

DECISION NOTICE
Southern Area Licensing Sub Committee
Decision made on 14 May 2018

Application for a Premises Licence; Chalke Valley History Festival, Church Bottom, Broad Chalke, Salisbury, SP5 5DS

Decision:

The Southern Area Licensing Sub Committee resolved to GRANT the Premises Licence as applied for, with the following conditions:

- 1. One single event per year only, no more than 10 days in duration, to be held in the months of June and July.**
- 2. The Permitted Hours for the sale of alcohol on and off to be:**
 - Monday to Thursday 10.00 – 23:00**
 - Friday and Saturday 10:00 – 00:00**
 - Sunday 10:00 – 22:00**
- 3. The name of the event shall be ‘The Chalke Valley History Festival’, and the licensable activities will be ancillary to the main event, which should focus on:**
 - Literary talks and seminars**
 - Living History demonstrations**
 - Writing Workshops**

The granting of this Premises Licence is without prejudice to any other consents or approvals, including any planning permission that may be required.

Reasons:

This is an application for a permanent Premises Licence and the Sub-Committee has carefully considered and taken into account the concerns and written representations received both during the consultation period prior to the hearing and the oral submissions from legal representatives for both the Applicant and the Objector along with the suggested amendments to the application as proposed by the legal representatives for both parties.

The Sub-Committee accepted that it was inevitable that an annual event of this size and duration would have an impact on local residents, given the nature of the local area. However, it was not the Sub-Committee's role to consider the suitability or otherwise of the event as a whole. That had been considered by the other relevant authorities as appropriate. The role of the sub-committee was to consider the licensable activities that were proposed to take place within the overall Festival and the impact of those activities on the licensing objectives. The Sub-Committee felt that the presence or otherwise of these licensable activities would have a minimal effect on the issues that were principally causing concern for the Objectors, those being mainly the numbers of people and vehicles attending the site and the consequent noise and disruption. The Applicant accepted that last year that contractors involved in the post Festival site clearance had spontaneously broken into loud singing and would be taking steps this year to ensure contractors were aware of the need to keep noise such as singing at a low level to avoid the disturbance of residents out of licensing hours and/or after the Festival had concluded.

The Objectors raised concerns about non- licensable activities such as the noise of vehicle movements and generators and the position of lighting. The Applicant was able to confirm that a different and quieter trackway would be used and changes to the lighting would be made and quieter generators would now be used.

The Sub Committee noted the willingness of the Applicant to reduce the hours for the sale of alcohol on Sunday, and to implement changes to the position of the current generator lighting, trackway and generators to be put in place and considered that such measures would be appropriate to address the relevant concerns that had been raised.

The Sub-Committee further took into account the willingness of both the Applicant and Objectors to seek to resolve the concerns raised by the Objectors during the consultation and that both parties were able to agree changes to the Application.

The Sub Committee also considered the relevant provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 (in particular Sections 4 and 18); the guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act and the Licensing Policy of Wiltshire Council.

Appeals:

All parties have the right to appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of this decision. Any person has the right to request the Local Authority to review the licence. Such an application may be made at any time, but it is in the discretion of the Local Authority to hold the review, and a review will not normally be held within the first twelve months of a licence, save for the most compelling reasons.