



23 Clough Road
Shaw, OL2 8QD
3rd August 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

We are writing to make a representation, objecting to the licence application for Shaw Cricket Club, made on 15th July 2021. The application is to extend the Club's permitted hours for sale of alcohol, provision of various kinds of entertainment and for both recorded and live music to over twelve hours per day, every day of the year.

Since re-opening, after extending the clubhouse during the pandemic lockdown, there has been more anti-social behaviour on the club's ground and in the surrounding area: more litter, more discarded glasses and bottles (often not plastic), foul language, drunkenness and men urinating in the bushes just outside the Clough Road back gardens at the south-east corner of the ground. All of these we have personally witnessed more this summer than in previous years. A review by the Chairman on the Club's website stated that its decking can hold fifty people and the noise of many people talking carries across the ground, especially when there is music and alcohol involved. Sometimes, the music volume is excessive, as if the speakers are outside, broadcasting away from the clubhouse. At present, when an event is on until late, we cannot sleep with our bedroom window open. It would be worse if the longer licence were granted, especially on Fridays and Saturdays when a 1.30am bar closure time has been requested by the Club. All taken together, these examples of noise and nuisance mean that sometimes we feel we cannot enjoy our own back garden, even during the day.

There has been a lack of communication of the Club's proposals to the local residents, many of us only finding out about it through the public notice displayed near the Club. We have lived in this house, in this quiet area, for 44 years and have always been supporters of Shaw Cricket Club and its sporting activities, making a substantial financial donation in 1993, along with other local residents and supporters, to help save it in a time of crisis. Now, we are retired, my husband has serious health problems and I am his full-time carer; yet we feel the Club's attitude towards longstanding locals has deteriorated. The last time I spoke to the Chairman was on 24th July, regarding their large drinking tent which had dangerously blown onto trees and our back garden fence in the night. There was no apology from him, just a complaint because I'd rung him shortly after 8am to report the problem, yet the only contact number on the Club's website is his own phone number. I had only gone out to tell the men already there that they could come into our garden if it helped them retrieve their tent. My husband had been woken by it at 5am.

Shaw Cricket Club is situated on Green Belt land and we understand that any development should be essential to the playing of sport; however, such long licensing hours aren't. Other thriving local cricket clubs don't advertise such long hours; therefore the hours applied for are

not needed for the Club to be a success. Also, the request for a licence to supply and sell alcohol off the premises will lead to more late-night drinking, and the disorder this can cause, on Clough estate and not just in the Club. The current situation is already adversely affecting our quality of life and our health. We have no doubt it would be worse with longer hours and more wide-ranging activities, with the consequent potential for more noise and nuisance than we are experiencing now, and so we oppose the granting of this licence application.

Yours faithfully

S. Newton

Linda Newton

Stephen and Linda Newton