



**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE**

**FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2009**

**AT 10.00 A.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE COUNCIL HOUSE, BURCOT LANE, BROMSGROVE**

MEMBERS: Councillors Mrs. R. L. Dent, Mrs. M. A. Sherrey JP and Mrs. C. J. Spencer

**AGENDA**

Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing Procedure (Pages 1 - 4)

1. Appointment of Chairman for the meeting
2. To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitutes
3. Declarations of Interest
4. To consider an application to vary a Club Premises Certificate in respect of Romsley and Hunnington Sports Club, rear of 332 Bromsgrove Road, Hunnington, Halesowen (Pages 5 - 46)
5. To consider any other business, details of which have been notified to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services prior to the commencement of the meeting and which the Chairman, by reason of special circumstances, considers to be of so urgent a nature that it cannot wait until the next meeting

K. DICKS  
Joint Chief Executive

The Council House  
Burcot Lane  
BROMSGROVE  
Worcestershire  
B60 1AA

18th November 2009

This page is intentionally left blank

# Appendix

## LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

### HEARING PROCEDURE

1. The Chairman will open the hearing and introduce members of the Sub-Committee and officers present.
2. The Chairman will ask all other people present to introduce themselves.
3. The Chairman will remind the Applicant and each party present that they can be represented by a legal representative at their own expense.
4. The Licensing Officer will present the report.
5. The Chairman will invite Members of the Sub-Committee and all other parties present to put any relevant questions to the Licensing Officer.
6. The Chairman will invite the Applicant and/or his/her representative to present his/her case and call any witnesses. The Applicant will be allowed a maximum of 10 minutes to present the case.
7. The Chairman will invite Members of the Sub-Committee and all other parties present to put any relevant questions to the Applicant.
8. The Chairman will invite the Responsible Authorities to present their representations. New representations must not be raised. The Responsible Authorities will be allowed a total of 10 minutes to present their case(s). If two or more Responsible Authorities wish to address the Sub-Committee the 10 minutes will be divided between them.
9. The Chairman will invite Members of the Sub-Committee and all other parties present to put any relevant questions to the Responsible Authorities.
10. Interested Parties will be invited to present their representations or elect a spokesperson (which may be a Councillor) to speak on their behalf. New representations must not be raised. A maximum of 10 minutes will be allowed for the Interested Parties to present their case(s). If two or more Interested Parties wish to address the Sub-Committee the 10 minutes will be divided between them.

- 11. The Chairman will invite Members of the Sub-Committee and all other parties present to put any relevant questions to the Interested Parties.**
- 12. The Interested Parties will be invited to sum up. A maximum of 5 minutes will be allowed.**
- 13. The Responsible Authorities will be invited to sum up. A maximum of 5 minutes will be allowed.**
- 14. The Applicant will be invited to sum up. A maximum of 5 minutes will be allowed.**
- 15. At the conclusion of the hearing all parties, including the Licensing Officer, will be asked to withdraw. The Members of the Sub-Committee, the Legal Adviser and the Committee Services Officer will remain.**
- 16. Once the Sub-Committee has reached its decision, all parties will be invited to return. The Sub-Committee's decision, together with the reasons for the decision, will be announced by the Chairman.**
- 17. The Sub-Committee's decision will be confirmed in writing to the Applicant and those parties who made representations.**

**Please Note:**

1. ***Each application coming before the Licensing Sub-Committee will be treated on its own merits, and the Sub-Committee will take its decision based upon:***
  - a) ***the promotion of the four licensing objectives, as given by the Licensing Act 2003, namely:***
    - ***the prevention of crime and disorder;***
    - ***public safety;***
    - ***the prevention of public nuisance; and***
    - ***the protection of children from harm;***
    -
  - b) ***Bromsgrove District Council's Statement of Licensing Policy;***
  - c) ***guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003; and***
  - d) ***the Licensing Act 2003.***
2. ***The Chairman may require any person who in his/her opinion is behaving in a disruptive manner to leave the meeting, and may refuse to permit that person to return, or permit him/her to return only on such conditions as the Chairman may specify. However, such person may, before the end of the hearing, submit in writing any information which he/she would have been entitled to have given orally at the meeting had he/she not been required to leave.***
3. ***Decisions may be taken in the absence of the Applicant or any other party. All notices and representations received from absent parties will be considered.***
4. ***Questioning must not be hostile or intended to unfairly undermine the position of any party.***
5. ***Late evidence will only be considered with the agreement of all parties present.***
6. ***In cases where a decision cannot be given at the end of the hearing, the decision will be made within 5 working days.***
7. ***An appeal to the Magistrates' Court against the Sub-Committee's decision must be lodged within 21 days of the date on which all parties were notified in writing of the decision of the Licensing Sub-Committee.***
8. ***All meetings are recorded.***

This page is intentionally left blank

## **BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE**

**27TH NOVEMBER 2009**

#### **APPLICATION TO VARY A CLUB PREMISES CERTIFICATE – ROMSLEY AND HUNNINGTON SPORTS CLUB**

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Cllr. P. Whittaker
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Planning and Environment Services

#### **1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 To consider an application to vary a Club Premises Certificate in respect of Romsley and Hunnington Sports Club, rear of 332 Bromsgrove Road, Hunnington, Halesowen.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That Members determine the variation application. The variation may be refused, or it may be granted in whole or in part (with additional conditions, if appropriate), and all of it or part of it may be applied to the whole or part of the premises provided that the Sub-Committee's decision is consistent with the licensing objectives and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Licensing Authority has received an application to vary the existing permissions, in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.

- 3.2 The current hours of operation, as authorised by the existing Certificate are as follows:

- The supply of alcohol: 11.00 a.m. – 11.00 p.m. Monday to Saturday  
12 noon – 10.30 p.m. on Sunday  
12 noon – 10.30 p.m. on Good Friday  
Christmas Day – must not exceed more than 6 and half hours beginning no earlier than 12 noon and end no later than 10.30 p.m.  
New Year's Eve\*

\*On New Year's Eve from the end of permitted hours on New Year's Eve to the start of permitted hours on the following day.

- The retail of alcohol: 11.00 a.m. – 11.00 p.m. Monday to Saturday  
12 noon – 10.30 p.m. on Sunday  
12 noon – 10.30 p.m. on Good Friday  
Christmas Day – must not exceed more than 6  
and half hours beginning no earlier than 12  
noon and end no later than 10.30 p.m.  
New Year's Eve\*

\*On New Year's Eve from the end of permitted hours on New Year's Eve to the start of permitted hours on the following day.

3.3 The application to vary the licence has three elements:

- To extend the hours of operation for the supply and retail sale of alcohol;
- To introduce regulated entertainment;
- To remove all conditions retained by the transition process as set out the previous Club Registration Certificate issued by the Magistrates' Court. The conditions are set out at Appendix 'A'.

3.4 The effect of the proposed variation would be as follows:

**Supply sale of alcohol to Members of the Club**

- 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 a.m. into the morning following every Monday through to Sunday.

**Retail sale of alcohol to Guests**

- 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 a.m. into the morning following every Monday through to Sunday.

**Provision of regulated entertainment in the form of live music (inside the premises)**

- 10.00 a.m. - 12.30 a.m. into the morning following every Monday through to Sunday.

**Provision of regulated entertainment in the form of recorded music, anything of a similar description to that of live music, recorded music or performance of dance, facilities for making music (inside the premises)**

- 10.00 a.m. – 01.00 a.m. into the morning following every Monday through to Sunday.

**Actual opening hours of the Club**

- 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 a.m. into the morning following every Monday through to Sunday.

3.5 As part of the application process, the applicants are required to carry out a risk assessment of the effect the proposed variation would have on the four licensing objectives and what steps they intend to take in order to promote



these objectives should the variation be granted. For ease of reference, the four licensing objectives are as follows:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

Details of the steps the applicant intends to take are set out at Appendix 'B'.

- 3.6 In accordance with the Licensing Act, anyone residing, or a body representing persons or has business interests in the vicinity of a premises for which an application has been made is entitled to make representations. 'Vicinity' is not defined in the Licensing Act.
- 3.7 Representations have been made by 13 residents living near to the premises as well as a local business. A copy of each representation is attached at Appendix 'C'. The basis of their representations relate to noise associated with people leaving the premises. They feel that the extension in hours would only exacerbate the problems highlighted and it is considered that the proposed variation would undermine the licensing objective, prevention of public nuisance.
- 3.8 A Representation has also been received from the Parish Council of Hunnington. A copy of their representation is attached at Appendix 'D'.
- 3.9 We have also received 7 letters of support from members of the Club. Copies of their correspondence are attached at Appendix 'E'.
- 3.10 A plan showing the proximity of residential properties is attached at Appendix 'F'.
- 3.11 A plan showing the floor layout of the Club is attached at Appendix 'G'.
- 3.12 No representations have been received from the responsible authorities.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this Report. However if either party made a successful appeal to the Magistrates' Court against the decision of the Council, the Council may be liable for any legal costs.

#### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Each party is entitled to appeal to the Magistrates' Court if they are dissatisfied with the decision of the Council, within 21 days from the date of decision.

- 5.2 The Sub-Committee must have regard to the Statutory Guidance, issued by the Secretary of State under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.
- 5.3 The Sub-Committee must have regard to the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.
- 5.4 The conduct of the Sub-Committee is governed by the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005, as amended.
- 5.5 The Sub-Committee is reminded that the Human Rights Act 1998 guarantees the right to a fair hearing for all parties in the determination of their civil rights.

## **6. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES**

- 6.1 This item links with the Council Objective CO2.

## **7. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1 The main risk associated with the details included in this report are:

- Decision made without having regard to Council Policy, Guidance issued by Secretary of State and governing legislation.

- 7.2 This risk is being managed as follows:

- Adhere to all licensing policies and legislation when determining applications for all licensing functions.
- Risk Register: Planning and Environment Services
- Key Objective Ref No. 7

## **8. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 All parties will be notified of the Council's decision in writing.

## **9. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 All applicants are dealt with on their own individual merits are accepted in line with legislation and Council Policy.

## **10. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 None.

## 11. CLIMATE CHANGE AND CARBON IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None

## 12. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Procurement Issues – None
Personnel Implications – None
Governance/Performance Management – None
Community Safety including Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 – None
Policy – The Council’s Statement of Licensing Policy applies to this application. This reads: “ <i>We will consider every application sent to us, on its individual merits. When we make licensing decisions we will promote:</i> ” <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>prevention of crime and disorder;</i></li><li>▪ <i>protection of public safety;</i></li><li>▪ <i>prevention of public nuisance, and</i></li><li>▪ <i>protection of children from harm.”</i></li></ul>
Biodiversity - None

## 13. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT

Portfolio Holder	Yes
Joint Chief Executive	No
Executive Director – Partnerships and Projects	No
Executive Director - Services	No
Assistant Chief Executive	No
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Financial Services	No
Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services	Yes
Head of Organisational Development & HR	No
Corporate Procurement Team	No

#### **14. APPENDICES**

Appendix A – Details of intended measures to address licensing objectives

Appendix B - List of conditions attached to existing Certificate

Appendix C - Letters of objection from local residents

Appendix D - Letter of objection from the Parish Council

Appendix E – Letters of support from Members of the Club

Appendix F - Plan of the area

Appendix G – Floor layout of Club

#### **15. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Application form received on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Memo received from Environmental Services dated 6<sup>th</sup> March 2008

Letter received from Worcestershire County Council – Safeguarding and Quality Assurance dated 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Letter received from Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority dated 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009

12 letters of objection received from local residents received during October 2009

Letter of objection received from a local business dated 29<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Letter of objection received from Hunnington Parish Council dated 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009

#### **Contact officer**

Name: Sharon Smith, Principal Licensing Officer

E Mail: [sharon.smith@bromsgrove.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.smith@bromsgrove.gov.uk)

Tel: (01527) 881626

**P Describe the steps you intend to take to promote the four licensing objectives:**

**a) General – all four licensing objectives (b,c,d,e) (please read guidance note 9)**

TO OPERATE THE CLUB IN LINE THE THE RULES OF THE CLUB COPY INCLOSED AND TO COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF THE LINCENSE AT ALL TIMES.

**b) The prevention of crime and disorder**

CCTV CAMERAS HAVE NOW BEEN IASTALLED FOR 12 MONTHS WITH TAPES AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY POLICE OR RELEVANT AUTHORITES BY REQUEST.  
ACCESS WILL BE FOR MEMBERS AND MEMBERS QUESTS ONLY.

**c) Public safety**

DISABLED ACCESS, FIRE DOORS, OUTSIDE LIGHTING, CAR PARK LIGHTING, ALL FIRE REGULATIONS ADHERED TO.

**d) The prevention of public nuisance**

ALL WINDOWS & DOORS CLOSED AT 23.00 HOURS DURING REGULATED ENTERTAINMENT BUT DOORS REMAIN UNLOCKED TO COMPLY WITH FIRE REGULATIONS.

**e) The protection of children from harm**

ALL MINORS TO UNDER SUPERVISION OF PARENTS OR GUARDIAN CLUB MEMBERSAT ALL TIME.  
NO MINORS ALLOWED INTO THE CLUB PREISES WITHOUT THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN PAID UP MEMBER PRESANT AND ON SITE.

Please tick yes

This page is intentionally left blank



# Bromsgrove District Council

The Council House, Burcot Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcs., B60 1AA.

www.bromsgrove.gov.uk

Licensing Act 2003

## Club Premises Certificate

# 42

### ANNEX 1

#### Mandatory Conditions

- (a) The supply of alcohol must be made at a time when the premises are open for the purposes of supplying alcohol, in accordance with the club premises certificate, to members of the club for consumption on the premises.

**Conditions retained by the transition process as embedded in the Licensing Act 1964 s.59, 60, 63, 67A, 68, 70, 74, 76 and 78.**

- (a) Alcohol shall not be sold or supplied except during permitted hours.

Permitted hours means:

- On weekdays, other than Christmas Day, Good Friday or New Year's Eve, 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m.
- On Sundays, other than Christmas Day or New Year's Eve, 12 noon to 10.30 p.m.
- On Good Friday, 12 noon to 10.30 p.m.
- On Christmas Day, 12 noon to 3.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.
- On New Year's Eve, except on a Sunday, 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m.
- On New Year's Eve on a Sunday, 12 noon to 10.30 p.m.
- On New Year's Eve from the end of permitted hours on New Year's Eve to the start of permitted hours on the following day, which would be 10.00 a.m. if New Year's Day falls on a weekday or 12 noon if a Sunday.
- On Christmas day, as provided by the rules of the club and notified in writing by the chairman or secretary of the club to the licensing authority. The said hours shall:
  - i. not exceed six and a half hours;
  - ii. not begin earlier than 12 noon;
  - iii. not end later than 10.30 p.m.
  - iv. provide for a break of at least 2 hours, including 3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.;
  - v. not extend for more than three and a half hours after 5.00 p.m.

- (b) The above restrictions do not prohibit:

- During the first twenty minutes after the above hours, the consumption of alcohol on the premises;
- During the first twenty minutes after the above hours, the taking of alcohol from the premises, unless the alcohol is supplied or taken in an open vessel;
- During the first thirty minutes after the above hours, the consumption of alcohol on the premises by persons taking meals there if the alcohol was supplied as ancillary to the meals;
- The supply to, or consumption by, any person of alcohol in any premises where they are residing.

### Annex 2

#### Conditions consistent with the operating schedule

Not applicable.

This page is intentionally left blank



**Sent:** 27 October 2009 11:29

**To:** John Davies

**Subject:** Application for Extension of Licensing Hours by Hunnington Cricket Club

Dear Mr Davies

We would like to register our objection to the application to extend licensing hours by Hunnington Cricket Club.

We live on the Bromsgrove Road further down from the Club and we experience problems especially at the weekend with cars roaring down the road at great speed after leaving the Club. It is quite frightening to lie in bed and hear these vehicles racing past at well in excess of the speed limit (30mph) on a dark road with no street lighting. We live on a bend where there have already been four accidents in the past two years caused by drivers taking the bend at excessive speed. Whilst these accidents have not to my knowledge involved people leaving the Club we feel it is an accident waiting to happen. To extend the hours would undoubtedly mean drivers leaving later and, one might reasonably assume, having consumed more alcohol, hurtling down past our homes at about 2 am which we feel is totally unacceptable in a semi rural environment. We also experience noise nuisance from people walking back home towards Halesowen having left the club. Again, having people leaving in the early hours of the morning having one might assume consumed considerably more alcohol is only going to make this worse.

We feel that the proposals would in effect put the cricket club on a par with a night club and there is no way that such establishments should be located in semi rural residential districts with no street lighting. In city centres when these establishments empty out in the small hours of the morning there are police officers and security personnel on duty and taxi ranks etc nearby. We have nothing similar. Also, to judge by the terrible parking situation caused by this club, many of its clients drive there and back and we feel extending the hours will only increase the likelihood of drink driving and all its potential consequences.

We feel that to grant this application would be sheer madness and we hope that the council will take residents' wholly legitimate concerns into account when coming to their decision.

Many thanks

29/10/2009

29<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Dear Mr Davies,

Ref Romsley and Hunnington Cricket & Bowls Social Club

Further to the recent notification to our Parish Council outlining the application of the above business to vary its licence, may we confirm that we strongly object to the application.

We have lived in the Parish for many years and own two businesses that are directly adjacent to the Club. These are the Caravan storage site at the old railway station and what was the old Toffee factory shop, which is now a rental property containing 5 households. We have over the past few years experienced a number of problems with the Social Club. These have been outlined to the Parish Council and Bromsgrove Council previously, the latest was reported to you in August 2009.

In our view, allowing what was traditionally a small members club to sell alcohol and allow live entertainment until 01.30am, would be extremely detrimental to the local area and will only increase the problems we have previously experienced and is likely to have an adverse affect on our business, in particular the rental property. As landlords, we have been contacted regularly by our tenants over the past 2 years and been asked to resolve complaints, which originated from activity at the Social Club. These complaints included:

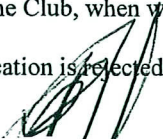
- Excessive noise in the small hours
- Problems with parking (there vehicles were blocked in by club patrons)
- Anti-social behaviour – bottle thrown through window
- Security light shining (on Car Park) into upstairs households

Should these issues become a regular occurrence, which allowing alcohol to be sold in a rural area until 01.30, we believe they undoubtedly would, we have grave concerns that we will lose our existing tenants and will then also have difficulty re-letting.

Our caravan storage clients have been affected by dangerous and stubborn parking, particularly on dry summer weekends, when both the cricket and bowling facilities are heavily used. Patrons of the club have regular parked in the private drive and blocked the top of the entrance to the driveway. These problems are only resolved by the Club, when we now complain. The club do little to control potential problems.

We trust the application is rejected

Yours Sincerely,



29<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Dear Mr Davies,

Ref Romsley and Hunnington Cricket & Bowls Social Club

Further to the recent notification to our Parish Council outlining the application of the above business to vary its licence, may we confirm that we strongly object to the application.

We live locally to the Club in a rented property and have over the past few years experienced a number of problems. These have been outlined to the Parish Council and Bromsgrove Council on various occasions, the latest was reported to you in August 2009.

These problems will include:

- Excessive noise in the small hours
- Security light shining (on Car Park) into households
- Anti-social behaviour – bottle thrown through window
- Problems with parking (there vehicles were blocked in by club patrons)

Hunnington is a small rural village, which is currently served well by local public houses in Hunnington & Romsley. In our view, allowing what was traditionally a small members club to sell alcohol and allow live entertainment until 01.30am, would be extremely detrimental to the local area and will only increase the problems we have previously experienced.

The entrance to the club is in a bad location and is on a bend that already has a history of bad traffic accidents, which the problems mentioned above will increase the possibility of repetition.

We sincerely hope the application is rejected

Yours Sincerely, 

29<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Dear Mr Davies,

Ref Romsley and Hunnington Cricket & Bowls Social Club

Further to the recent notification to our Parish Council outlining the application of the above business to vary its licence, may we confirm that we strongly object to the application.

We live locally to the Club in a rented property and have over the past few years experienced a number of problems. These have been outlined to the Parish Council and Bromsgrove Council on various occasions, the latest was reported to you in August 2009.

These problems will include:

- Excessive noise in the small hours
- Security light shining (on Car Park) into households
- Anti-social behaviour – bottle thrown through window
- Problems with parking (there vehicles were blocked in by club patrons)

Hunnington is a small rural village, which is currently served well by local public houses in Hunnington & Romsley. In our view, allowing what was traditionally a small members club to sell alcohol and allow live entertainment until 01.30am, would be extremely detrimental to the local area and will only increase the problems we have previously experienced.

The entrance to the club is in a bad location and is on a bend that already has a history of bad traffic accidents, which the problems mentioned above will increase the possibility of repetition.

We sincerely hope the application is rejected

Yours Sincerely, 

29<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Dear Mr Davies,

Ref Romsley and Hunnington Cricket & Bowls Social Club

Further to the recent notification to our Parish Council outlining the application of the above business to vary its licence, may we confirm that we strongly object to the application.

We live locally to the Club and have over the past few years experienced a number of problems with its clients and owner. These have been outlined to the Parish Council and Bromsgrove Council on various occasions, the latest was reported to you in August 2009.

Hunnington is a small rural village, which is currently served well by local public houses in Hunnington & Romsley. In our view, allowing what was traditionally a small members club to sell alcohol and allow live entertainment until 01.30am, would be extremely detrimental to the local area and will only increase the problems we have previously experienced. These problems will include:

- Excessive noise in the small hours
- Problems with dangerous parking (despite alterations already carried out)
- Risks/Drunken influences to parish residents, in particular its children
- Drink driving risks – no local transportation links

The entrance to the club is in a bad location and is on a bend that already has a history of bad traffic accidents, which the problems mentioned above will increase the possibility of repetition.

The club and its amenities were designed to serve its members & guests, which it can still do adequately in our opinion, without offering cheap, late night alcohol to all and sundry. Minor issues also exist with Littering (broken bottles/glasses) and general rubbish levels increasing greatly over the last 2 years. These generally have to be cleaned up by local residents. We believe this would only get worse and spoil what is a highly sort after rural area.

We sincerely hope the application is rejected

Yours Sincerely,

29<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Dear Mr Davies,

Ref Romsley and Hunnington Cricket & Bowls Social Club

Further to the recent notification to our Parish Council outlining the application of the above business to vary its licence, may we confirm that we strongly object to the application.

We live locally to the Club in a rented property and have over the past few years experienced a number of problems. These have been outlined to the Parish Council and Bromsgrove Council on various occasions, the latest was reported to you in August 2009.

These problems will include:

- Excessive noise in the small hours
- Security light shining (on Car Park) into households
- Anti-social behaviour – bottle thrown through window
- Problems with parking (there vehicles were blocked in by club patrons)

Hunnington is a small rural village, which is currently served well by local public houses in Hunnington & Romsley. In our view, allowing what was traditionally a small members club to sell alcohol and allow live entertainment until 01.30am, would be extremely detrimental to the local area and will only increase the problems we have previously experienced.

The entrance to the club is in a bad location and is on a bend that already has a history of bad traffic accidents, which the problems mentioned above will increase the possibility of repetition.

We sincerely hope the application is rejected

Yours Sincerely,

29<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Dear Mr Davies,

Ref Romsley and Hunnington Cricket & Bowls Social Club

Further to the recent notification to our Parish Council outlining the application of the above business to vary its licence, may we confirm that we strongly object to the application.

We live locally to the Club in a rented property and have over the past few years experienced a number of problems. These have been outlined to the Parish Council and Bromsgrove Council on various occasions, the latest was reported to you in August 2009.

These problems will include:

- Excessive noise in the small hours
- Security light shining (on Car Park) into households
- Anti-social behaviour – bottle thrown through window
- Problems with parking (there vehicles were blocked in by club patrons)

Hunnington is a small rural village, which is currently served well by local public houses in Hunnington & Romsley. In our view, allowing what was traditionally a small members club to sell alcohol and allow live entertainment until 01.30am, would be extremely detrimental to the local area and will only increase the problems we have previously experienced.

The entrance to the club is in a bad location and is on a bend that already has a history of bad traffic accidents, which the problems mentioned above will increase the possibility of repetition.

We sincerely hope the application is rejected

Yours Sincerely,

*Ema.*

J Davies Esq  
Licensing Assistant  
Planning & Environment Services  
Bromsgrove District Council  
Burcot Lane  
Bromsgrove  
B60 1AA

1/11/09

Dear Mr Davies

We strongly object to Romsley & Hunnington Cricket and Bowls Social Club to vary its licence.

The situation as it is with licence the club already holds is out of hand. With weekly live entertainment and music we are subjected to noise levels and disturbances from drunks into the early hours which is not acceptable. People parking their cars dangerously on the grass verges and pavements, blocking our entrance/exit. More over dangerously stopping the emergency services in accessing various premises including our own, the station, the flats and The Bluebird toffee factory.

We have had abuse from these people when asking them to move.

This is a village cricket club for members and limited guests only. Not a Town Social Club.

You may believe the parking issue is for the police, but it is the clubs responsibility to abide by their licence and you not to allow a variance of it. If this was to be enforced then these events would not be taking place, hence the club would be used for its original purpose.

I do not wish the Club to close but to remain as it was a quiet village cricket club for the villagers, not a social club for the rest of the west midlands.



**Subject:** Romsley and Hunnington Cricket and Bowls Social Club

Dear Mr. Davies,

I have received from Ruth Mullett notification of the application from Romsley and Hunnington Cricket and Bowls Social Club to increase the hours of the sale of alcohol from 10.00p.m. to 1.30a.m. from Monday to Sunday.

Regulated entertainment from 10.00p.m. to 1.00 a.m. Monday to Sunday.

Live music from 10.00 p.m. to 12.30a.m. Monday to Sunday.

To remove conditions retained by the licensing act 1964.

Having read the application with increasing horror, I wish to object on the grounds following:-

On the occasions that they have held functions the music can be heard a great distance away and is most disturbing and most invasive.

The noise from vehicles leaving the site late at night is excessive, some drivers continue to blast music from their cars as they drive away.

Parking of cars attending these functions spills on to the Bromsgrove Road and surrounding private areas, and becomes a danger to residents. The road is already a danger to all residents, no care seems to be taken at all by cars passing through the village as to any speed limit restrictions, and a number of accidents have taken place in the vicinity of the cricket club. If an extension to hours is allowed residents will be further victimised by thoughtless actions of visitors to the cricket club.

The careless parking makes the roadway and exits from houses much blinder and therefore more dangerous, and non use of street lighting makes things even worse..

The area is rural and a quiet retreat which is why residents choose to live here, many move into the area for that reason alone, and to allow the extension of hours for outsiders merrymaking is totally outside the understanding of happy residents, who do not wish this disruption to occur.

We are not decrying anyones need or desire for recreation or entertainment, but would consider 11.00p.m.cut off, a reasonable compromise.

Yours faithfully

25th. October,2009

---

**Subject:** Romsley & Hunnington Cricket and Bowls Social Club - licensing application

Dear Sir

This email is sent on behalf of the owners and occupiers of [REDACTED] Bromsgorve Road, who have only just been made aware of the current application to extend and vary the Licence at the above premises.

Please place on record our objections to the extent of the variations sought, on the grounds that the following problems, which we already experience, would be greatly exacerbated:

1. There are already major problems with car parking on the nights when the club is used for social events. Their car park is too small and there is extensive parking on the road outside. This is already a dangerous section of the road, and speeding is common. Parking on the bend - as now occurs - is extremely dangerous to other road users and pedestrians, and is a breach of the Highway Code. There have been a number of accidents on this bend, some of which have involved cars crashing into our garden.
2. As one of the 3 closest residential premises we already suffer from excessive noise and disturbance when users leave the premises at night.
3. There is a strong spotlight at the club which is directed straight at our property and shines through into our rooms.

Subject as set out below, we would not object to minor variations of the Licence permitting:

- a. Sale of alcohol until 11 pm on weekends only.
- b. Entertainment and music until 11.30 pm on weekends only

Conditions should be imposed to restrict and control the problems we already experience as outlined above.

In particular, double yellow parking lines should be drawn on the section of road which incorporates the bend outside the club and the stretches of road on either side. This should be properly policed and enforced.

We trust this indicates our willingness to compromise and not be completely obstructive.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email.

Regards

**Sent:** 28 October 2009 11:43  
**To:** John Daviès  
**Subject:** FW: Licence change to Hunnington Cricket club

Dear Mr Davis,

I am writing to you on behalf of my parents [REDACTED] Bromsgrove Rd Hunnington Halesowen in respect of the proposed licence variation at the Hunnington Cricket Club. They are of the opinion that the proposed opening hours for the sale of alcohol are excessive in a residential area and are likely to further increase the noise disturbance you refer to in your letter and increase the risk to local residents due to the parking of vehicles along the Bromsgrove road forcing pedestrians to walk on the busy road in an unlit area. Obviously as reasonable people they understand the benefits of this facility to the local community who use it and in no way wish to spoil the enjoyment of others but feel living opposite the club as they do, they also have a right to comment on the proposed opening hours.

With this in mind they suggest a compromise to the proposed opening times.

- Sunday to Thursday 10 am until 11 pm
- Friday and Saturday 10 am to 01.30am

This they believe would respect both residents of the area who have to work during the week as well as allowing extended opening hours at the weekend to support the wishes of the members. I trust this letter will be treated in the strictest of confidence and will not be disclosed to whom ever has requested the licence variation. Obviously as local residents they are open to any reprisals from disgruntled applicant or club members. Incidentally I would like to make you aware that as a local resident of Hunnington I am a club member but live further up the Bromsgrove road and therefore have not experienced any inconvenience as yet as a result of the resented popularity of the Hunnington Club but fully understand the concerns of my parents and other residents in closer proximity the club than myself, hence me supporting my parents in writing this mail to you.

I look forward to your reply in respect of the confidentiality issue and hope my that parent's comments help you make a decision that respects both the local residents and the applicant that has made the licence variation request.

Best Regards

C *noting*

JOHN DAVIES  
LICENSING ASSISTANT  
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT SERVICES  
BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
THE COUNCIL HOUSE  
BURCOT LANE  
WORCESTER  
B60 1AA

29<sup>TH</sup> October 2009

Dear Mr Davies

RE PLANNING APPLICATION CRICKET CLUB HUNNINGTON

I object to the Cricket Club wanting to increasing licensing hours. I think that that the hours are long enough and I think it will encourage people to drink more and possibly encourage rowdy behaviour.

I also think that it will lose its identity as a village cricket club and become a Social Club/Public House.

I would appreciate any comments that you have.



**Sent:** 03 November 2009 07:43

**To:** John Davies

**Subject:** Romsley Cricket Club

Good morning John,

Further to the request of the above club to change and extend opening times and the new application to include live music, i would like to show my objections. The club should only compliment the local cricket club and bowling club therefore the opening times and entertainment should be in relation to its proposed uses. In the village many complaints have already been raised because of live loud music which i believe has been allowed to carry on without the correct license, many parking issues have also been raised because of the severity of the parking positions of the club users & to the new club users who show no respect for our village or our values!

The cricket & bowling club is a key part of the village and should be available to the members, but under no circumstances should it be allowed to become a public house.

I trust you will reach the right decision on this matter.

03/11/2009

This page is intentionally left blank



## Huntington Parish Council

J Davies Esq.  
Licensing Assistant  
Planning and Environment Services  
Bromsgrove District Council  
The Council House  
Burcot Lane  
Bromsgrove  
West Midlands B60 1AA

26th October 2009

Dear Mr Davies

### Romsley and Huntington Cricket and Bowls Social Club

Further to your Email of 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009, I can confirm that Huntington Parish Council strongly object to the application submitted by the above Cricket Club.

Huntington is a small semi rural parish nestled in the greenbelt with approximately 220 households. The Cricket and Social Club was established in 1900 as a sports club for the benefit of the members who played cricket, bowls, tennis etc. and somewhere to have refreshments after their game. It was never intended to be used as a public house, open to all, with late music into the early hours. It is in close proximity to residential property. There is no access to the club during the evening by public transport as all buses cease around 6.00pm and the nearest town is approximately a 30 minutes walk.

The Cricket Club has been holding unregulated entertainment for example karaoke and live bands, contrary to its current license, as it does not hold an entertainments license. The Cricket Club holds a Clubs Premises Certificate which authorises the supply of alcohol to members and bona fide guests during the hours of Mon to Sat 10.00am to 23.00pm and Sun 12.00 till 22.30pm. We have been informed that members of the public who are not members or bona fide guests are being served alcohol and leaving the premises a lot later than 23.00pm.

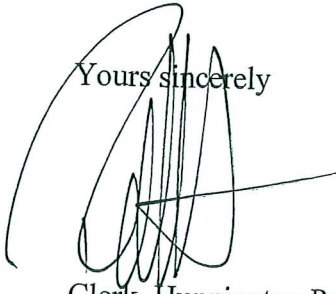
Local residents have experienced considerable trouble from rowdy, drunk clients leaving the premises early in the morning, obviously under the influence of alcohol, with some of them driving home. Residents regularly experience problems with clients of the Social Club, parking on the drive of the adjacent properties, despite it being clearly marked as a "private drive". This parking also extends onto the main Bromsgrove Road and footpaths, forcing local residents to walk in the busy road. The nature of the parking is highly dangerous and it is only time before a serious accident occurs. Police have been called to the Cricket Club on many occasions due to high levels of noise and parking problems.

The Parish Council has spoken to the residents and they have no desire for the Cricket Club to change to a public house selling alcohol and having entertainment till the hours of 01.30 in the morning. We already have The Sun Public house and the Swallows Nest public house within the two parishes of Huntington and Romsley. The residents wholeheartedly support our objection and will be writing under separate cover to you.

Could you please record our objections.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Clerk, Hunnington Parish Council



Appendix 'E'

---

**Sent:** 29 October 2009 21:47

**To:** John Davies

**Subject:** Romsley and Hunnington Cricket and Bowls club

Regarding Romsley and Hunnington cricket and bowls club.

Speaking as a lifelong resident of both Hunnington and Romsley for more than 60yrs and a member of the afore mentioned club for many years I can only speak in praise of this club. In the last 4yrs I have witnessed this club rise from the doldrums to become a vibrant and valued centre of the community, providing a very affordable opportunity for local people to enjoy civilised social afternoons and evenings in the company of like minded people. As a regular visitor with my wife and other family members I have never witnessed any trouble of any kind nor have I seen or heard any rowdy clients and the only policemen I have seen have been off duty or retired officers enjoying a drink or a game of bowls.

I have never found parking a problem since the new improved parking facilities I will conclude by congratulating the management on a well run and successful club, long may it continue.

**Sent:** 01 November 2009 19:04  
**To:** John Davies  
**Subject:** Romsley and Hunnington Cricket Club

Dear Mr Davies

As a member of Romsley and Hunnington Cricket Club it has been brought to my attention that the local parish council have delivered letters encouraging objections to the request for the extended licensing hours for the club situated on the Bromsgrove Road. It is my belief that these letters were posted to selective addresses where the parish council believed that they would receive their required response to block the request and not as a blanket delivery of the area surrounding the club. The letter, having read it does paint an overly bad image of the club and its patrons.

In my time as a member I can only recall one occasion where the police were called in to resolve a justified parking issue and never called to any disturbance. While I am in support of the club I can appreciate the concerns of the local residents to the extended hours during the Sunday to Thursday period and feel that the clubs request may be a little excessive. However the club does provide a well needed facility for the local community and feel that the extended hours at the weekend would be warranted and that this arrangement would be a satisfactory compromise to this issue.

In closing I hope that a common sense approach and a satisfactory outcome will prevail in this issue

Regards

---

New Windows 7: Find the right PC for you. [Learn more.](#)

02/11/2009

**Sent:** 26 October 2009 22:17  
**To:** John Davies  
**Subject:** Cricket and Bowls Club, Hunnington

Re The Cricket and Bowls Club, Hunnington.  
and letter from Hunnington Parish Council

I have lived in The Close Hunnington for 14 years and use the Cricket and Bowls club frequently, in my opinion the club is an asset to this village and I have never had any problems at the club, as far as I am concerned the club offers a friendly atmosphere for all age groups and is an ideal venue for families.

The letter posted to residents today is certainly not the views of myself and other members, As far as the parking problems encountered on Bank Holidays the club has done everything possible to avoid this ie extending the car park and advising drivers not to park on the road or in the private driveway.

This notification from the Parish council seems unfounded as after ringing the clerk today was informed that the only time the police had been in contact was due to parking problems, and no other trouble at the club which does not reflect in the letter from Hunnington Parish Council.

**Sent:** 28 October 2009 18:56  
**To:** John Davies  
**Subject:** Romsley & Hunnington Cricket Club

Dear Mr Davies

I refer to the licence application that Romsley & Hunnington Cricket Club have applied for. This is by far not an objection but completely the opposite. I have been a member of the club for the last 3 years. My husband and daughter play both bowls and cricket for the club so during the summer months we are there as a family almost every night. During the winter we use the club 3 - 4 nights each week. I have today seen a letter that the Hunnington Parish Council have sent to you and was dismayed to find the lies that it contained. In the 3 years that I have been using the club I have only seen the police once. CCTV cameras have been fitted so the first sign of any trouble would be on tape.

The noise levels are no different to any other pubs within the village of Romsley. As for cars being parked on the Bromsgrove Road surely the club cannot be held responsible for the stupidity of motorists illegally parking.

Please take note of my comments and I await your reply.

---

Chat to your friends for free on selected mobiles. [Learn more.](#)

**Sent:** 28 October 2009 09:12  
**To:** John Davies  
**Subject:** Romsley & Hunnington Cricket Club

Dear Mr Davies

I use the above club on a regular basis and read a notice on the board from Hunnington Parish Council stating that they have received a number of complaints from local residents about the club.

May I say that in the time I have been a member of the club, I have never heard of the police being called because of noise or trouble. There is ample parking space and cars very rarely need to park anywhere else and the members of the club do not appear to be rowdy!

The club is quite a distance away from homes and I am sure that they would not be disturbed by any entertainment that takes place at the club.

I support the Cricket Club in its application to vary its licence and hope that it continues to be the friendly, welcoming and entertaining club that it has been for the last few years.

Best regards

①

Dear Mr Davies,

I am writing in support of the licensing application by Romsley and Hunnington Cricket Club.

I am a member of the Club and use it on a regular basis.

The Club is an excellent community facility with two cricket teams, local schoolchildren use the cricket pitch, there is bowling for the older members, and it is a safe and friendly environment which welcomes children, unlike most public houses -

The Club is responsibly run and the literature being circulated by the Parish Council is exaggerated/unfounded, viz :-

(2)

(a) Police Presence

I have never seen the police at the Club, indeed, older people like myself go there because it is so safe and there is never any trouble.

(b) Noise

The Club is surrounded by fields with only one or two houses several hundred yards away.

The building is well sound-proofed and when you stand outside you cannot hear the entertainment until you actually enter.

(c) Car Parking

occasionally, on a summers afternoon when the cricket team and bowling team are both at home, plus visiting teams, the car park can tend to get full, but the Manager has now improved parking arrangements.

(3)

However, on a Friday or Saturday evening when the entertainment is on the car park is never full (no cricket or bowling).

Hence the granting of a licence will not aggravate car parking.

In conclusion, I would ask you to grant the application for a well run and well respected local club.

Yours sincerely,



MR DAVIES

I am writing in response to the note posted through my door earlier this week in relation to the Licensing application for Romsley and Hunnington Cricket club.

A copy of this response will be given to the licence holder for the cricket club to ensure fairness to all parties concerned.

I wish to express my concern for in my opinion the biased way this letter has been written and also delivered to the local residents of Hunnington.

I myself am a member of the cricket club, using it for an occasional drink primarily during the week and sometimes daytime at weekends, especially during the cricket/bowls season. In addition I reside in close proximity to the club.

The letter indicates a number of complaints from local residents about the noise level and trouble. I am not aware of any of my immediate neighbours making such complaints, however I could quite understand the immediate neighbouring properties having some issues due to some increase in noise. What I would question is whether there have been several complaints from one/two individuals, or whether there have been several complaints from a number of individuals.

It is fair to say that the club has become popular in the last twelve months since newly managed. This bringing new custom, employment and financial benefit to the cricket and bowls club.

Likewise, I understand some issues being raised around the car parking, which I am fully aware that the cricket club themselves, have been made aware of and have made efforts to resolve such issues, themselves having sought advice from the police. In addition, both cricket and bowls

teams have completed improvements to the car parking area.

Furthermore, the cricket club staff has daily placed signs on the driveway and entrance advising users of the facility 'NOT' to park on the roadway, pavement or driveways. They I understand have been legally advised correctly that they are not personally and cannot be held responsible for inconsiderate users of the club who fail to adhere to this - but have continued their efforts to prevent this at all times.

Regarding visits by the local constabulary, I am aware of visits only made by them in relation to damage caused to a vehicle on the car park of the club - which I have to add from knowledge of the incidents appears to have been directed at more specific individuals, rather than general vandalism. I am not aware of any police visits around public disorder, noise level or 'rowdy clients'. In an effort to make the club a more secure and safe environment and elevate any such issues, CCTV has been installed at a financial cost to the club. (This is not necessarily publicly known!).

The Cricket Club for several local residents has become a community in its own right, with support for both cricket and bowls teams. The entertainment that is intended to be held is not a 'nightclub' or 'disco', but mainly live entertainment, singers and groups, which are/would be supported by members of the club and is designed for the benefit of all ages of the community.

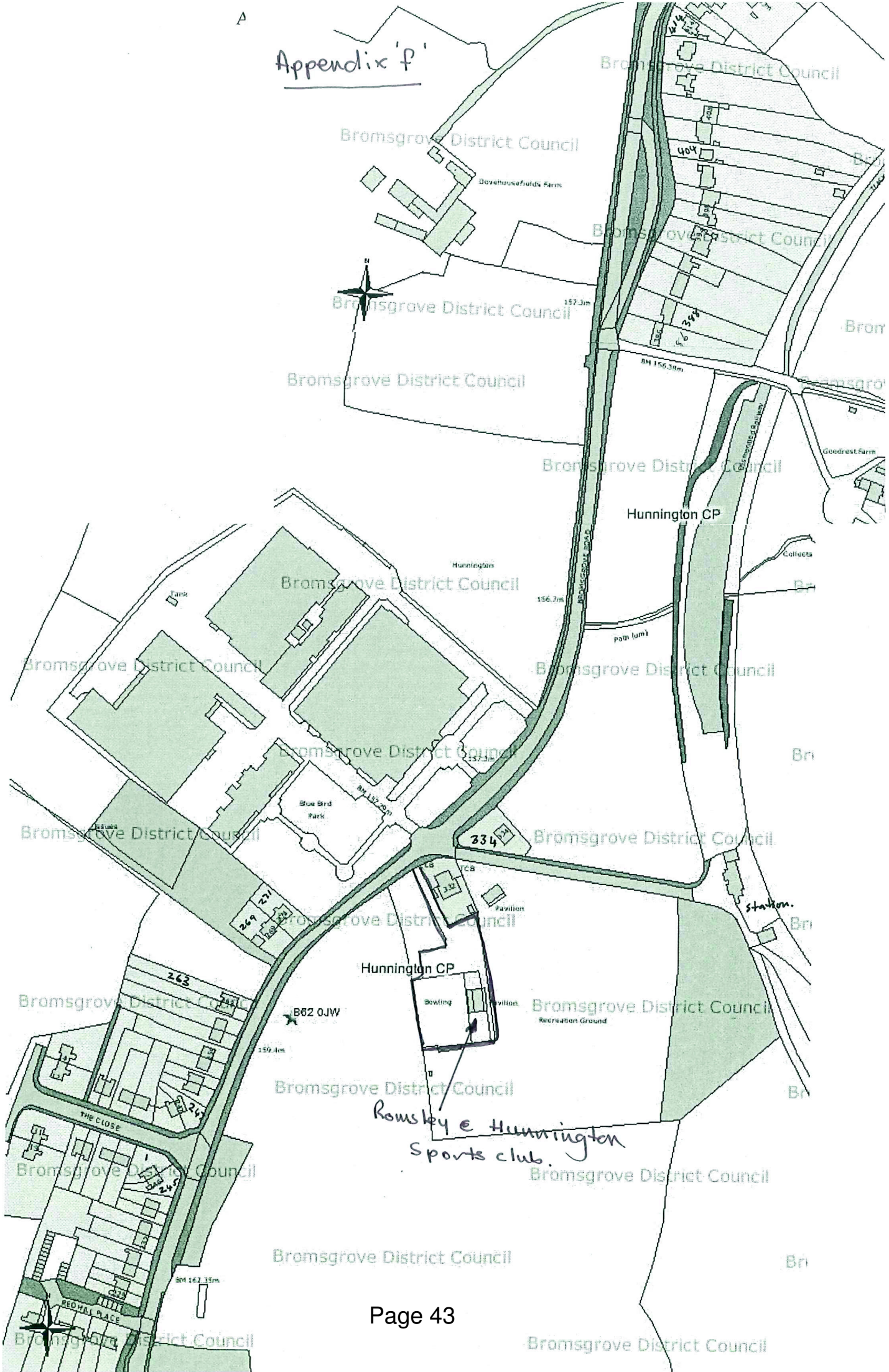
Finally, I am particularly disappointed with the comments that were made by the person/s who delivered the letters - whom I am told were from the neighborhood watch scheme. They strongly advised at least one of my near neighbors to write and object, unless they wanted a 'nightclub' on their doorsteps, with people being 'sick' on their driveways and having the wheels stolen from their cars!

The leaflet drop it also appears to have been too selective? as some neighbours who reside in the immediate proximity did not receive them, these residents coincidentally also being a members of the club.

If I wished to raise any issue, then my only request or concern in relation to the club would be that it must stringently adhere to the 'membership policy'. It must/should ensure that only members used the facility, which then would itself enable the ability to more positively 'police' the persons/clientele that attended the club, control and monitor who parks their cars where and have control around their behavior etc. with the ability then to positively act and impact on any such complaints received. Perhaps a condition of the licence and any membership of the club could be for members to provide details of their vehicle registration numbers, this would then further assist any positive action being taken by those who parked inappropriately in the future.

This page is intentionally left blank

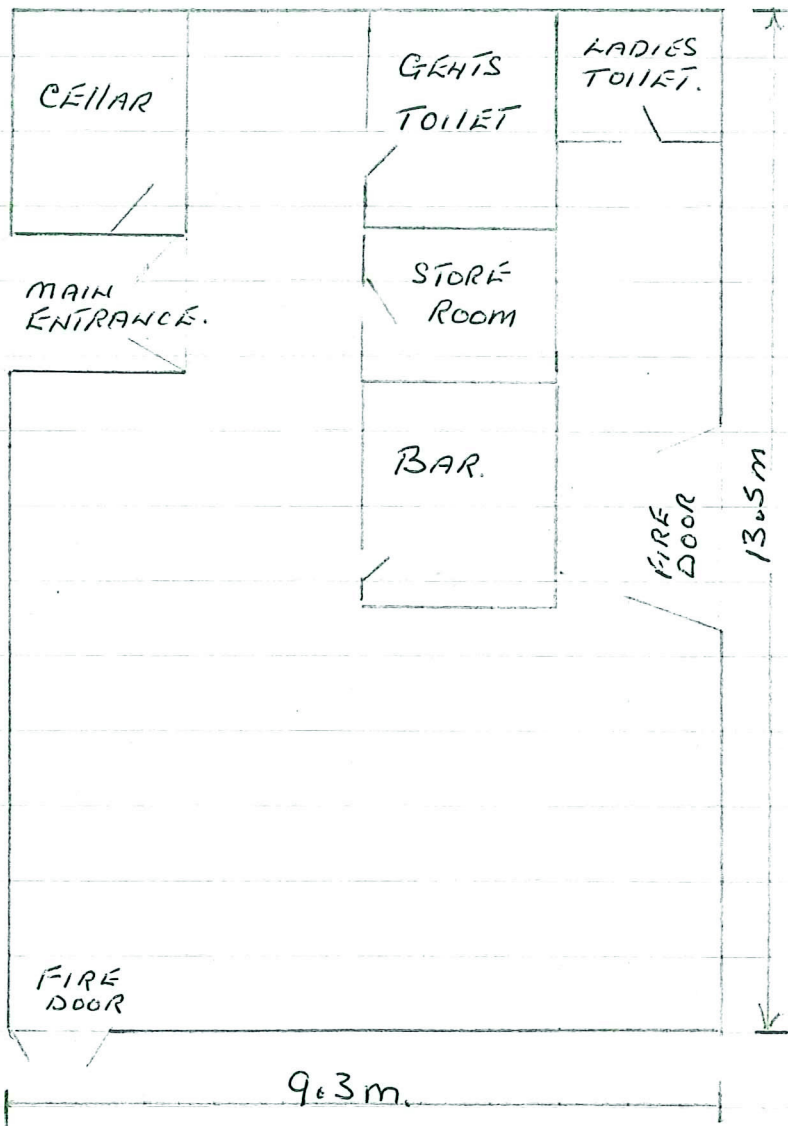
Appendix 'P'



This page is intentionally left blank

ROMSLEY AND HUNNINGTON SPORTS CLUB,  
FLOOR PLAN.

SCALE = 1CM = 100CM.



This page is intentionally left blank