

**APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE
'WHITECROSS HIGH SCHOOL AND SPECIALIST
SPORTS COLLEGE, HEREFORD, HR4 0RN.'
LICENSING ACT 2003**

Report By: Head Of Environmental Health And Trading Standards

Wards Affected:

Three Elms, Hereford

1. Purpose

To consider an application for a new premises licence in respect of Hereford High School and Specialist Sports College, Hereford, HR4 0RN.

2. Background Information

Applicant	Hereford High School and Specialist Sports College and Whitecross@stepnell Ltd.	
Solicitor	N/A	
Type of application: New	Date received: 12/01/07	28 Days consultation 08/02/07

The original application was received on 21st November 2007 but the notice required to be displayed at the premises was found to be incorrect. The applicant requested to re-start the 28-days, this was done on 12th January 2007.

The advertisement for the premises has been seen and is correct.

3. Licence Application

The application for a new premises licence has received representations from local residents. It is therefore now brought before committee to determine the application.

4. Summary of Application

The licensable activities applied for are: -

Plays

Films

Indoor Sporting Events

Live Music

Recorded Music

Performance of Dance

Provision of Facilities for Making Music

Provision of Facilities for Dancing

- 5 The following hours have been applied for in respect of Plays, Films, Live Music (Indoors and outdoors): -
Monday – Friday 0800 – 2200
- 6 The following hours have been applied for in respect of Indoor Sporting Events. (indoors):-
Monday – Friday 0800 – 2200
Saturday – Sunday 1000 – 1600
- 7 The following hours have been applied for in respect of Recorded Music, Provision of Facilities for Dancing (Indoors and outdoors):-
Monday – Friday 0800 – 2200
Saturday - Sunday 1000 – 2000
- 8 The following hours have been applied for in respect of Performance of Dance (Indoors and outdoors):-
Monday – Friday 0800 – 2200
Saturday - Sunday 1000 – 2200
- 9 The following hours are have been applied for the Provision of for Making Music (indoors):-
Monday – Friday 0730 – 1830
- 10 The premises are to be open to the public: -
Monday – Sunday 0800 – 2200

11 **Non Standard hours**

Plays, Films, Live Music application for 'non-standard' hours. Have been applied for possible presentations at weekends (8.00 - 22.00) due to the specialist events, holiday clubs and school requests (an exact programme of showings can not be given)

Indoor Sporting Events, Recorded Music, Performance of Dance, Provision of Facilities for Dancing,

The timings shown are the anticipated maximum hours. It is not possible to predict when licensed activities will occur though they will generally be within these hours. It is possible that at weekends events may be occasionally extend outside the predicted times to between 0800 – 2200.

Provision of Facilities for Making Music, Timings reflect the hours the School is open, when the facilities will be made available.

12 **Summary of Representations**

Copies of the representations and suggested conditions can be found within the background papers.

West Mercia Police

Have no representation to make.

Environmental Health

Have no representation to make.

Fire Authority.

The fire authority has no objection to the grant of the licence.

Interested Parties.

The Local Authority received twenty one (21) letters of representation in respect of the application from local residents.

13 Negotiation

The Licensing Officer has contacted the applicants in respect of the representations received. Copies of the representations from members of the public have been forwarded to the applicants.

14 Issues for Clarification

This Authority has not requested clarification on any particular points.

15 Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy

In making its decision the committee will be obliged to have regard to its own policy, the DCMS guidance and have regard to all documents specified within the DCMS Guidance.

16 Options: -

It is for the committee to take such steps below as it considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives:

- Grant the licence subject to conditions that are consistent with the operating schedule accompanying the application and the mandatory conditions set out in the Licensing Act 2003.
- Grant the licence subject to modified conditions to that of the operating schedule where the committee considers it necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives and add mandatory condition set out in the Licensing Act 2003.
- To exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates.
- To refuse to specify a person in the licence as the premise supervisor
- To reject the application.

17 Background Papers

- Environmental Health & Trading Standards Comments
- Application Form
- Copies of representation from interested parties.
- Location plan

Background papers were available for inspection in the Council Chamber, Brockington, 35 Hafod Road, Hereford 30 minutes before the start of the hearing.

NOTES**Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, Section S18 (7)****Relevant, vexatious and frivolous representations**

- 5.73 A representation would only be “relevant” if it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives....
- 5.75 It is for the licensing authority to determine on its merits whether any representation by an interested party is frivolous or vexatious....

The licensing authority must determine this and make the decision on the basis of what might ordinarily be considered to be vexatious or frivolous. Vexation may arise because of disputes between rival businesses and local knowledge will therefore be invaluable in considering such matters. Frivolous representations would be essentially categorised by a lack of seriousness....

Licensing Authorities power to exercise substantive discretionary powers.**The British Beer and Pub Association (2) The Association of Licensed Multiple Retailers (3) The British Institute of Inn keeping V Canterbury City Council.**

Contesting the validity of the Licensing policy that asks for certain requirements before the application has been submitted. In the summing up the Judge states; The scheme of the legislation is to leave it to applicants to determine what to include in their applications, subject to the requirements of Section 17 and the Regulations as to the prescribed form and the inclusion of a statement of specified matters in the operating schedule. An applicant who makes the right judgement, so that the application gives rise to no relevant representations, is entitled to the grant of a licence without the imposition of conditions. The licensing authority has no power at all to lay down the contents of an application and has no power to assess an application, or exercise substantive discretionary powers in relation to it, unless there are relevant representations and the decision – making function under section 18 (3) is engaged.