

Contact Officer: Jenny Bryce-Chan

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

LICENSING PANEL

Tuesday 6th July 2021

Present: Councillor Amanda Pinnock (Chair)
Councillor Karen Allison
Councillor Adam Gregg

In attendance: Helen Wilson, Legal Advisor to the Panel
Stephanie Mashiter, Senior Licensing Officer
Michelle McCluskey, Assistant Licensing Officer

1 Site Visit

Site visit undertaken.

2 Interests

No interests were declared.

3 Admission of the Public

All agenda items were considered in public session.

4 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

5 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

6 Application for the Grant of a Premises Licence: Cockley Woodland Weddings, Liley Lane, Ninevah Farm, Grange Moor, WF4 4EN

The Panel considered a report which outlined an application under section S51 of the Licensing Act 2003, for the grant of a premises licence for Cockley Woodlands Weddings, Liley Lane, Nenevah Farm, Grange Moor, WF4 4EN.

The Licensing Officer outlined the application, advising the Panel that on the 11 May 2021, the Licensing Department received an application for the grant of premise licence for Cockley Woodland Weddings.

The application was made by a company called Hospitality Training Solutions Limited acting as agent to the applicant.

The Licensing activities applied for were as follows:

The supply of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises:

Monday – Sun 10:00 – 00:00

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Recorded Music:

Monday – Sun 23:00 – 00:00

The Licensing Officer advised that during the consultation period, no representations were received from the Responsible Authorities, however concerns were raised resulting in a total of ten representations supported by two ward councillors, a Member of Parliament, nine local residents and two petitions supported by 22 residents.

A representative for the applicant explained that his role as the agent was to give careful consideration to the activities, and the times being applied for especially with the location of the premises and its proximity to other local properties. The activities applied for were those commonly associated with weddings such as the retail sale of alcohol and live and recorded music and the conditions put forward were more than sufficient to ensure that the licensing objectives would be met.

The representative further explained that during the consultation period, conversations were held with Environmental Health Services, who offered some additional conditions which were happily accepted by the applicant.

As the Panel had not seen the document with the additional conditions, the Licensing Officer proceeded to read the information confirming that the document had been agreed and signed by both parties and that these conditions would be added to the licence.

In response to questions from the Panel the applicant gave an outline of the how the business would operate explaining that:

- planning application was refused and is now at appeal the outcome will not be known until at least the end of the year
- there is a commitment to ensure that the business does not cause problems for the neighbours
- to date 2 or 3 weddings have been hosted at the premises and each event was personally and professionally managed, including a car park supervisor and there have been no complaints or concerns raised
- currently the business is operating under 'permitted development' which allows 15 weddings under 'Temporary Events Notices'
- the average number of guests per wedding is between 70-80, however it can be up to 100
- it is envisaged that weddings will be held once a week on a Saturday

The Chair invited the objectors to make representations and the primary concern raised was with regard to noise nuisance. It was suggested that noise, which includes music, singing and shouting emanating from the premises during events

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would cause a nuisance to local residents as sounds travel a long way. In addition, concerns were also raised about the potential increase in anti-social behaviour and the impact on local residents of the numerous flashing and coloured lights at the venue which were visible through the woodland.

Following careful consideration of all the representations both verbally and in writing, the Panel

RESOLVED

That the licensable activity in respect of:

- recorded music between the hours of 23:00 and 00:00 be refused
- the supply of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises Monday – Sunday 10:00 – 00:00 be allowed

- that the Panel endorses the conditions stipulated by Environmental Health Services and that these conditions be placed on the licence