

### **Response to Other Persons to Representations Made by Applicant's Solicitor**

Good afternoon. Your email to Mrs Rogers has been forwarded to me as I am representing the Football Club in respect of the licence application.

May I just explain a little more about the prime reason for making the application, which is the inclusion of boxing and wrestling as a licensable activity. This is to enable the club to host the prestigious upcoming Boxing match on Saturday 27 May between local celebrity boxer, Chris Billam-Smith who is the Commonwealth and European Cruiserweight title holder, and Lawrence Okolie, the current WBO Cruiserweight Champion, which means that this is a World Title fight. That will obviously be popular, and the ring will be erected on the pitch itself to enable spectators to use the stand facilities etc. It will be what is described in the application as 'major event' because it will attract more than 500 spectators. That lesser number could be accommodated indoors for a smaller boxing or wrestling match.

The use of microphones will be mainly for the introduction of the boxing matches, and the boxers will enter the arena to music, which will also be played between fights. There will be no music played or microphone used (unless there is an emergency) after 11.30pm.

The Club, the promoter, and the officers responsible for public safety, prevention of crime and disorder and prevention of public nuisance have been closely involved in the preparation for this match (and the other aspects of this application) to ensure that the impact of the proposals will not be harmful to those living in the area. Conditions will be imposed on the licence to ensure that close involvement continues throughout, and that the necessary protective steps are all in place. In particular, the Senior Environmental Health Officer for BCP Council has imposed strict conditions on the noise levels permitted, which the Club is confident will address your concerns about noise nuisance from the music or microphones at the boxing event.

The boxing event will start at around 4pm and there will be several matches during the evening, with the main event scheduled for about 9.30-10pm. It is unlikely that everyone will stay until the end, with a proportion of spectators leaving after the particular bout they came to watch. Unlike football, therefore, there is unlikely to be a mass exodus at the end, but a far more gradual departure over the course of the evening. With the Club's extensive experience in controlling people both coming and leaving, they are sure that they will be able to clear the ground by midnight. Entrance to the boxing event will be by ticket only. Ticket purchasers will be given an Information Pack which will include transport and parking guidance. The Pack will include a notice that on leaving, spectators should have regard for those living in the area, and leave quietly. The draft Transportation Plan proposes requesting that BCP change the priorities of the traffic lights at Ashley Road to ensure a swifter clearance of vehicles, and arrangements with local bus and taxi services. It is also confirmed that the newly installed cycle lanes in Kings Park are fully lit so safe to use at night, and that there are bike racks available. There will be no alcohol sold after 11pm.

Having regard to the above and the strict controls, together with the conditions on the licence, the Club has every confidence that, on the maximum of 3 occasions a year that such an event may be held, it will not cause an unacceptable disturbance or sleep disruption to you or children living in the area.

If you have any other questions please do not hesitate to contact me, but the Club very much hopes that the information in this email will address your concerns, and enable you to kindly withdraw your representation.

Kind regards

**Julia Palmer**