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LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 3 October 2018 at 2.00 pm
Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Silver Street,
Enfield, EN1 3XA

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Councillors : Chris Bond (Chair), Derek Levy and Maria Alexandrou

AGENDA – PART 1 - SUPPLEMENT

3. ENFIELD TOWN PARK, CECIL ROAD, ENFIELD, EN2 6LE (REPORT NO 83) (Pages 1 - 4)

Application for a new premises licence - Oktoberfest

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MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018/19 REPORT NO.

COMMITTEE:
Licensing Sub-Committee
3 October 2018

REPORT OF:
Principal Licensing Officer

LEGISLATION:
Licensing Act 2003

Agenda - Part	Item
<p>SUBJECT: Application for a new premises licence – Oktoberfest</p> <p>PREMISES: Enfield Town Park, Cecil Road, ENFIELD, EN2 6LE.</p> <p>WARD: Grange</p>	

1. SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT:

- 1.1 On 25 September 2018, IP6 provided additional information in response to the applicant's Summary of the Event Management Plan (found in Annex 2). A copy of this additional information is attached in Annex 9.

Background Papers:
None other than any identified within the report.

Contact Officer:
Ellie Green on 020 8379 8543

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Annex 9

IP6 Additional Information

From: Linda Miller

Sent: 25 September 2018 14:31

To: Ellie Green <Ellie.Green@Enfield.gov.uk>

Cc: Cllr Terry Neville <Cllr.Terry.Neville@Enfield.gov.uk>; Cllr Andy Milne <Cllr.Andy.Milne@Enfield.gov.uk>; Cllr Chris Dey <Cllr.Chris.Dey@enfield.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: IP6 Oktoberfest - summary provided by applicant

Thank you for the opportunity to further expand upon the points I made previously:

You have recently had to cancel the Pretenders/UB40 concert at Trent Park, due to transport concerns after British Transport Police closed Cockfosters Station following an event in the park there on the 4th August. Compare the two stations: at Cockfosters, there are trains every 3-4 minutes throughout the day and evening – that's around 16 – 17 trains an hour. In contrast, on Friday there night there will be two trains an hour from Enfield Town, four from Enfield Chase; on Saturday there are just two an hour from both stations. Six and four trains, respectively, on Friday and Saturday nights in the hour following the large scale exodus of people from the Festival. Remember, too, it is common for out of peak hours trains to be only four carriages long. This means in the region of a thousand people (assuming equal numbers go to each station – unlikely since the organisers only mention signposting Enfield Chase) facing waits on Saturday night of up to half an hour for trains that may only be 4 carriages long. While a smaller crowd is expected to exit the Town Park event than at Trent Park, when this far fewer, infrequent, train service is considered, the crush and the dangers –are likely to be similar.

It is difficult to see why the Trent Park event and this one should be treated differently, especially given the significantly fewer train services available at Enfield Chase and Town compared to Cockfosters. And that's assuming Govia/GNER is able to provide the expected numbers of trains – note that when I travelled on this line last Saturday Govia/ GNER was cancelling at least half of its trains due to staff unavailability (both on my outward and return journeys). Such problems on the nights of the Oktoberfest would further exacerbate problems around Enfield Chase Station. If there is no security available for the stations then this event must be cancelled.

While I note the organisers have said they will have their own security staff in place in the park, and stewarding outside the event, I don't imagine these will actually be policing the streets. I would want the Licensing Committee to pay close attention to what arrangements have been made with British Transport Police to shepherd and corral people arriving at the two local stations? At Finsbury Park station, following events in the park there, police typically hold passengers outside the station until it is

safe to allow passengers onto the platform. What arrangements have been made for control of these crowds at our stations? There is the risk both of aggression, given a large number of people who have been drinking finding themselves delayed, waiting in a very small area at both stations. Plus, both local stations are on busy roads – especially at Enfield Town station - and the risks of drunken people spilling or falling or being pushed out into traffic at these locations should be obvious. How many extra police – either Metropolitan or British Transport police - have been agreed for crowd control around the stations? If there is no intention to corral them until it is safe for passengers to proceed onto the platform then you will additionally be putting both event-goers and other passengers at risk of falling or being pushed onto the train tracks. None of these scenarios is desirable, to put it mildly. There need to be significant numbers of police available to effect crowd control around and inside the stations– if this has not been guaranteed then the serious, significant potential safety risks means that this event must be cancelled.

I do realise there will be plenty of ‘portaloos’ on site in the park and have previously mentioned the problem of people being likely to ‘relieve’ themselves en route to the stations and/or bus stops. But what also needs to be considered is what the situation will be when around a thousand (or more) drunken adults are told they have to wait something in the region of half an hour for the next train, at stations where there are no (or frequently locked) toilet facilities. If there are no police then frankly the local shops, offices and apartment entrances are likely to find themselves used as ‘conveniences’. I don’t think they will thank you for what confronts them in the morning. Will LBE be providing cleaning services for these areas on Saturday and Sunday mornings?

The event organisers say they have successfully run similar events in ‘similar’ parks. I note they do not explicitly say that these were parks bordered closely on three sides by residences, without even a road between the park and the residences (as, for example, is the case at most of Trent Park and at Finsbury Park). Unless all of the facilities face the golf course it is difficult to see how noise nuisance for residents can be avoided. In any event, it is obvious from this company’s advertising materials that attendees are being led to expect that they will be encouraged to make as much noise as possible. LBE should surely recognise that this is unacceptable in a residential area, home to mainly families and older people.

Taken together, I believe the risks presented are excessive and the only sensible course of action regarding this event (as with the Trent Park concert) is to cancel it.

I thank you for sending me a copy of the Agenda. I am currently endeavouring to find someone to attend in my place on the 3rd.

Yours sincerely

Dr Linda Miller