

Appendix 2 Mr J Melrose
4 West View
Wheulton
Chorley
PR6 8HJ

Dear Licencing Authority.

Licence Application No. 15/00323/LAPLNA
Heapey and Wheulton Village Hall

The above application seeks opening hours which contravene a current Planning Condition imposed on the premises. Planning Application No. 9/83/453 was granted but with a number of conditions imposed, one of which states "The building shall not be used between 11pm and 8am".

Planning Application No. 07/00085/FUL, submitted by the Village Hall Committee, sought to remove the condition regarding opening hours. This Application was vigorously opposed by local residents and Chorley Borough's Planning Department recommended that it should be rejected along with a well documented list of reasons for their decision. The imposed Planning Condition remains in place.

Many of the listed activities are to be located both indoors and outdoors. Our garden shares a long boundary with the rear yard of the Village Hall and consequently gives us a great deal of concern and apprehension. It seems inconceivable that any of the listed activities would need to start as early as 7.30am. Residents have suffered in the past when events have contravened the designated closing time by a considerable margin of two to three hours.

Over the years, a number of significant changes have taken place, both to the premises and the lay out of the rear yard. What were previously designated as emergency fire exit doors to the rear of the building now seem to have lost their emergency status. If circumstances should arise where people had to evacuate the premises out into the rear yard they may find it difficult to discern how to continue their exit to safety. There are two gates at opposite ends of the rear yard and each one has its problems. In order to afford some protection to potential liability issues it would seem prudent to involve Health and Safety and/or the Fire Service in a risk assessment exercise.

For a Village Hall Committee to submit an application for opening times that breach a Planning Condition seems irresponsible and unethical. Chorley Borough's Legal Department have confirmed that Planning Conditions overrule Licencing Conditions.

Yours sincerely,



John Melrose

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1st May 2015

