

Classification	Item No.
Open / Closed	

Meeting:	Licensing Hearings Sub-Committee
Meeting date:	14 July 2025
Title of report:	Application for a Club Premises Certificate to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Bolton Wyresdale Amateur Football and Sports Club, 65 Radcliffe Moor Road, Bolton, BL2 6RF
Report by:	Executive Director (Corporate Core)
Decision Type:	Council
Ward(s) to which report relates	Radcliffe North and Ainsworth

Executive Summary:

This report relates to an application for a Premises Licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Bolton Wyresdale Amateur Football and Sports Club, 65 Radcliffe Moor Road, Bolton, BL2 6RF.

Recommendation(s)

- To grant the application in the terms requested
- To grant the application subject to conditions
- To amend or modify existing or proposed conditions
- To refuse the application

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations are the relevant legislation.
- 1.2 The Panel will make a decision on the day of the hearing and the parties will be notified subsequently of the decision and the reasons for it by letter from the Licensing Office.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The applicant for the licence is Bolton Wyresdale Amateur Football and Sports Club Plc, 31 Knightswood, Beaumont Chase, Bolton BL2 6RF. Mr Stan Crawford of 31 Knightswood, Beaumont Chase, Bolton BL2 6RF is the proposed Secretary. The applicant has requested that Club Premises Certificate if granted by Members today to commence from the 16 August 2025.
- 2.2 The applicant has complied with all the necessary procedural requirements laid down by the Act.
- 2.3 As part of the statutory process the Responsible Authorities and interested parties are entitled to make representations in relation to the grant of a licence. Where representations are made and not withdrawn Members are required to determine them.
- 2.4 Representations must be relevant to the licensing objectives defined within the Act. The objectives are:-
- the prevention of crime and disorder
 - public safety
 - prevention of public nuisance and
 - protection of children from harm

3.0 THE APPLICATION

- 3.1 The application is for the grant of a Premises Licence under Part 3 of the Licensing Act 2003:

Opening Times:

Monday to Saturday	12.00 to 23.00
Sunday	12.00 to 22.30

Supply of Alcohol by or on behalf a club to the order of a member of the Club (on the premises only):

Monday to Saturday	12.00 to 23.00
Sunday	12.00 to 22.30

Recorded music (indoors)

Wednesday to Saturday	18.00 to 23.00
Sunday	18.00 to 22.30

The conditions contained in the operating schedule submitted by the applicant are attached at Appendix 1.

The club rules are contained at Appendix 2

4.0 REPRESENTATIONS FROM AN INTERESTED PARTY

4.1 13 representations have been received from interested parties.

4.2 These representations attached at Appendix 3.

5.0 OBSERVATIONS

5.1 After hearing the representations made and the evidence presented, Members are obliged to determine the application with a view to promoting the licensing objectives and having regard to the Authority's Licensing Policy and National Guidance.

6.0 THE SECRETARY OF STATES GUIDANCE TO THE LICENSING ACT 2003

6.1 The Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 is provided to licensing authorities in relation to the carrying out of their functions under the 2003 Act. It also provides information to magistrates' courts hearing appeals against licensing decisions and has been made widely available for the benefit of those who run licensed premises, their legal advisers and the general public. It is a key medium for promoting best practice, ensuring consistent application of licensing powers across England and Wales and for promoting fairness, equal treatment and proportionality.

6.2 Section 4 of the 2003 Act provides that, in carrying out its functions, a licensing authority must 'have regard to' guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182. The Guidance is therefore binding on all licensing authorities to that extent. However, the Guidance cannot anticipate every possible scenario or set of circumstances that may arise and, as long as licensing authorities have properly understood this Guidance, they may depart from it if they have good reason to do so and can provide full reasons.

6.3 Departure from the Guidance could give rise to an appeal or judicial review, and the reasons given will then be a key consideration for the courts when considering the lawfulness and merits of any decision taken.

7.0 CONCLUSION

7.1 A licensing authority must carry out its functions under this Act ("licensing functions") with a view to promoting the licensing objectives:

- the prevention of crime and disorder
- public safety;
- the prevention of public nuisance; and

- the protection of children from harm.
- 7.2 In reaching the decision, regard must be had to relevant provisions of the national guidance and the Council's licensing policy statement.
- 7.3 The Sub-Committee must consider what steps are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
- 7.4 In making its decision with regard to this grant hearing, the steps the Sub-Committee can take are:
- To grant the application in the terms requested
 - To grant the application subject to conditions
 - To amend or modify existing or proposed conditions
 - To refuse the application
- 7.5 All licensing determinations should be considered on the individual merits of the application.
- 7.6 The Sub-Committee's determination should be evidence-based, justified as being appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and proportionate to what it is intended to achieve. Findings on any issues of fact should be on the balance of probability.
- 7.7 It is important that a licensing authority should give comprehensive reasons for its decisions in anticipation of any appeals. Failure to give adequate reasons could itself give rise to grounds for an appeal.
- 7.8 The Sub-Committee is asked to determine what steps, as set out in 8.4 above, are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

Community impact/links with Community Strategy

Not Applicable

Equality Impact and considerations:

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) *eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*

- (b) *advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
- (c) *foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*

The public sector equality duty requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

Equality Analysis	<i>Please provide a written explanation of the outcome(s) of either conducting an initial or full EA.</i>
<i>The Licensing Service have considered the Equality Act 2010 and due to each application being dealt with on its own merits there is no positive or negative on any of the protected characteristics.</i>	

Assessment of Risk:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
There are no specific issues from the report other than potential costs/risks associated with legal appeals.	

Consultation:

Not Applicable

Legal Implications:

Yes, under the legislation the Council is required to determine representations. The report is in accordance with the appropriate legislation.

Financial Implications:

The cost of the licensing function are funded through the fees and charges levied by the Council. There may be additional costs if appeals are lodged with the Magistrates and Crown Courts.

Report Author and Contact Details:

For further information on the details of this report, please contact:

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Background papers:

List of Background Papers:-
Application form
Representations received

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning

Appendix One

Operating Schedule submitted by the applicant

Conditions Consistent with The Operating Schedule

General

- Ensure all staff are trained in recognizing and preventing potential crime and disorder, including procedures for dealing with intoxicated customers, security protocols, and conflict resolution.

Crime and Disorder

- Suitable and sufficient CCTV system with recording facilities will be in place at site and will operate at all times the premise is open for licensable activities. Images can be made available upon reasonable request by the Police or other relevant officers of a responsible authority.
- Spirits will be located behind the counter.
- Staff will be trained with regard to their responsibilities in the retail sale of alcohol and regular refresher training will also be undertaken.
- A zero-tolerance policy towards drugs, violence, and anti-social behaviour will be enforced.

Public Safety

- The premises will comply with all relevant health and safety, fire safety, and building regulations.
- Regular risk assessments will be carried out to identify and manage hazards.
- Clearly marked fire exits and escape routes will be kept unobstructed and illuminated at all times.
- A first aid kit will be available on-site and key staff will be trained in basic first aid.
- Electrical and gas equipment will be regularly tested and certified.
- Emergency Procedures: Develop and practice emergency procedures for various scenarios, such as fire, medical emergencies, or security breaches.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

- Noise Control: Clear and legible notices will be prominently displayed to remind customers to leave quietly and have regard to our neighbours. All customers will be asked to leave quietly.
- Waste Management: Manage waste effectively to prevent litter and odors, ensuring that all waste is collected regularly and stored appropriately.
- Lighting: Ensure adequate lighting to enhance visibility and prevent accidents, while also minimizing light pollution to neighboring properties.

- Parking: Manage parking to avoid congestion and prevent public nuisance, ensuring that parking spaces are clearly marked and accessible.

Protection of Children from Harm

- Staff will ask persons who appear to be under the age of 25 for photographic ID such as proof of age cards, the Connexions Card and Citizen Card, photographic driving licence or passport, an official identity card issued by HM Forces or by an EU country, bearing the photograph and date of birth of bearer.
- All staff will be trained for UNDERAGE SALES PREVENTION regularly.
- A register of refused sales shall be kept and maintained on the premises.

APPENDIX TWO

Club Rules

Bolton Wyresdale Amateur Football and Sports Club

MEMBERSHIP AND CLUB RULES

This document outlines the fundamental rules and expectations for all club members to ensure a safe, respectful and enjoyable environment.

1. Name, address and objective

Bolton Wyresdale Amateur Football and Sports Club
65 Radcliffe Moor Road
Bolton
BL2 6RF

Its objective shall be

- To support sporting, social, recreational and cultural activities and events in which Bolton Wyresdale teams participate.
 - To provide and maintain high quality facilities for its members
2. An applicant for membership must submit a signed and dated application to the management, accompanied by a fee for Membership, stating their: • Name / Address / Date of Birth / Telephone Number / Email Address
3. The membership application will be reviewed by the Management and if approved, at least 48 hours must pass between people being admitted to membership.
4. Members may bring guests and their children to the club. The member is responsible for their guests and must sign them in on the guest register at the bar upon arrival. Members shall at no time leave the club whilst their guests are on the premises. Management reserve the right to forbid entry of any guests.
5. Management reserve the right to ask any member and their guests to leave the premises if they believe they are not adhering to the club rules.
6. If your previous membership has expired, you shall no longer receive the benefits of membership until full payment has been made.
7. The purchase and supply of alcohol on the club premises is in the control of the management. Members and their guests shall be supplied with alcohol in accordance with the permitted hours laid out in the Licensing Act, and fixed by the Club Management.
8. Alcohol may not be sold to or consumed on the premises by any person under the age of 18. We operate a challenge 25 programme and our bar staff have the right to refuse anyone who cannot produce valid ID.
9. If the conduct of any member, either within or outside of the Club premises, shall in the opinion of the management have a detrimental effect to the club or its members, the management reserve the right to revoke their membership without

reimbursement (Examples of conduct which would be unacceptable include; racist remarks or behaviour, malicious damage to club property, members failing to take responsibility for their guests and children. Insulting, aggressive or unnecessary behaviour towards staff, management, other club members or their guests. Using social media to discuss issues with the club, its members or staff. Any incidents where the Police have been called to assist with an issue of behaviour at the Club)

10. Children are only permitted in the club or on the grounds when supervised by an adult member. The member takes full responsibility for the behaviour of their children and their guest's children whilst in the premises of the club.

11. The club must be used respectfully. If any member, their children, their guests or guests' children cause damage to club property, the member will be asked to reimburse the club in full or partial payment towards replacement or repair of the damages. Failure to reimburse the club could result in your membership being revoked. A clean-up fee of £25.00 applies to vomit/toilet related incidences.

12. The changing rooms and showers are not to be used by children unless supervised by an adult.

13. No Smoking or Vaping within the club premises or grounds.

14. No Dogs are permitted within the club premises or grounds.

15. Only activities permitted by the management will be allowed to take place on the Club premises.

16. Only food and drink purchased from the bar may be consumed on the premises, under no circumstances should you bring in your own food or drink.

17. Visiting teams will be considered temporary members for the duration of their visit and must comply with all Club Rules.

18. We are members of the Bolton Wyresdale Amateur Football and Sports Club. Any person with an 'exclusion order' will be refused access to enter our premises as it is a serious offence to enter a licensed premise in breach of an exclusion order.

19. We have a zero-tolerance policy to all drug related incidents. Any member thought to be involved will be asked to leave and their membership will be immediately revoked without reimbursement. Any members guests involved will be asked to leave and will be permanently forbidden access to the club and its premises.

20. Parking is available within the car park. The users of the carpark do so at their own risk. The club will not accept liability or responsibility for any accidents, damage or loss of property or vehicles.

21. Any member found breaking any of the club rules could have their membership revoked without reimbursement. All matters arising out of, or not provided in these rules, shall be dealt with by the Club Management.

APPENDIX THREE

Representations from Interested Parties

To Bury Licensing Authority,

We are writing to object to the premises music and alcohol license application for Wyresdale Football Club located at Radcliffe Moor Road, Bradley Fold. Our objection is based on the following concerns:

The prevention of crime and disorder.

Increased Crime/Disorder:

We are concerned that the granting of an alcohol licence from 12pm until 11pm seven days a week and a music licence from 6pm Wednesday to Sunday will lead to potential increased crime and disorder in this area. There is already a problem with drug taking and drug dealing at the car park on Browns Road south of the site of the football club. There is every likelihood that this will be increased as will general crime and public disorder caused by alcohol consumption.

Cumulative Impact:

The area is already well served by a number of licensed premises. The Top Bull pub on Bury Road, immediately north of the proposed licensed premises, Radcliffe Masonic Hall on the junction of Radcliffe Moor Road and Bury New Road, immediately east of the site, Dobbies Sports and Social Club slightly further down Radcliffe Moor Road and the Queens pub on Bradley Lane, slightly further south of the site. Half a mile further down Radcliffe Moor Road is the Sparking Clog pub.

We are concerned that adding another licensed premises will only add to the existing risk of crime and disorder (anti-social behaviour, public intoxication, violence etc.) that is inherent to alcohol consumption.

As the premises licence application is also associated with a football club, it is to be expected that the issues outlined above will be of a magnitude higher as is commonly experienced in the vicinity of other football clubs.

Public safety.

Increased Risk of Accidents

We are concerned that increased alcohol consumption and traffic throughout the day and late night activities is likely to lead to more road traffic accidents (in an

area already suffering from a high level of RTAs) and other alcohol-related incidents.

Unsafe Environment

We are concerned that the granting of a music and alcohol licence will lead to a less safe environment for local residents and those people who visit the area to use the country park and lodges (parents with young children, dog walkers etc). The football club will have very limited parking and inevitably cars will be parked along the neighbouring roads. This is already a problem with Radcliffe Masonic Lodge when they have events on and will only be made worse.

The prevention of public nuisance.

Noise Nuisance

We are concerned that there will be a noise nuisance from this venue, from the late-night music, people and increased traffic. In developing the football club site, they have already (possibly illegally) removed all the trees which bordered the south of the site and created a natural sound barrier. Noise from traffic on Bury Road is already louder to the residents on Browns Road and Boundary Drive who will now also suffer additional noise due to music etc., should the licence be granted. Householders have the right to the quiet enjoyment of their homes and gardens and this will severely detract from this right.

Public Disorder

The proposed licence will lead to increased levels of public disorder, including shouting, littering and generally disruptive behaviour. As with the risks outlined relating to alcohol consumption, these risks will only be exacerbated by the fact that this is a football club premises.

Disruption to Residents

There will be an overall impact on the wellbeing of residents in particular and the wider public in general due to the increased noise and disturbances.

The protection of children from harm.

Access to Alcohol by Minors

We are concerned that children will be exposed to alcohol and other potentially dangerous activities associated with alcohol and the premises.

Unsafe Environment for Children

We are concerned that what is currently a tranquil and safe environment for children will become a less safe environment for them due to alcohol consumption, higher traffic flow and general anti-social behaviour related to licensed premises.

We request that you carefully consider these concerns and deny the license application.

Dear Licensing Team,

I am writing to formally oppose the application for an alcohol and music licence at Wyresdale FC. My concerns stem from the significant impact this establishment has already had on our community and local environment.

As you may be aware, the team using these facilities is from outside our borough. Their presence has contributed to the destruction of our green belt land, severely affecting local wildlife and diminishing the natural spaces that once made our area so special. Granting this licence will only further exacerbate the issue, encouraging increased footfall and noise pollution, disrupting the peace and safety of our neighbourhood.

The introduction of alcohol sales raises additional concerns, including the potential for antisocial behaviour, increased disturbances, and safety risks for residents.

Furthermore, live music events will lead to excessive noise levels, negatively affecting the quality of life for those living nearby. With Dobbies, Tin head brewery, The Top Bull and The Queens all within a short walk it seems ill-considered if their application is to be granted.

I urge the council to consider the long-term consequences of this application and to prioritise the well-being of our local community and environment over commercial interests. Please take into account the voices of concerned residents who wish to preserve the character and tranquility of our area.

I would appreciate confirmation that my objection has been received and considered.

Thank you for your time.

Dear Sir/Madam,

We wish to object strongly as to the proposed music and alcohol licence applied for by the above club on Radcliffe Moor Road in Radcliffe.

As concerned residents we live directly opposite the site and have been dismayed to see this development unfold on arable land having met strong opposition from many people over a period of time.

However the licence would be unnecessary given the provision and alternative venues in a very close proximity:

Dobbies Social Club, The Masonic Hall, The Top Bull pub and the Garden Centre (Daytime). All are well established and clearly meet local needs in this rural community. A late licence with additional noise, parking, lighting and 11pm or later closure would not benefit our area and cause potential congestion and noise. Purely for financial gain of an unestablished club. A 52 weeks a year potential licence would be over generous for such a small club whose durability and sustainability are already much questioned by locals.

Hello,

I have recently moved to XXXXX. I moved because of the quiet area. I am not please to hear they have applied for a music licence, I believe the sound will carry and overall ruin the peacefulness of the area, not to say the overall lodge and fishing outstanding area community.

I want to write my objection to the licence.

Should you wish for me to express my wish in another way, please let me know.

8 June 2025

OBJECTION TO WYRESDALE FOOTBALL CLUB (RADCLIFFE MOOR ROAD/BURY NEW ROAD) MUSIC AND ALCOHOL LICENCE APPLICATION

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing to **strongly object** to Wyresdale Football Club's application for a music and alcohol licence on Radcliffe Moor Road.

The football club was pitched as being necessary for the health and well-being of young people and adults as it would provide a space for them to play football, despite objections from residents that fell on deaf ears regarding the hugely negative impact that this would have on the area. The area is a hotspot for traffic collisions and accidents to begin with and is one of the most polluted roads in the country (Source: Manchester Evening News)

Residents have already been negatively affected by the building works on the field on Radcliffe Moor Road and Bury New Road. Our homes have been covered in debris and dust and allergies have been impacted by the digging up of what once was a wonderful habitat for wildlife. Since work began, there have been no sightings of deer, owls, birds of prey – I could go on. The negative impact that this so-called sports venture has had on residents already has been despicable. Our mental health has suffered immeasurably. We attempted to object the building of this football club when plans were first proposed but sadly, we were lied to and completely dismissed when plans were put through and accepted without giving residents a chance to be heard or further object. There are already at least 3 existing football clubs within a 2-mile radius, this football club being built is completely ridiculous and unnecessary.

However, residents had no choice but to deal with the negative impacts of this building work in the – apparent – name of health and well-being. Now we are being told that the football club would like to apply for a music and alcohol licence. Well, if this so-called health sports venture really is for the health and well-being of individuals so that they can play football then we would like our voices to be heard in hugely objecting to this. Not only would the noise pollution and potential risks of drunken football crowds disrupt our lives massively, the health and wellbeing of users of this football club would be massively impacted. Why on earth would there be a need for music and alcohol at a football club if the club is solely being built there for health and well-being purposes? This was the original argument for building the club in the original application. There was no mention of a club house being built to residents. There are plenty of local public houses within the vicinity that individuals can support if they would like to have an alcoholic drink and listen to music.

I sincerely hope that you will take our objection seriously and on board. The impact that this football club has already had on us here at 73 Bury New Road is no small thing. We are miserable, our homes are completely disgusting due to debris and dust, my breathing has worsened, we can't sleep because work starts as early as 7:30am some days and the noise is unbearable. Once flood lights are

installed and the club is up and running our lives here will be even more miserable.

Please help us to keep the impact of this club to the misery of what it already is and no more.

I object due to the public nuisance granting a licence would mean. Rowdiness due to over indulgence of alcohol, noise when leaving the premises late at night, noise of music and also the noise and amount of traffic that would ensure from granting such a licence. The building of the football club has already caused traffic jams with 4 way traffic lights. Also when the football fields are in full use the amount of cars will cause havoc also children running around everywhere could cause danger to life if not properly supervised.

I have just received notice of the above proposal which I strongly object to, as this will not only create extra groups of people coming to the club, also traffic, which at the moment is a serious situation for the residents already living in the area. Vehicles approaching Radcliffe Moor Road from Bury New Road going to the bottom of Radcliffe Moor Road and also coming up the said road. The residents objected to the proposal of the football club from the offset but to no avail, even with objections coming in from this area I think that the application will still go ahead. The area will also invite youths congregating within the area and could cause problems socially.

Good morning,

I would like to object to the application of an alcohol and music licence that Wyresdale Football club, located at Radcliffe Moor Road has put in.

The area has already gone through significant change with the football pitches being built. Our area is becoming overpopulated as it is. The wildlife have nowhere to go, the football pitches will already cause light pollution and now they want to cause noise pollution with loud music that will really carry over the lodges. This will all end with anti social behaviour. The area used to be so nice to take your family now it's an eyesore.

Hi

I would like to object to the granting of a music and alcohol licence for this club. I am a local resident and have already voiced concerns in relation to the problems and accidents that will be caused by additional traffic and parking in attending this club for football matches. This will only be made worse if events are allowed at this club.

The purpose of this club destroying green belt land was sold to us as being a good thing in order to provide a sporting facility for children and young people in the local area, not for an events facility.

This is a children's football club. A ball hasn't even been kicked on the pitches as yet and the club are already planning to hold events?

The Masonic Hall is available for events, another facility in this area is not needed or welcomed.

Dear Sirs

I wish to object to the application of music and alcohol at the premises of the new build Wyresdale Football Club on Radcliffe Moor Road. I live on the Bradleyfold estate and my property is back to back with Pennine Pets factory, and I do believe the noise generated from the club if this licence is granted will resound and echo off this building and cause disturbance to the residents, especially as the trees surrounding Starmount Lodges have been felled and the area is open completely now so the noise will travel.