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Bournemouth Beaches Premises Licenses - information for resident enquiries

Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 8:51 PM

To: Seafront Admin <seafront.admin@bcpcouncil.gov.uk>, Sarah Rogers - Licensing <sarah.rogers@bcpcouncil.gov.uk>

Dear Amy

Thank you for your email dated 1 April.

I note that in your response to point (2) of my email dated 29 March you state "[BCP] have not restricted the type of event on the application as the flexibility will enable [BCP] to consider applications for a variety of purposes". I have two comments:

(1) Paragraph 12.12 of BCP's Statement of Licensing Policy 2020 - 2025 provides that the Licensing Authority will expect applicants to consider a number of matters in the context of promoting the four licensing objectives including, inter alia, "The precise nature, type and frequency of the proposed activities". The vagueness of the Council's proposals suggests that the Council is ignoring its own Statement of Licensing Policy.

(2) You appear to accept that the Council's intention in issuing the very general and wide ranging applications is to leave it to the Council to make use of the seafront as they see fit. This would prevent the Licensing Committee or Sub Committee giving any meaningful consideration to the precise nature, type and frequency of the proposed licensable activities in the case of objection by local residents. It is this which has caused alarm to residents, being an abuse of the licensing regime as well as falling foul of BCP's own Statement of Licensing Policy.

As before, I am copying this email to the Senior Licensing Officer Sarah Rogers for her information,

Yours sincerely

Peter Wulwik

On Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 6:26 PM Seafront Admin <seafront.admin@bcpcouncil.gov.uk> wrote:

Good afternoon

Please see the response to your questions below in blue.

Kind regards



Amy Harris

Admin and Finance Officer

Destination and Culture

bcpcouncil.gov.uk

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From: Peter Wulwik
Sent: 29 March 2021 17:30
To: Seafront Admin <seafront.admin@bcpcouncil.gov.uk>; Sarah Rogers - Licensing <sarah.rogers@bcpcouncil.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Bournemouth Beaches Premises Licenses - information for resident enquiries

Dear Amy

Thank you for your email below dated 29 March 2021.

Unfortunately, your email does little to allay my concerns in relation to BCP's licence applications 183678, 183679 and 183680 for the following reasons:

(1) I note that rather than being a response to my representations dated 22 March, you have sent me what is essentially your standard response to resident objections. It might have been more helpful had you actually sought to answer the specific matters raised by me in my representations. We have received a number of representations in relation to the license variation applications on the Seafront and felt it would be useful to provide you with some background information around the reason for the variations as in many cases the objections were based on the misconception that we would be running events all along the Seafront on a regular basis.

(2) You state that "BCP Council have applied for new premises licences and variations on existing premises licences to allow for the increased provision of outside restaurants to operate along the beach over the summer to meet the expected demand from visitors. These would be a well- managed restaurant provision whereby alcohol is only available as part of a seated meal..." However you have not limited your applications to such activities. The applications are extremely general and in the widest terms. The proposed licensable activities referred to in the applications are numerous and varied. No detailed operating schedule has been produced and no details have been given as to what the Council actually intends to allow in relation to each location. The License application form does not allow for detailed operating schedules to be included. We have not restricted the type of event on the application as the flexibility will enable us to consider applications for a variety of purposes. However, as explained below any application to hold an event on this land has to go through a full application process whereby we work with organisers to ensure they will not cause a disruption to surrounding areas and comply with all conditions set by the Council. At the same time we work with multi agency partners to ensure full plans are in place so that residents and beach hut tenants are not disrupted.

(3) You state that "...there are times when [BCP Council] permit events to use the seafront...", but that "There are currently no plans for any events and the purpose of the licences is to be able to offer the seafront catering experience detailed above. Should this not continue, there would be the opportunity for public events should a request come in.....". In addition, you state that "... The premises licences can also be used for community event organisers who wish to put on an event with regulated entertainment". This serves to illustrate the extremely vague nature of the Council's proposals. Further the concern is that the effect of the applications, if granted, would be to permit the Council to have the unfettered ability to make use of the seafront as they see fit and to circumvent the controls and safeguards of having to make individual applications for each licensable activity. It is for that reason that the applications are an abuse of the licensing regime. Please see response to point 2.

I am copying this email to the Senior Licensing Officer Sarah Rogers for her information.

Yours sincerely

Peter Wulwik

On Mon, Mar 29, 2021 at 12:06 PM Seafront Admin <seafront.admin@bcpcouncil.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Mr Wulwik

Following on from your objection in relation to licence applications 183678, 183679 and 183680 we wanted to give you some further details into the plans for the summer arrangements and also for any events which were to use this area in the future to hopefully allay your concerns.

Summer seafront operation

BCP Council have applied for new premises licenses and variations on existing premises licenses to allow for the increased provision of outside restaurants to operate along the beach over the summer to meet the expected demand from visitors. These would be a well-managed restaurant provision whereby alcohol is only available as part of a seated meal.

The operation of these will be under the direct supervision of the Council's contracts management team, ensuring compliance with licence agreements and operational regulations.

We are liaising with the police and our Environmental Health colleagues to ensure appropriate conditions are attached to any licences granted to make sure there is no disruption to local residents or beach goers and that the operation becomes an enhancement of the existing Seafront catering offer, complimenting the resort as a destination for all.

The wording that has been issued to potential suppliers for an overview of the proposed operation is detailed below:

BCP Council are tendering out for suppliers to operate stylish beach restaurants for the summer period to meet the growing demand that staycations will bring for 2021. The Council are looking for an easy-going beach restaurant that delivers simple yet delicious food in a relaxed environment, providing crafted menus designed to ensure there's something for everyone catering for breakfast, lunch and dinner (and everything in between) using sustainable and local produce where possible.

Within the tender it is specified that the restaurant and bar must be themed and/or an experience in keeping with the nature of the seafront and beach location. The experience and visual presentation of the restaurant and bar is extremely important.

The principle offering of the hospitality should be food with alcohol being the secondary offering to accompany food not a main attractor. Different food offerings must be provided and there must be at least three hot food

options.

The restaurants will close no later than 10pm each evening and only background music will be permitted to ensure there is no disruption to residents and beach hut tenants. Each restaurant will be fenced in and not in front of any beach huts, as per the maps attached. The chosen supplier will work closely with Council and multiagency departments to ensure a safe and undisruptive period of operation.

Other Events

As you may be aware, there are times when we permit events to take place on the seafront and some of these licences are extensions of what is currently in place for events. There are currently no plans for any events and the purpose of the licences is to be able to offer the seafront catering experience detailed above. Should this not continue, there would be the opportunity for public events should a request come in. There is no plan to actively look for them. Generally these are community events.

Should a major event come through which significantly differs from this then we would always consult with local Ward Councillors and often with resident groups if there was a chance the event would affect them. We are very mindful of the number of events on any one site and always work with any organisers to ensure a robust Event Management Plan is in place before giving any permissions. This would include a noise management plan agreed with Environmental Health should there be a significant event with music. On the same basis our multi agency safety advisory group would look at any plans in terms of alcohol to ensure the licensing objectives are met .

The premises licenses can also be used for community event organisers who wish to put on an event with regulated entertainment. Anyone who wishes to hold an event on BCP land needs to go through the event application process through which we work with organisers to ensure they will not cause a disruption to surrounding areas and comply with all conditions set by the Council. We work with multi agency partners within this assessment of events and ensure full plans are in place so that residents and beach hut tenants are not disrupted.

As well as the above we also conduct health and safety walk arounds and have members of the events team on call for any noise issues should they occur.

We hope that this information provides you with reassurance around the purpose for the premise licence, however should you require any further information please let us know.

Kind regards



Amy Harris
Admin and Finance Officer
Destination and Culture

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