

Report to: Licensing Sub Committee

Date: 27th August 2021

Title: Application for a new Premises Licence at Martello Fields, College Road, Seaford, BN25 1JD

Report of: Director of Service Delivery

Ward(s):

Purpose of report: To provide information in order that the Sub Committee can determine an application for a Premises Licence

Officer recommendation(s): The Sub Committee is asked to determine the application in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended), LDC Licensing Policy and the Home Office Guidance issued per Section 182 Licensing Act 2003, whilst having due regard to the applicant's submissions and relevant representations.

Reasons for recommendations: An application has been received for a Premises Licence, pursuant to Section 17 Licensing Act 2003. Representations have been made by local residents.

Contact Officer(s): Name: Paul Thornton
Post title: Specialist Advisor (Licensing)
E-mail: paul.thornton@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
Telephone number: 01323 415140

1 SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

- 1.1 This is supplementary information to a report published on 19th August 2021 concerning an application for a Premises Licence at Martello Fields, College Road, Seaford, BN25 1JD
- 1.2 Since publication of the main report there have been three further representations which are attached at **Appendix 1. Two of these oppose the application and the other supports it.**
- 1.3 The Committee are reminded to only consider relevant representations and thus should not take into account comments relating to the need for a certain type of event, traffic issues, police resources or whether the granting of a licence will affect other licensed outlets in the town. In addition, comments about previous incidents at the location need not be considered as these events were not under the control of this applicant or anyone connected with this application. These comments are not relevant for the purposes of the Licensing Act 2003.
- 1.4 The relevant parts of the new representations concern noise and disorder.

1.5 None of the Responsible Authorities has raised objections to this application.

1.6 If the Committee decides to grant the application, members are asked to consider placing the following condition on the licence;

'The Premises Licence will only be valid if it is run in accordance with all aspects of the latest version of the Event Management Plan. Any changes to this plan must be notified in writing immediately to Sussex Police and the Licensing Authority for Lewes District Council.'

Appendix 1 Representations:



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 August 2021 15:05
To: Thornton, Paul <Paul.Thornton@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk>; licensing <licensing@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk>
Cc: admin@seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk
Subject: Re: objection to event on 29th August in Seaford

23rd August 2021

As it is unlikely that we can get to the hearing on Friday 27th we would like to add other comments which we have since gathered from the **Public Document Pack, Chapter 10, page 85, point 2.22** which talks about '**Protection of Children from Harm**'

It puts in legal language some of our reasons for not wanting this event to have an all-day alcohol licence. (everything in bold is quoted from the document.)It says-

'The protection of children from harm includes from the harms associated with alcohol consumption, but also wider harms such as exposure to strong language and sexual expletives,(for example, in the context of exposure to certain adult entertainment) and excessive drinking.

In point 2.21- says any event **'should respect the rights of people nearby to a peaceful night'** The sale of alcohol all day is very likely going to cause some rowdy behaviour on the field through the day, requiring some police presence, (who will arrange and pay for that?. After it closes at 9pm there will inevitably be a large crowd in high spirits going along the residential streets to get a bus or train home. At the same time all the cars packed on the seafront will want to get away and probably require Police to organise the traffic. The nearby local Seaford residents will have to put up with the disturbance outside their houses and/or the Council foot a bill (actually from the resident's pocket)?

We thank you in advance for receiving all comments from Seaford locals and we're sure the right decision will be made in the best interest for Seaford.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Below is a copy of our original letter as well.

To Lewes District Council & Seaford Town Council

16th August 2021

Dear Sirs/Madam,

We are residents in Seaford and on our jog down to the sea we saw a Public Notice of an application made by Breakwater Event Support Ltd to hold an event at the Martello Fields, requesting a licence for alcohol and live music indoors and outside on Sunday 29th August.

We would like make representation to ask that the licence is not given to Breakwater Event Support Ltd. We are very unhappy that this sort of event should take place in Seaford especially knowing that once a licence is given there will no doubt be other regular events of the same nature. I do believe this would be replacing the usual Donkey Derby, which is a good local family event. Seaford is a peaceful, unspoilt seaside family-oriented town with a large retired population.

Having seen the media coverage for Pride events it is not suitable for young families, as it is clearly a noisy, crowded gathering of adults, (which is not very wise considering how easily Covid is caught when in close contact with others), who often drink too much, leading to sexually provocative or aggressive behaviour. Visitors come to Seaford to enjoy the quiet town, unspoilt beach and wonderful cliff walks. With all the lock down measures our local pubs and cafes have already suffered terribly, giving this event a licence to serve alcohol all day means our local pubs will not benefit from the event, instead it will encourage rowdy behaviour alongside the loud music. The field is also close to local streets and residents, who will have to suffer the constant loud music and probably some unruly drunken behaviour as they leave the field.

We hope you can see our point of view for Seaford by turning down this application for a licence from Breakwater Event Support Ltd

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We thank you in advance for receiving all comments from Seaford locals and we're sure the right decision will be made in the best interest for Seaford.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Sent: 26 August 2021 16:18

To: Thornton, Paul <Paul.Thornton@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Bank Holiday Licensing Application

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr Thornton

I wish to lodge an objection to the application for a license to sell alcohol on the Martello Fields in Seaford on the following grounds:

1. There is unlikely to be adequate policing to deal with anti-social behaviour at or near the event venue. Double parking will be an additional hazard as has been witnessed in the vicinity of the seafront during the summer school holidays.
2. The provision of alcohol at a public event heightens the risk of unruly behaviour and drink driving. Sussex police will have other priorities policing the county's key seaside resorts this bank holiday weekend.

I intend being present to make my objections to the Licensing Sub-Committee.

Yours faithfully



From: [REDACTED] <>
Sent: 26 August 2021 16:10
To: Jackson Tony <tony.jackson@seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk>; Reed Cllr Rodney <cllr.rodney.reed@seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk>; Chugg Adam <adam.chugg@seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk>; James Meek Cllr <cllr.james.meek@seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk>; Sharp, Peter <Peter.Sharp@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk>; Davis Clare <clare.davis@travelcounsellors.com>; Brown Rachel <secretary@seafordchamber.co.uk>
Cc: SPML Office ospm <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Pride Event this weekend

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi folks

Sorry to add to the maelstrom on this... but I've just learned that there is some resistance to this innovative event taking place. I realise the various Councils are stuck in the middle, and are making a decision tomorrow.

In case you have only had deputations from the anti- side, I feel compelled to express my fullest support in the strongest terms possible for the event to take place.

My reasons are:

- That some people with old-fashioned, unenlightened prejudices are raising concerns, exactly demonstrates why the event is necessary
- The whole reason Pride events were started in the first place, was to raise awareness of a vast discriminated-against section of society. It would seem Seaford needs the same demonstration.
- I would be appalled at the message that a cancellation would send out, about Seaford as a town. The negative Press would be irreversible.
- If people are worried about noise, music etc, this can be filed under "We don't like people enjoying themselves" 🗣️🔊
- Finally, the event will bring people, money and fun into the town. I've attended many Pride events and they are fully appropriate for families, which I know was one of the "concerns" raised. Personally I'm not sure how anyone can object to sharing a message of tolerance and loving people?

I know I'm only one voice, and am writing only in my capacity as an individual, but every friend I have here feels the same, and I am happy to be quoted on any of this.

I love this town, and celebrate the steps we've already achieved in developing more forward-looking attitudes. Let's keep it going 😊

As Bob Marley said: One Love 🤝🚩🌈

Good luck with adjudicating!

Yours sincerely

Neal

[Redacted signature]