

From: Janet Hiscock

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 9:52 AM

To: licensing@woodhousescc.co.uk <licensing@woodhousescc.co.uk>

Subject: Woodhouses Cricket Club

To whom it may concern,

It is really very sad to hear that Woodhouses Cricket Club are facing an issue whereby the licensing authority is to review the licence on the grounds of a breach of conditions.

As wife of the current groundsman and parents of two (now adult) cricketers our family has a longstanding relationship with the club. Our sons have risen through the club from Junior players to 2nd and 1st team players. It is an absolutely brilliant club offering great facilities for young people to play one of the best sports there is. Any threat to this club is also a threat to the wellbeing of local young people.

The Club relies solely on volunteers who work incredibly hard, to not "just keep it going", but to ensure that it remains an excellent club with facilities that are of a high standard. To enable this high standard to be maintained, great effort is put into all aspects of administration, safety for the members, and particularly into a handful of specialised fundraisers every year which are always well attended and are much anticipated local events attracting a large number of supporters from across the local community.

I have only ever heard positive feedback about the club so this challenge from a possible single complaint has caused great concern. It is so sad. It would be far more beneficial to our local community if the complainant could turn their attention to the local riff raff who frequent Failsworth Tesco, KFC and Morrisons car parks and the streets of Failsworth, causing regular disturbances. I can categorically state that they will not find any of Woodhouses Youth Team members amongst the feral youth found there. The sporting youngsters at Woodhouses CC are making friends and most importantly (and especially true with the sport of cricket) they are learning team skills and discipline that will last a lifetime.

My sons started there as children, they are now, like ALL of their team mates, exceptionally grounded young men, holding down responsible careers and still playing for the Club they love, as Mike Atherton did many years ago at Woodhouses, at the start of his career. Any risk to the future of this amazing local facility is a travesty.

Does the complainant realise that the Club building is also home to a toddler playgroup and a coffee morning for the older residents who may otherwise struggle with loneliness and mental health issues. Funds are regularly raised for Macmillan Cancer Support and other charitable causes aside from the club itself. The function room is well used for local residents to hold family parties such as Christenings, Baby Showers etc, etc. It is a well maintained, family friendly Club that does a significant amount for the local community.

Not only is the Club a local one but it also has worldwide links in the cricketing community. We have just had a Zimbabwean professional here for the 2025 season. In the last few years there have been many Australian players and a Sri Lankan. All these young multi cultural professional players now have firmly established relationships with Woodhouses CC and its members, as well as links with their respective clubs in their own countries. This facilitates the opportunity for our young players to

experience cricket across the world. Many of the current players have solid friendships across the globe and many travel to and fro as a result of the friendships made and opportunities provided by Woodhouses CC.

I sincerely hope that there is no serious risk to the reputation and continuation of Woodhouses Cricket Club, as a result of what I have heard, is a possibly single complaint in decades of service to our community. For 116 years, since 1908, Woodhouses CC has provided sporting facilities to the community. It really is incomprehensible that anyone can try to undermine or endanger this wonderful institution.

I am sure that many will feel as concerned as we do and will also write in support of the Club. Please can you look at this favourably and recognise just how much this club, its committee, and its members does for the Woodhouses and Failsworth area and allow it to continue the excellent community service that it provides almost every day of the week.

Regards
Janet & Trevor Hiscock

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