
10.00 am in the Marine Hall - The Esplanade, Fleetwood**

3. **Application for a new Premises Licence - Valiants Farm,
Lancaster Road, Out Rawcliffe, PR3 6BL** (Pages 3 - 4)

Supplementary Document.

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For the Attention of Licencing Committee.

Re :- Valiants Farm – Hearing Wednesday 22nd November 2023. The Marine Hall Fleetwood

Application for Licencing Subject to the Licencing Act 2003.

The Applicant makes an application subject to the above legislation, yet there are matters in abeyance with The Planning Committee at the same Council. The said Planning Committee have been consulted in relation to today's application, their response being they are not clear at this time whether Planning Permission will be required at a later date.

As the Planning Committee are seized with a previous application by the Applicant, the erection of a stage, surely the outstanding Planning issues should be addressed before further applications are made to a different arm of the Council. It must be incumbent on the Planning Department to complete any unfinished business, before the Applicant can proceed with a Licencing Application. Manipulation of Process is surely a matter the Licencing Committee must consider prior to taking on any application under Licencing legislation. I would therefore ask that the Licencing Committee consider and come to some conclusion regarding the matter of Planning before launching into the Licencing application.

If the Licencing Committee are minded to proceed, the following issues are raised for consideration under the 4 objectives to be met under the relevant legislation.

Prevention of a Public Nuisance.

Given the size of the proposed events, up to 5000 attendees over 36 events it is necessary to consider and critically appraise the geography of the venue. The venue is within the local farming area, the area is populated by small villages with narrow access lanes rather than any 'A' roads. How will it be possible for the local inhabitants to go about their lawful daily business in a sea of 5000 onlookers. Notwithstanding the ability of children to attend their various schools on weekdays, as the Applicant does not confine the events to weekends only.

Over Wyre is something of a logistical nightmare in relation to easy movement, the lanes are not well kept, they are narrow and in parts only fit for one vehicle at a time. How is the area to deal with extra traffic in the form of caravan, coaches, buses, etc plus all the necessary ancillary vehicles required to support concerts of up to 5000, over 3 days.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The 'Rave' held some time ago was not without its problems, no doubt the organizers have learnt something from that experience in terms of marshalling events. However, no amount of surveillance will militate against the unlawful use of drugs, and or the ability for some in attendance not to overstep the mark in relation to their alcohol intake. It is not unusual to find youths engaged in excessive drinking difficult to manage. As a consequence of the above neighbours at the previous event were considerably troubled by attendees, urinating and defecating in their gardens, being sick on driveways, criminal damage to property,

fighting, petty theft and general havoc being caused in what is a relatively small area. Furthermore, some locals were reluctant to go out fearful of being challenged by those not in complete control of themselves.

Public Safety

Given the geography of the venue it is necessary to consider how the authorities could /would manage a major incident. Unfortunately, in this day and age it is necessary to consider the management of the worst case scenario. Should there be a major incident, the ability of the necessary services to tackle such an event is decidedly hampered by the ability of the police, ambulance and fire brigade to quickly access the venue. Neither, is there an abundance of street lighting to assist the emergency services.

The following takes account of access to Lancaster Road Out Rawcliffe:-

- Via St Michaels- Rawcliffe Road. A narrow winding lane in a poor state of repair. No street lighting.
- Via Garstang- Skitham Lane an extremely undulating lane, in places there are considerable ditches at either side of the road. No street lighting.
- Via Little Eccleston- Cartford Lane, taking account of the limits imposed by the toll bridge, and cars parked outside the Inn at the bottom of the road near the bridge entrance. The bridge can only take one lane of traffic.
- Via Hambleton- Crook Gate Lane another bumpy lane in requirement of repair. No street lighting.

There is no 'A' road to the venue and all of the above country lanes, are in need of serious repair coupled with ditches to take account of, plus the lack of street lighting. Consideration must also be given to the River Wyre which can prove dangerous to those not used to being in close proximity to a river.

The granting of a Licence as requested, potentially places extreme pressures on the local police and health service.

Protection of Children from Harm

All of the above places a possible harm on children should they become embroiled with the revellers. Particularly during school days. Further, given the nature of some of the events proposed it is likely children will be on site.

The Council as an Emanation of the State owes a Duty of Care to local residents. Local residents are entitled to enjoy peaceful occupation of their property. The disruption and potential upheaval likely to be caused by so many events in such a restricted area does not sit easily with residents' right to peaceful occupation of their property.

Lesley Peabody Brewer
19th November 2023