

From: Claire Barry
Sent: 17 October 2025 14:45
To: Representations representations@oldham.gov.uk
Subject: Re: Representations- Shaw Cricket Club

Hi Elise,

Thank you for providing this information and giving us the opportunity to respond.

Shaw Cricket Club is a family orientated Sports Club, we have over 200 adult and 100 junior members registered at our club, playing and training cricket or socialising with their parents and families every day of the week during the summer and some days during the winter. As a committee of volunteers, we pride ourselves in having achieved and maintained standards for the ECB Club Mark accreditation over the last few years: "To affiliate, clubs must adopt the ECB Terms and Conditions of Club Affiliation, demonstrating their commitment to protecting players, volunteers, and members from issues related to discrimination, discipline, and safeguarding." and we take the Safeguarding of our members, especially the children at our club very seriously. The concerns from these representations around Anti-social behaviour, safeguarding etc go completely against what we strive for as a club and we would never put the safety of our members, neighbours or members of the public at risk for the sake of a change in our licence.

With a 22 year professional role as Director & Manager of a Childrens Day nursery & qualified Social worker and representing the club as Ladies Team Captain and Coach for under 11's & Girls Dynamos, I would never put my name to something that would jeopardise safety and security of the public or anyone at the club, especially the children.

The club structure has changed over the last few years, since the last licence application in 2021 and since the AGM in November 2024, 3 residents of Hampden Rd and Clough Rd have joined the Exec Committee, of which I am one. We have over a dozen Cricket Club players & volunteers who are a stone's throw from the club and 3 of those reside in the houses that border the grounds. We are thus very keen to ensure that any resident concerns are respected and resolved and have worked very hard this last year especially, to ensure that the club is adhering to its current licence (of which we have spoken/contacted yourselves numerous times about) and also gets the licence that is more suitable to the club to preserve its future financially. The last thing we and I'm sure the other residents agree is for this Non-profit Community Amateur Sports Club to be financially viable long term and not end up being sold off for housing.

We did originally discuss this application with [redacted] who is responsible for the Clough Neighbourhood WhatsApp Group and the neighbourhood Facebook page. [redacted] is also the Club's resident contact point, even though as mentioned we have 3 residents on the main committee, we thought having an external resident would be helpful and beneficial.

[redacted] has subsequently posted the attached letter by hand to a selection of the neighbourhood (apologies for the quality as it is a copy sent by a resident, as I never received a copy). A club Committee member, [redacted] (local resident at [redacted] Hampden Rd) asked her to publish the letter on the Clough Neighbourhood Facebook page, for which she is the only admin, but she unfortunately chose not to. We thought that this would have been helpful to identify everyone's concerns and allow the club to reply and explain the clubs' intentions (which are not to become a pub!), as we have no other way of bulk communicating

with the neighbourhood. If residents would have still objected, at least they would have a better understanding of what we are trying to achieve with the application of this licence.

As you can hopefully see, we have tried to do everything we can to engage with the neighbours and neighbourhood.

Observations:

- We do not wish to become, nor will become, a Pub. It is merely the licence that we require to bring us up to date and compliant with regulations, which include being able to provide entertainment and sell alcohol to non-members i.e., customers from other Cricket clubs visiting to watch a match and non-members wanting to attend our club fundraising events. Also, for the licence to cover the full grounds of the cricket club, including the consumption of alcohol for example to sit on the benches situated around the pitch whilst watching cricket and enjoying their drinks.
- We have no demand from our members or our local community, nor do we have passing foot traffic to warrant a need to be 'a pub'. Our hours are hugely reduced from a standard pub's hours, only opening when we have cricket matches and events on, which are mostly weekends but can include different days mostly during the summer for Junior training and matches, T20 games, functions such as funerals and members meetings.
- We have no desire to compete for customers from Shaw town centre pubs and will not be marketing ourselves in that way at all.
- In our new application, the application itself does not allow for different times indoors and outdoors, but we have stated that 'Outdoor music will finish at 9pm as agreed with residents' despite the licence application saying between 8am-11pm. We almost never have anyone at the club, other than our volunteer groundsmen, before 9am/ 9.30am when matches usually start for the juniors and we wouldn't require music outdoors from 8am, these are just the standard timings allowed on this type of licence. The music being moderated at 9pm is also stated in our current licence and is always adhered to. 'All day outside events with live music' and 'Continually playing recorded music outdoor' referred to in one of the residents letters is not a breach of our current licence for music, as there have been less than 499 people onsite with no more than 120 people indoors. These have been sporting events/charity fundays that have been organised by a member of the club or at T20 cricket matches in and between overs (not continuous) with matches always finishing by 9pm due to sunlight. Music has always finished before 9pm and I have physically turned speakers down myself when I have felt that it was a bit too loud. The only contact we have had about outdoor music from residents was a polite message on the Clough WhatsApp group about music playing on a Sunday afternoon at 2.41pm which disturbed their quiet time in the garden. This was for a charity event on 4th May, organised by one of our residents for the 21st birthday of her disabled daughter [redacted], who sadly passed away when she was 10, of which all residents were aware of via the WhatsApp & Facebook groups. There were approx. 150/200 people in attendance, and they had a little stage next to the club house with singers including [redacted], one of our residents and club member. We have had no other complaints.
- Since [redacted] meeting with yourselves, and subsequent learning that our current licence does not cover alcohol sales beyond the inside of the clubhouse, the committee have ensured that there have been no breaches of this at any subsequent events. We WILL NOT be selling or allowing consumption of alcohol outside of the clubhouse/balcony at our next Bonfire event in Nov 2025 and have supplied OMBC licensing department with detailed events information and risk assessments as required, stating this. The indoor clubhouse/balcony area (identified in our current licence) will be strictly members only with a maximum number of 120 people and will be Marshalled on each entry/exit by our volunteer committee members.

· We have and will continue to observe the balcony curfew and in addition we lower our shutters at 10pm every time the club is open. We have not had any complaints directly to the clubs committee about breaches of this in the last 12 months since I have been on the committee, and I am not aware (correct me if I am wrong) of any noise complaints reported to yourselves to say we have breached this since our last Licence change in 2021. Usually, [redacted] is very proactive in reporting any concerns to us that come to her via the residents. I am aware of only one complaint raised to our previous bar manager [redacted], about children playing on the pitch after 10pm at an event organised by one of our members for 'Friends of Buckstones, parents charity' for Buckstones school year 6 leavers party in July 2024. This complaint was more so [redacted] concern for the Safety of the children playing outdoors in the dark, rather than noise. The children's parents were inside the clubhouse and were told at the time to ensure they supervised their children and bring them inside, which [redacted] said it did take time and some persuasion of the parents to do so. We have a number of members and residents who live bordering the ground, who will attest to these points and the club being proactive and acting within the restrictions of the current licence. I for one have attended, volunteered at many events and on busy nights and have always seen our previous and current bar manager adhering to the 10pm balcony and shutters curfew and proactively asking customers to come back inside or close the doors when returning from having a cigarette at the designated smoking area at the side of the clubhouse. It is a challenge when people have consumed alcohol but all in all it is handled well by our staff and committee members in attendance.

· We have a members signing in book which is used daily for signing in members, whether they are an Annual member such as our Social or Player members or they are Day members who sign in when they are visiting from another cricket club for example. We pay for an extensive till and membership card system that stores details of our members. All non-members who come and purchase alcohol, are signed in by the member they come in with, as per details on our current licence. We will continue to have and encourage the membership system even if the licence is changed, as this provides an essential income stream to help sustain the club.

· 'Commercially advertised events' are events that have been planned by a member of our club to raise money for the club and are advertised on Facebook, which is in-line with our current licence, and they do not exceed 120 people inside or 499 people on the whole of the grounds. We have an events committee who help organise these and meet monthly to plan and raise money for the club, 4 of whom are residents of Clough rd./ Hampden Rd, and they have been made fully aware of the restrictions of the current licence, so not to breach it with current planned events.

· We have 1 event a year where in excess of 500 people will attend - our annual Bonfire for the Community which has been running for 25+ years. We liaise with the Police and Fire Brigade beforehand as part of a 20 point Risk assessment and ensure zero vehicles park at the venue (parking kindly provided by one of our Sponsors [redacted] and we steward the event with a large team of member volunteers.

· We do have a car park that is in the most part sufficient for our customers' needs, but we agree parking can at times be an issue and is busy only really when the club is being used for Cricket games during the daytime and for example when we have a cross over of Allstars, Dynamos & Junior training in the summer months or when we host sporting funday events, and it is no different than many other sports facilities or even schools. Most of the surrounding streets i.e. Hampden Rd & Clough Rd, aren't marked with any parking restrictions on either side of the roads and all of the houses have large driveways for 2 or 3 cars, therefore drivers will unfortunately choose to park on these streets, and we can only encourage them not to, rather than enforce it. We always encourage people to park efficiently

to get as much out of the spaces we have on our car park (I know, as I've marshalled this myself on Saturday mornings when finishing ladies training, and the away team have been parking up for the day) and we also ask people to walk to the club or park away from the ground where possible, as well as reminding people to be mindful and respectful of our neighbours when parking and leaving the premises. Again, **[redacted]** is very proactive when the surrounding streets become busy with parked cars and will make the cricket club aware of any parking concerns and we do 'walk the streets' to ensure any cars restricting access are identified and owners contacted (I have done this numerous times myself on busy match days although I have not found any cars to be illegally parked or restricting access to residents). **[redacted]** has felt the need to bypass the club committee and contact the police directly on a couple of occasions that I am aware of this year regarding parked cars on pavements, of which the police told us that there was nothing that could be done as there are no parking restrictions where they have parked. I know of one occasion that a traffic warden came around the streets and one car received a ticket on her windscreen, but this was actually a resident of Hampden rd. who received this ticket, as I saw this on the Clough residents Facebook page.

- We have very clear guidelines for spotting and dealing with underage drinking and follow the Prove Your Age approach for anyone looking under 25 years of age. This is trained to our bar staff and enforced by our Bar Manager and any concerns/checks recorded in our Incident book by staff.
- We have not asked to extend our serving alcohol licence to 00.30am as **[redacted]** refers to, we have asked for the same finish times for this as we currently have, so there should be no concern that additional people will be walking up the lane towards the houses beyond 1am, we have requested on the new licence that on occasion as necessary, our bar manager has the option to allow people to stay inside until 1am, ONLY if waiting for a taxi/lift, so to avoid them waiting outside and disturbing residents.
- Drugs are mentioned 4 times, which is astonishing to us. We have a very clear and strong zero tolerance to drugs and have never had an issue with drugs. We are a family orientated community club that pride ourselves in Safeguarding our members young and old.
- The suggestion of almost guaranteed lawlessness, criminality, drug use and the reference to rape are scaremongering and simply not credible.
- The representations state that they believe the club has been continuously breaching our current licence, yet despite having regular contact with **[redacted]**, the residents liaison and holding numerous residents meetings at the club since 2021, there has been no mention to the committee about the breach of selling alcohol to non-members or outside. In fact, it was me and another committee member, during planning stages of a Beer Festival event, who raised the query whether our licence covered the sale of alcohol by external outside vendors. Subsequently when this was explored by **[redacted]**, it evolved that the licence we currently had was not fit for purpose of the club and measures, which have already been discussed, were immediately put in place by the committee to ensure we were adhering to it.
- There have been no reported incidents since our last Licence change to yourselves regarding any of the four licensing objectives nor any safeguarding concerns detailed in the representations, that have warranted you to investigate our club and we therefore we believe that the change of licence to one that is more fit for purpose, should be granted going forward to ensure that Shaw Cricket Club's future is sustainable and it can continue to be a key resource for physical and mental health for the community of Shaw.

Hope this helps.
Claire Barry

IMPORTANT Notice for Residents of Clough.

Shaw Cricket club have applied for a change of licence from a club licence to a Pub licence plus an increase in the hours they can play outside music/ entertainment and serve late night food/ refreshments.

What does this mean to residents?

Changing from a Club to a Pub license will mean the club can operate as a pub open to anyone and everyone, the same as any pub in Shaw and across the Borough.

Also anyone can hire the club and grounds as an indoor and outdoor events venue.

The licence will enable the club to play music outside daily, hold large outdoor events, have live performances/ DJ's or play film & sports on large screens from 8am until 11pm Sunday to Thursday and 8am until 12.30am on Friday and Saturday.

They can also serve food such as the recent outdoor pizza van etc. from 11pm until midnight.

You may recall, 4 years ago the Cricket club applied to increase their licensed hours and outdoor music hours and many residents submitted objections due to concerns over increased noise, Anti-social behavior and security of our properties.

At licensing committee the club were allowed a partial increase of hours but the committee placed conditions on the license to protect residents.

These conditions have been constantly ignored and breached by the club over the last 4 years and have impacted on many local residents who are often unable to enjoy a peaceful day in their own homes and gardens without loud music being played or foul language being heard.

There has also been an increase in parking issues and parked cars blocking footpaths and the lane meaning residents are being forced to walk into the road and also potentially blocking emergency services from getting through to any emergency.

What can we do as residents?

We urge you to submit an objection against the change of status from "club to pub" and the increased hours for playing outside music/ film and late night food.

If this licence is passed, the outside music will impact us all!

Undoubtedly the outside music or entertainment will be heard across all of Clough from early morning until late at night.

It will also mean an increased number of patrons to the club using our streets for parking which could cause residents to be disturbed late at night when club patrons return to their cars.

How to object is on the reverse side of this page:

To Object:

You must use the below email address and object by the 21st October 2025

licensing@oldham.gov.uk

- Emails must contain your address and full name and Quote: application 110574
- All adults in the home can submit an objection.
- You must state your comments are an objection
- Objections should align with the below four licensing principles.

Licensing principles:

- **Prevention of crime and disorder** - *(Examples of representations relevant to this objective are illegal drugs, sex related activities, violent behaviour, anti-social behaviour, drunkenness, drug dealing, underage selling, however, guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act states that beyond the immediate area surrounding the premises are matters for the personal responsibility of individuals under the law)*
- **Public safety** - *(Examples of representations relevant to this objective are lack of adequate lighting, unauthorised alterations to property and so on)*
- **The prevention of public nuisance** - *(Examples of representations relevant to this objective are noise nuisance, noxious smells, anti-social behaviour, litter in the vicinity and so on)*
- **The protection of children from harm** - *(Examples of representations relevant to this objective are underage selling, sexual activities, access to premises, drugs use and so on)*

Please do not hesitate to contact  on the below number If you have any questions or need assistance with your objection.

Regards

