From: Justin Tyler [redacted]
Sent: 07 November 2024 11:30
To: Planning
Cc: Luisa Masella
Subject: SPC Comment to Planning Application DC/24/1424

Categories: Consultations

Planning Application DC/24/1424
Proposal: To vary the wording of Condition 27 from the previously approved application DC/16/2856, allowing for extended hours of use of the clubhouse at Horsham Football Club. The application also includes the installation of 20m high netting and posts adjacent to the golf driving range.

Note:
While the application is situated within a designated area for the approved activities according to the Neighbourhood Plan (NP), consideration should be given to the potential impact on neighbouring properties resulting from any changes to approved uses.

SPC Objects to the Planning Application DC/24/1424 for the following reasons:

1. **Traffic Management Plan:**
   A comprehensive traffic management plan is essential to address travel arrangements during the extended hours and to outline measures to prevent potential crime and disorder associated with the lack of a suitable transport plan.
2. **Noise and Light Pollution:**
   The extended hours are very likely to increase noise and light pollution. The FA advises that clubs use partial lighting, reserving full floodlights for matches, to maintain good relations with local residents. Horsham FC currently goes against this guidance using full lighting for both training and matches, and the lights are sometimes left on when the pitches appear to be unused.
   - **Wildlife Impact:** The extended lighting hours may adversely affect local wildlife, particularly bats.
   - **Wind Direction and Noise Levels:** The noise assessment does not fully account for the effects of wind direction, which may amplify noise impact on neighbouring properties.
   - **The noise consultant's report acknowledges that complying with the noise criteria does not necessarily prevent adverse effects**. The applicant should be required to manage and control noise levels to minimise disruption to nearby residents, and an enforceable policy should be conditioned if this application is approved.
   - Nonetheless, compliance with the suggested criteria does not automatically rule out an adverse impact, and the Applicant should be committed to managing and controlling any potential noise impacts as necessary, to minimise the level of noise impacts caused in neighbouring dwellings. – **This has not been dealt with and an enforceable policy needs to be conditioned should the LPA approve this application.**
3. **Lack of Engagement with the Sussex Police Licensing Team:**
   There is no indication that any interaction has taken place with the licensing team at Sussex Police, which could impose additional conditions to ensure public safety during the extended hours.
4. **Noise Management Plan:**
   The noise management plan itself recognises the potential for additional noise during the extended hours. If approved, a planning condition should be imposed to actively manage and control noise levels during these hours.
5. **Resident Objections:**
   Nine objections have been submitted by residents who are most likely to be affected by the increased operating hours.

6. **Previous Restrictions on Operating Hours:**
   Strict conditions on operating hours were included in the original approval, reflecting the Parish Council's stance at the time where extended hours would have been unacceptable to the Parish Council. The Council would not have supported the original application if it had included extended hours and thus the Council stands by this in objection to the extended hours.
7. **Highways Considerations:**
   West Sussex County Council Highways has raised no objection, but they have failed to address the issues posed by an unlit road with narrow footpaths and no public transport, which could present safety risks during late hours.

Kind regards,

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