

Appendix 6

1. Email sending additional information

From: mark@sme-ltd.co.uk <mark@sme-ltd.co.uk>

Sent: 03 July 2026 10:25

I explained we don't aim to do late events but need time to vacate the site, I don't expect an event to pass season conditions with the only exception would be festive seasons

The events can stop selling alcohol from a certain time but this doesn't stop the event if its a camping a event,

The idea is we can stop selling alcohol at a designated time , the event is a different facility, which is already licensed under the Sports and recreation facility and as such has permissions through the site , which is currently paying rates under that classification.

The difference in applications is contra to current licensing,

KCM operator licence granted for 80 HGV

Vitrex grant planning support to double the operator site to grant vehicle access to addition 30 HGV

Bamford Transport new HGV licence

All granted with no restriction to use Bassingthorpe lane

2. Representation to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council Licensing Sub-Committee

Applicant: Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds

Site: Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds, S61 4QW

Response to Objections Raised by South Yorkshire Police and RMBC Highways

Introduction

This representation responds to the objections submitted by South Yorkshire Police and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council Highways concerning the proposed Premises Licence for Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds.

The applicant fully recognises the importance of public safety and is committed to operating the venue responsibly. However, the objections appear to rely heavily on the condition and geometry of the public highway serving the site, matters that fall outside the applicant's ownership and control.

The applicant respectfully submits that the Licensing Sub-Committee should distinguish between the operation of the premises and deficiencies in the existing public highway network.

Existing Lawful Access

Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds is an established site that has long been accessed via the existing adopted highway.

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The access road is maintained by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council as Highway Authority. The applicant has no statutory power to widen, reconstruct or otherwise improve the adopted highway.

If the carriageway has deteriorated over time through edge erosion, narrowing or lack of maintenance, responsibility for those matters rests with the Highway Authority rather than the applicant.

It would be unreasonable for the grant of a Premises Licence to be refused because of conditions on infrastructure over which the applicant has neither ownership nor control.

Highway Condition

The applicant notes that the highway has progressively deteriorated.

The carriageway has narrowed considerably due to years of insufficient maintenance. There are limited pedestrian facilities despite the road being subject to the national speed limit.²

The applicant submits that these are longstanding highway maintenance issues rather than risks created by this application.

The condition of the highway predates the current application and should not properly be attributed to the operation of the premises.

Comparison with Neighbouring Development

The neighbouring COMAH industrial facility has benefited from significant highway improvements, including a widened access road serving that development.

By contrast, the adopted highway serving Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds has received little or no equivalent improvement despite continuing to provide lawful access to an established recreational site.

The applicant does not criticise investment made elsewhere but respectfully submits that it is inappropriate for the consequences of historic underinvestment in the public highway serving this site to become the basis for refusing a Premises Licence.

Licensing Objectives

Under the Licensing Act 2003, the Licensing Authority must determine applications by reference to the four licensing objectives:

- Prevention of crime and disorder.

- Public safety.

- Prevention of public nuisance.

- Protection of children from harm.

The applicant respectfully submits that concerns regarding the width or condition of an adopted highway are primarily matters for the Highway Authority.

Unless supported by objective evidence demonstrating that the proposed operation of the premises would undermine the licensing objectives, highway maintenance concerns should not in themselves justify refusal.

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The applicant requests that any assertions relating to highway danger be supported by evidence such as:

- collision history;
- traffic surveys;
- transport assessments;
- swept-path analysis;
- independent highway safety assessments.

Public Safety Measures

The applicant remains committed to ensuring that visitors can attend the site safely.

Where appropriate, the applicant is willing to accept reasonable operating conditions including:

- Event Management Plans.
- Traffic Management Plans.
- Professional traffic marshals.
- Stewarded vehicle movements.
- Controlled arrival and departure times.
- Maximum attendance limits where appropriate.
- Emergency vehicle access arrangements.
- Liaison with South Yorkshire Police and RMBC before major events.

These measures demonstrate that any operational risks can be effectively managed without refusing the application.

Proportionality

The applicant respectfully submits that refusing a Premises Licence because a public highway requires maintenance would be neither reasonable nor proportionate.

If the Highway Authority considers improvements necessary, those improvements should be pursued through the authority's statutory highway powers rather than by preventing the lawful operation of premises that have historically existed at this location.

The applicant should not be disadvantaged by infrastructure shortcomings outside their legal control.

Request

The applicant respectfully asks the Licensing Sub-Committee to:

Give limited weight to objections based solely upon the physical condition of the adopted highway.

Consider the comprehensive management measures proposed by the applicant.

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Recognise that highway maintenance responsibilities rest with the Highway Authority.

Grant the Premises Licence, subject to such reasonable conditions as the Committee considers appropriate.

The applicant remains committed to working positively with South Yorkshire Police, RMBC Highways and all responsible authorities to ensure the safe operation of Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds for the benefit of the local community.

3. Prevention of Public Nuisance

The applicant recognises that neighbouring residents and businesses are entitled to enjoy their properties without unreasonable disturbance.

As the applicant resides at Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds, maintaining good relations with neighbouring occupiers is of paramount importance. Any nuisance arising from the operation of the premises would directly affect the applicant and their family as well as the wider community.

To minimise the potential for public nuisance, the applicant proposes the following operating measures:

Music will be monitored throughout licensed events to ensure that sound levels remain reasonable and proportionate.

Speaker systems will be positioned and directed away from nearby residential properties wherever practicable.

Event finishing times will be controlled in accordance with the Premises Licence.

Patrons will be encouraged to leave the site quietly and respectfully.

Stewards will monitor the site during events and at dispersal to discourage excessive noise or anti-social behaviour.

Vehicle movements will be managed to reduce unnecessary engine idling, horn use and late-night disturbance.

The applicant will maintain dialogue with nearby residents and respond promptly to any concerns raised.

The applicant's objective is to provide a well-managed recreational venue that enhances community facilities while minimising any impact on neighbouring occupiers.

4. Protection of Children from Harm

The applicant places the safety and welfare of children at the centre of the operation of the premises.

As the applicant and their family live at the site, there is a strong personal commitment to ensuring that the venue remains a safe and family-friendly environment.

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The applicant will implement the following measures:

Children will remain under the supervision of a responsible adult at all times while attending licensed events.

Staff and event stewards will be briefed to identify and respond appropriately to any safeguarding concerns.

Any sale of alcohol will operate under a recognised age-verification policy, such as Challenge 25, with acceptable photographic identification required where appropriate.

Staff involved in alcohol sales will receive training in the Licensing Act 2003 and the prevention of underage sales.

Alcohol will not be supplied to any person under the age of 18.
Any incidents involving children or vulnerable persons will be recorded and dealt with appropriately.

Appropriate stewarding will be provided during larger events to ensure safe movement of families and children around the site.

The premises will be managed to promote a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment suitable for community events attended by families.

The applicant respectfully submits that these measures demonstrate a proactive commitment to promoting the licensing objectives relating to the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

5. COMAH Emergency Route and Highway Maintenance

The applicant understands that the adopted highway passing Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds forms part of the wider highway network associated with the neighbouring Victrex Upper Tier COMAH facility. If this route is relied upon as part of the site's emergency access or evacuation arrangements, it demonstrates the strategic importance of the highway beyond serving the applicant's premises.

Despite this, the section of adopted highway serving Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds has, to the applicant's knowledge, received little or no significant maintenance or improvement over many years. The carriageway has narrowed through edge deterioration, there are no dedicated pedestrian facilities, and the road remains subject to the national speed limit.

The applicant respectfully submits that if the Highway Authority considers this road suitable to remain part of the highway network serving an Upper Tier COMAH establishment, it is difficult to reconcile that position with the assertion that the same adopted highway is unsuitable solely because of the proposed operation of Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds.

If there are deficiencies in the condition or capacity of the adopted highway, these are matters for the Highway Authority to address through its statutory responsibilities. They should not, without clear supporting evidence, be relied upon as a basis for refusing a Premises Licence for

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an established recreational site whose operator has no legal power to improve or maintain the public highway.

6. Conclusion

Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds has historically served as a recreational facility for the local community. The applicant's objective is to restore and improve the site's use as a safe, well-managed venue that provides opportunities for sport, recreation, family events and community activities.

The applicant and their family live at the premises and therefore have a direct and ongoing interest in ensuring that the site is operated responsibly. Any issues relating to noise, anti-social behaviour or public safety would affect the applicant's own home as well as neighbouring properties. For that reason, the applicant is fully committed to promoting all four licensing objectives through careful management, appropriate supervision and cooperation with the responsible authorities.

The applicant respectfully submits that the concerns raised regarding the condition and width of the adopted highway relate primarily to the public highway network rather than to the management of the premises itself. The applicant has no legal authority to alter or maintain the adopted highway, and it would be disproportionate for deficiencies in public infrastructure to prevent the lawful operation of an established recreational site.

The applicant has demonstrated a willingness to implement robust management measures, including traffic management, stewarding, noise monitoring, safeguarding procedures, responsible alcohol sales, and ongoing liaison with South Yorkshire Police, RMBC Highways and Environmental Health. These measures provide a practical and proportionate means of addressing the licensing objectives while enabling the site to operate safely and responsibly.

The applicant respectfully requests that the Licensing Sub-Committee considers the evidence as a whole, recognises the distinction between matters of highway maintenance and the operation of the premises, and grants the Premises Licence subject to any reasonable and proportionate conditions that it considers appropriate.

The applicant remains committed to working constructively with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, South Yorkshire Police and all other responsible authorities to ensure that Bassingthorpe Sports and Recreation Grounds continues to develop as a valued community asset for the benefit of local residents, sports clubs, families and visitors.

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7. Photograph

