

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 June 2021 10:38  
**To:** Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Application to grant a premises licence - Hereford Rugby Club consultation ends 22 June 2021

Dear Sir / Madam,

I understand that the Hereford Rugby Club wish to extend their licence late into each evening and to 1am on Friday and Saturday nights. As a Landlord with tenant residents at Barton West nearby, we are hoping that you will consider not allowing this extension to go ahead on the grounds that the clubhouse is very near to residential properties and that an extension to the License will inevitably mean, at the very least, noise disturbance for neighbours into the night hours.

There has, over the years, been trouble with drug abuse and nuisance in the area where the Clubhouse is situated and it would be sensible to liaise with the police who will have records on this past experience and include the potential consequences into your decision making and its effect on local residents.

Also, I would suggest that the sale of Alcohol until 1am in the morning and live and recorded music indoors or in a tent will likely mean audible noise late into the night causing nuisance & disturbing residents and will lead to regular complaints and petitions.

I trust that you will carefully consider this application due to its closeness to residences.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 June 2021 11:25  
**To:** Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Objection to Hereford Rugby Club licensing application Ff ref. 59-21

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We dread the idea of Hereford Rugby Club being given a new licence.. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The thought of all the noise of music and revelry possibly 12 hours every single day is not something we should have to tolerate.

It would cease being just a club house and become a noisy pub.....we find it difficult to put in words how this would impact our lives.

We strongly object to the granting of this licence. [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 June 2021 16:25  
**To:** Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Reference: Licence 59-21 Hereford Rugby Football Club Ltd

To whom it may concern,

I would like to raise a serious objection to the granting of the above licence.

I have recently purchased a flat in the Barton West block, overlooking the Rugby Club, as a first time buyer. The peaceful, quiet nature of the location and beautiful views were some of the key factors in attracting me to the property, and I have so enjoyed settling into this quiet residential area over the last couple of months.

I was seriously concerned to hear that the Rugby Club were intending to apply for the above licence, allowing them to play music every night and until the early hours at the weekend. This would absolutely shatter the peace and quiet enjoyed by local residents, and would prompt me to seriously consider selling the property I have just bought, which would be extremely upsetting.

I note in the Hereford Times coverage of the story that the Rugby Club do not anticipate complaints from local residents, as they "have not received them before". However this is clearly because, when events are held on an occasional basis, such as in the case of the Beer on the Wye Festival, residents are happy to tolerate them. Having live and recorded music playing more frequently, later and even during the week would be a completely different matter!

As a young person I enjoy the social scene locally and have no issue with hearing music now and again. However, I chose to buy a property in a quiet, residential location for a reason and the granting of the above licence would utterly change the character of the area; it would be worse than living right next to a nightclub as the sound carries so much.

When the Rugby Club recently erected tents and were serving drinks and playing music outside, it was so loud and impossible to even read a book anywhere in my flat with all the doors and windows shut. However, I was very relieved when this situation turned out to be temporary. If such events become more of a permanent fixture, it will make life really miserable for residents such as myself who have no objection to occasional events taking place but nonetheless really value being able to enjoy the peace and quiet of this lovely area.

I cannot express enough my concern and distress at the above proposal and can only urge you in the strongest terms not to grant it.

With many thanks

[REDACTED]

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 10 June 2021 16:58  
To: Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>  
Subject: Licence 59-21 Hereford Rugby Football Club Ltd

This message originated from outside of Herefordshire Council or Hoople. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

I wish to object to the granting of the above licence. I live in Broomy Hill and can hear the music from the Rugby Club whenever they hold a function.

I do appreciate that as social club there will be occasions (mostly at weekends) when events take place and quite accept this. However I was horrified to read that the Club wish to have a licence to play live music seven days a week from midday until 11 pm extended to 12.30 am Fridays and Saturdays. This would completely destroy the peace and quiet of this residential area.

I cannot emphasise enough my objection to this proposal and ask that things remain as they are at present with the Club applying for a licence on a temporary basis as and when required.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 21 June 2021 09:08  
To: Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>  
Subject: Hereford Rugby Club Extension of License

This message originated from outside of Herefordshire Council or Hoople. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

I wish to object on the extension of the licensing hours of the Rugby Club. Since the Rugby Club has been open recently residents of Barton West have been exposed to very loud music. The windows of the club have been opened wide and not closed. Drunken and loud behaviour by

attendees disrupting the peace and quiet of residents, not just while on the premises but also when leaving.

Sent from my iPad

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**Sent:** 21 June 2021 18:22

**To:** Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Rugby Club

My wife and I are in our late eighties and have been residents in the Broomy Hill Conservation Area for over 40 years enjoying the peace and quiet of this almost a village setting within the City . we have enjoyed seeing and going to Rugby matches at Wyeside BUT we must object to this Application as it will bring more Motor and pedestrian Traffic to the Club and at late hours as shown on the Application.. along a very restricted entrance from Broomy Hill along Belvedere lane

There will be disturbance even after closing time as Visitors to the Club will need to drink up and then disperse. disturbing the neighbourhood . not only as revellers but with Loud music as defined on the Application which cannot be muted with any type of insulation to the building as doors would be open during the opening times.

We realise that all Clubs and Pubs etc need more income but at what price ?. We do not want This Application to succeed as it will affect the neighbourhood and Conservation Area and all who live in the surrounding area . especially the elderly and nearby Nursing Home ... The Club should consider other persons not themselves and find other ways of generating income without applying for this Application which would affect the whole area for ever .

Finally if this Application succeeds it will no doubt set a precedent for other venues in the area such as Rowing Club. Sea cadets . Waterworks Museum and Wareham Court and maybe others to Apply for Music Licences which would also affect the Area .

Yours

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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 20 June 2021 17:16

**To:** Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>

**Subject:** The Rowing club

Dear sir/madam,

I am told that the rugby club have applied to have their licensing hours extended. I wish to object to that very strongly indeed. The noise is already very disturbing especially to my friends who live in the block of flats facing the river, whose life is already being spoilt by all the disturbance.

Yours with many thanks,

[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10 June 2021 09:52  
**To:** Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Licence 59-21 Hereford Rugby Football Club Ltd

I live at [REDACTED] Barton West which overlooks Hereford Rugby Football Clubs pitches and club house.

[REDACTED] on a few occasions my wife and I have been kept awake at night by music from their bar which we viewed as acceptable as I enjoy seeing them play and train - especially the youngsters.

We were however appalled to see they are requesting a licence that will enable them to play music and sell alcohol 1200-2300 every day the week and 1200-0030 every weekend. Such an open licence would, I imagine, give them also an excuse to hold live music events outside the clubhouse which have led to misery for those living in the vicinity and provided problems for the police on occasions.

We strongly disagree with this application and instead revert to the old system of applying for a special licence on an occasional basis.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

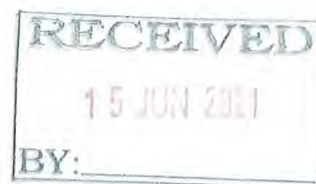
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

To: The Herefordshire Licensing Authority

From: [REDACTED]



Re: Application by Hereford Rugby Football Club

Premises Licence Ref No: 59-21 dated 25.5.21

## OBJECTION

Whilst respecting the contribution the Hereford Rugby Club offers the local community, particularly for youngsters of all genders, I am afraid that my wife and I must write to object to the above application - for the following reasons:

### 1. Noise

The application talks in terms only "regularising" what already takes place. But then, in no uncertain terms, they would like to introduce fundamental change to the use of their facility; fundamental change that takes no consideration into the effect the resultant noise would have on neighbours - far in excess of what we have had to contend with in the past. The question on the application form about Sound Amplification appears to offer an option. We ask that amplification should not be permitted. The Clauses requiring the Prevention of Public Nuisance in the Licensing Objectives must be strictly applied. Perhaps a reasonable decibel limit be set so that noise does not impose on residences within a quarter of a mile. This is emphasised because the application includes the option of having events "in tents". When this has occurred in the past, our experience is that the absence of the sound barrier offered by solid walls, has meant that the noise is much worse. This, combined with the proposed possibility of events continuing up to 0100 hours on Friday and Saturday and on Bank Holiday weekends is such a fundamental change the we object in the strongest possible terms

The applicant claims the purpose of the proposals is just "to regularize" the licensable activities. Thus implying that the activity would continue as in the past, but in a more orderly fashion. But the detail shows that it would be extended to a degree that noise levels are likely to be offensive to the neighbourhood. The applicant also claims that, in effect, there have been no complaints in the past (implying that the proposal would be inconsequential). We, and we are sure that other neighbours, have been on the brink of calling the police. This therefore questions the validity of the applicant's claim. Out of a spirit of good neighbourliness, we have refrained from taking action before this. This has been mainly because the cacophony has usually ended soon after 22.30 hours; it has not been every day and every weekend.

### 2. Alcohol Sales

There is also apprehension about the applicant's intention to sell alcohol "to the public "off" the premises. We believe that this apprehension may well be reflected in the WM Constabulary when bringing to mind the occasional serious incidents that occur along the adjoining Great Western Way, including a fatal stabbing. It may not be understood by the rugby fraternity the extent to which intoxicated revellers use that route on their way home. Those of us who hear their jollity, their shouting, their aggression, and screams ... are only too aware. Any increase, explicitly encouraged by an establishment licensed late into the night, seems to us hardly conducive to good order.

We therefore submit our objections to this licensing application, and ask that they are given serious consideration.

[REDACTED]  
14th June 2021

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**Licensing Act 2003**

**REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED  
PARTIES**

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

**When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.**

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:  
**The Licensing Section,  
Herefordshire Council,  
8 St Owen Street,  
Hereford,  
HR1 2PJ  
licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk**

<b>Your Name:</b> MICHAEL WILLIAMS	<b>Contact Telephone No.</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Address:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>E-mail address:</b> [REDACTED]
	<b>Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about:</b> COMPANY SECRETARY OF 73 BARTON ROAD MANAGEMENT LTD WHICH OVERLOOKS THE HEREFORD RUGBY CLUB PITCHES
<b>Name &amp; Address of premises you are making a representation about:</b>  HEREFORD RUGBY CLUB, WYESIDE, HEREFORD HR4	

**DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here ..... if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing.**

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

**To Prevent Crime & Disorder**

OUR RESIDENTS HAVE IN THE PAST REPORTED CRIME ON THE RUGBY CLUB GROUNDS WHICH IS ONLY LIKELY TO INCREASE AT LIVE MUSIC EVENTS, ETC.

**Public Safety**

THE GREAT WESTER WAY HAS ALREADY BEEN A VENUE FOR VIOLENT ATTACKS AND THIS APPLICATION WILL ONLY INCREASE LATE NIGHT USE OF THIS AREA.

**To Prevent Public Nuisance**

THE LICENCE APPLICATION WOULD ALLOW THE CLUB TO OPERATE OVER MUCH LONGER HOURS AS AN ENTERTAINMENT VENUE PLAYING LIVE & RECORDED MUSIC AND SELLING ALCOHOL BOTH ON & OFF SITE. IN THE PAST, PARTICULARLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, AT TICKETED EVENTS ON SITE OUR GROUNDS HAVE BEEN USED AS A SHORT CUT FROM THE CITY CENTRE TO THE RUGBY CLUB. ATTENDEES CLIMB OVER OUR SECURITY GATES AND FENCES WHICH BACK ONTO THE RUGBY PITCHES CAUSING DAMAGE AS THEY GO AND, IF CONFRONTED ABOUT THEIR ACTIONS ARE GENERALLY AGGRESSIVE TOWARDS OUR TENANTS.

REGULAR LATE NIGHT MUSIC WILL BE A NUISANCE TO ALL THE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES WHICH SURROUND AND OVERLOOK THE RUGBY CLUB

**To Protect Children from Harm**

Signed: [REDACTED]

Date: 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact the Licensing Helpline on 01432 261761





## Representation Form – Interested Parties Suggested Conditions

**Premise:** HEREFORD RUGBY CLUB **Your name:** [REDACTED]

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

<b>To Prevent Crime and Disorder</b>
<b>Public Safety</b> CURRENTLY MOST EVENTS FINISH AND THE CLUB IS CLOSED BY 9.30PM ALLOWING ATTENDEES TO GET HOME SAFELY
<b>Prevent Public Nuisance</b> THE EXISTING LICENCE WORKS REASONABLY WELL AND ALLOWS THE CLUB TO OPERATE ITS PRIMARY FUNCTION AS A RUGBY CLUB WITHOUT CAUSING UNDUE DISTURBANCE TO ITS NEIGHBOURS
<b>Protect Children from Harm</b>

Signed: [REDACTED]

Date: 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact the Licensing Helpline on 01432 261761
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*15<sup>th</sup>. June 2021.*



*Hereford Rugby club Submission 59-21.*

*Dear Sir's*

*We are very concerned by the report that Hereford Rugby Club are applying to increase their normal hours of business and to operate an entertainment venue and to play recorded/live music and to sell alcohol both on and off the site.*

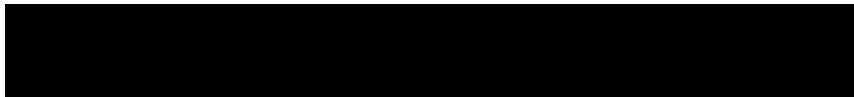
*We have made complaints in the past to Hereford Rugby Club regarding excessive noise and drunken behaviour going on until 4am. Resulting in a sleepless night for the people in Barton West. When events have been held on the pitch we have had people climbing over our gates, crossing our property and damaging our hedge that a joins the Rugby Club field to get to these events.*

*To have recorded/ live music going on until 1am.would be totally unacceptable and would make it unbearable for all of us at Barton West as*

*we overlook the Rugby Club with only 50m. between us at Barton West and the Rugby Club buildings.*

*A prime example of what will occur is what took place on Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup>. 2021. There was a large gathering at the Rugby Club from midday. As it was a lovely warm evening we were sat on our balcony overlooking the Rugby Club field hoping to enjoy a quiet evening enjoying the warmth but this gathering went on until late evening with loud music, drunkenness and rowdy behaviour culminating in three of these men running around the pitch naked close to our building where one man decided to turn his back to us bend over and show his backside. We have to say that we were not the only ones to see this display.*

*We wish to reiterate that it would not be a good idea for the council to approve this application and urge the council to reject the application as it would result in a vast reduction in the quality of life for all the residents in the Barton West building.*





## HEREFORD RUGBY CLUB SUBMISSION 59-21

Dear Sir,

I have lived here happily since 2004 and I am very disturbed by the report, in the Hereford Times, that Hereford Rugby Club are in negotiations with Hereford Council to try to very significantly expand the range and frequency of potentially major events and also to vastly increase their normal hours of business to operate an entertainment venue licensed to play recorded/live music and to sell alcohol both on and off site.

I must stress that this is in no way a NIMBY initiative on my part. Over the years we have maintained a generally good relationship with the Rugby Club. On a number of occasions we have informed them when we have observed suspicious activity in the area of their buildings, for which they have expressed their thanks.

The claim by the Rugby Club that authorities have never been called to the club area is simply untrue. There was an extended period when the club grounds were under investigation by the police because of potential drug activities. One of the residents of Barton West took videos of this activity which she gave to the police. West Mercia Police visited Barton West and took statements from all residents. Clearly we are not party to the details of the police investigation, but I am sure that West Mercia Police will have a record of what occurred.

Their claim that no complaints have ever been made is disingenuous, to say the least. There have been a number of occasions over the years when the rugby club management have been contacted with regards to noise and also invasive activity through our property by people climbing our fences either to gain access or egress to/from the rugby club area. On one notable occasion the rugby club was holding a ticketed event and people were trying to gain free entry by going through our property. We contacted the club, but they did nothing to stop it and several of residents were the subject of aggressive behavior on that occasion.

At present the vast majority of events take place during the hours of daylight and social events have been confined to the inside of the clubhouse. In the very recent past the club erected open tents and ran some sort of restaurant venue. It was sometimes quite noisy but it was generally all over by 9:30, so no complaints were made. It is worthy of note that an activity of this nature would appeal to an older, less excitable, customer, however music festivals and late night drinking will appeal to a different dynamic and will undoubtedly be very loud and disruptive.

The introduction of live music would generate unacceptable levels of noise, particularly as the intention of the club is to do it until 1:00 a.m. on a weekly basis. This is not acceptable and will significantly damage the quality of life for the residents of all local residents close to the rugby field.

It is inevitable that large gatherings of people with access to legal alcohol and no doubt with the potential presence of drugs will make for a very rowdy cocktail. Also, if it is a ticketed event, there will be a significant risk of people trying to get in free by forcing their way through our property yet again.

The Great Western Way has been the site of a number of violent attacks in the past, including Murder and Rape, with the result that cameras have been installed on the old railway bridge across the Wye. Whilst this is not the responsibility of the rugby club, it is an area with a reputation for concern during the hours of darkness

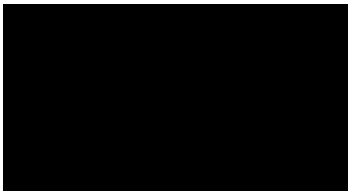
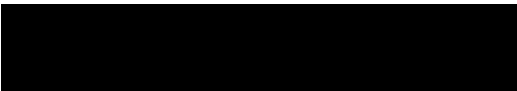
I fully support any initiative to raise the profile of Hereford and offer citizens additional opportunities for entertainment, but not if it significantly, adversely effects the lives of residents. This is not the right place for a venue of this nature and should not be permitted.

In closing I wish to reiterate that this is not a good idea and should be resisted by the council. Should it be approved the result will inevitably be a significant reduction in the quality of life for all residents in the area and will significantly increase the potential for drunken disturbances in the area, which will, of course, place an addition stain on police resources to deal with it.

Regards

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.





The Licensing Section  
Herefordshire Council  
8 St Owen Street  
HEREFORD, HR1 2PJ

14 June 2021

**Licensing Application 59-21**

As owners at Barton West, my wife and I strongly oppose the referenced Application by Hereford Rugby Club to “regularise” activities and to play live and recorded music at specific times.

Barton West Apartments overlook the Wyese side playing fields and are the closest premises to the Hereford Rugby Club House. By asking for a change in their existing status, the Club appear to be changing their sporting club presence to that of an extremely busy outdoor Public House. It is appreciated that the current Pandemic has resulted in severe financial losses for sporting clubs, but their current proposal will have considerable impact on our current tranquil environment of our location, plus local communities.

Most Barton West’s owners have experienced the previous “temporary events”, which have at times impacted on our lives, with high levels of chatter, singing and a small number of larger musical events. However, these events have ceased at round the midnight mark, but at an event on Saturday, June 7 2008, the police were called late evening following an accusation of rape, with the result that the event was stopped and for the following day. Also, although the Application states that the Music License is for indoor only, the sound through the large pavilion windows has been found to be, in the past, very intrusive.

Another factor to be considered is that householders are currently being advised to keep homes ventilated to help suppress the Covid-19 Virus, whereas owners have found it necessary to close Apartment windows to block out the excessive sound from the various events. However, the new Licence Application is for all 7 days to either 12.00 am or 1.00 am. Put another way, temporary events embraced under 20 hours a week and the new request extends to some 102 hours a week; a 80% increase or 14.5 hours a day.! Opening hours of such length would surely have detrimental effect on local people’s health?

Consequently, having enjoyed our location for the past 17 years, we firmly oppose the Application for longer opening hours.

