

APPENDIX C

Norwich City Council Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003



Statement of support or objection to an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	Dr James Roger SIMPSON Mrs Paddy Margaret SIMPSON
Postal address	9 FRIARS QUAY NORWICH, NR3 1ES
Email address	
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you wish to support or object to	NORWICH CITY COUNCIL EVENTS
Address of the premises you wish to support or object to.	ST ANDREWS ——— COLLEGE (CITY CENTRE 4)

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	
Public safety	
To prevent public nuisance	SEE ATTACHED SHEET
To protect children from harm	

Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.	
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Signed:

Date:

6 October 2008

Please see notes on reverse

We oppose the application for the following reasons.

The proposed events would create **excessive and unnecessary noise and disturbance**, from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. or midnight, along St George's Street and the edge of Friars Quay.

As Norwich has numerous arts venues and large public parks (such as Chapelfield or Earlham), there is no need for plays, films, music, dancing, etc, to be performed out of doors in the area of St George's Street.

These events are **intrusive**. They attempt to impose an alien street culture on our area. They are not genuinely 'popular', because there is little or no local demand for them from residents. They are instead being introduced to serve the political goals of the apparatchiks in the arts bureaucracy, for these events are designed to create 'work' for the jobsworths in the Norwich City Events Team, and allow them to extend political patronage to under-employed actors, etc.

These events would also be a colossal waste of money. One might hope that in the present financial crisis the ruling bureaucracy would moderate its remorseless appetite for spending public funds on ephemera.



Norwich City Council Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003



Statement of support or objection to
an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	Dr. Judith Ford
Postal address	33 Friars Quay NR3 1ES
Email address	
Contact telephone number	01603

Name of the premises you wish to support or object to	City-Centre - 4
Address of the premises you wish to support or object to.	St. Georges Street Norwich

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	<p>As the resident whose house most directly overlooks the children's park between St. George's Street + Friars Quay, I have been very aware recently of the potential for disturbance in the later evening. Young people have been gathering in the park which is fine) - but have got very noisy, boisterous in a way that makes me expect damage to the children's play equipment (fortunately though this doesn't seem to have occurred) + the fact that broken bottles + on one occasion a cigarette have been found in the play area in the morning.</p>
Public safety	
To prevent public nuisance	
To protect children from harm	
Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.	<p>I am therefore concerned that the currently applied for blanket provision for "everyday" activity in the area till 11pm or midnight could seriously exacerbate problems.</p>

Signed:

Date: 11pm or midnight could seriously exacerbate problems.

Please see notes on reverse

see next
street

nē City-Centre -4
— St. Georges Street

Dr Judith Ford
33 Friars Quay

continued:

I really don't want to be a NIMBY.
I knew I bought a house overlooking
public space. I like the changes to
St. Georges St.. But I remain
concerned, especially given recent events
that this blanket licence could lead to
problems which would include, a threat
to public safety (crowdy behaviour in an
area that many people walk through),
harm to children (from damage/debris in
the play area), public nuisance from noise,
and potentially even crime and disorder.

I don't think these are issues
during daytime hours. Therefore what
I personally would suggest, and support,
would be that the approval be granted,
but only until 21.00 at the latest.
Any events beyond that time would
need extra permission. (20.00 might be
even better, but 21.00 would be OK).

Yours faithfully

12/10/08.

THE BRITONS ARMS,
9 ELM HILL,
NORWICH,
NR3 1HN.

OCTOBER 17th 2008

RE: CITY CENTRE 4 ST. GEORGES ST. NORWICH. APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF PREMISES LICENCE.

Dear Sirs,

We should like to lodge a complaint against the above application on the grounds of prevention of public nuisance, and the prevention of crime and disorder.

We find it difficult to understand that the same authority which has so publicly failed to abide by its legal obligations in the management of licenced premises under its control should expect public support for further activity. (see St. Andrews Halls).

It seems that the above application would ,in fact, grant permission for exactly the same kind of events which were giving substantial cause for complaint within St. Andrews Halls (and which were condemned by the magistrates). In this case the events would be taking place in the open air and potentially 24 hrs a day ,7 days a week.

We request answers to the following questions.

How does the authority propose to control numbers in this complex series of spaces ?

How will noise nuisance be controlled for the not inconsiderable numbers of local residents ?

How will the dispersal of large numbers of people into a mixed residential area be dealt with?

Although no licence for the sale of alcohol is being sought how will its inevitable consumption at the proposed events be regulated ?

Has any demand been identified for the kind of entertainments listed in the application to take place in this area ?

What redress would the individual have in any objection to nuisance caused by any single event?

It seems to us that the application is profoundly undemocratic in seeking such a blanket permission and runs roughshod over any idea of community control over local affairs.

Yours faithfully,

SUE SKIPPER AND TONY HAYDEN

Norwich City Council Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003

Statement of support or objection to
an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	SUE SKUPPER . TONY HAYDEN
Postal address	THE BRITONS ARMS 9, ELM HILL NORWICH NR5 1HN
Email address	
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you wish to support or object to	ST ANDREWS PLAIN / ST GEORGE'S PI
Address of the premises you wish to support or object to.	

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	See enclosed letter
Public safety	<i>[Signature]</i>
To prevent public nuisance	See enclosed letter
To protect children from harm	<i>[Signature]</i>

Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.	
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Signed:

Date: 17.10.08.

Please see notes on reverse

Norwich City Council Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003

Statement of support or objection to
an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	NANCY THAIN
Postal address	36 FRIARS QUAY NR3 1ES
Email address	
Contact telephone number	01603

Name of the premises you wish to support or object to	ST GEORGES PARK
Address of the premises you wish to support or object to.	ST. GEORGES ST

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	
Public safety	
To prevent public nuisance	TOO MUCH NOISE AT ANTI SOCIAL HOURS
To protect children from harm	

Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.	RESTRICT MUSIC, DANCING ETC TO PAVED AREAS. LEAVING THE AREA BETWEEN THE DIAGONAL PATH AND FRIARS QUAY FOR PICNICS OR RELAXING ONLY. REDUCING DAMAGE
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Signed:

Date: 16/10/08

Please see notes on reverse

ELISABETH JUEN, M.A. 8 FRIARS QUAY, NORWICH NR3 1ES

17 October 2008

Dear Sir

Ref City Centre – 4 St Georges Street
Licensing Act 2003: Premises Licence



This is a statement of objection to the above licence application.

I have lived at the above for 25 years, a designated residential area, which is reflected in my council tax. As a resident and taxpayer I know that Norwich simply does not need an extension of the already existing entertainments possibilities. For drama/theatre there is the Theatre Royal, Maddermarket Theatre, Sewell Barn, Plays at the Castle in the Summer, the Playhouse. For music there is the Cathedral, King of Hearts, the Playhouse, the Arts Centre and many pubs offer live gigs. Cinema City, cinemas at Riverside, the Mall, Anglia Square provide film shows and for live music are many pubs in the City, the Forum, the Arts Centre.

There is lots on offer for anybody wanting entertainment of the nature you list on your summary for the application without staging the proposed events, which would negatively affect my immediate neighbourhood as well as my personal safety.

Friars Quay is surrounded by pubs and drinking and I am accustomed to noisy Friday and Saturday nights including the litter and sometimes damage to property that comes in the wake of heavy drinking/drug taking. The city of Norwich is drowning in alcohol and drugs and here comes an application to open up the city's already huge drinking/drug taking area even further. Drinking areas are Prince of Wales Road, Tombland, Queen Street, St George Street, the City-Centre. Is the event team at City Hall unaware of the huge and visible alcohol and drug problem in Norwich? If this application was granted Friars Quay would be surrounded by a cordon of hard drinking areas, which by rights should cause City Hall concern. It certainly causes alarm for me living here and many other Friars Quay residents. An outdoor event in England is a drinking event whether we like it or not and it is irresponsible to pretend otherwise.

As a woman living on my own I have aware for many years how precarious and fragile the residential nature of Friars Quay is, and I greatly fear further erosion of that safety I still enjoy here. I object to the noise, the litter, drunken/drug induced behaviour such events will bring in their wake. This is not just a fear, it is a given that any event staged according to this application, will result in a huge noise litter and public disorder issue.

I shall now comment on the individual points on your form.

Crime and Disorder

Since living here I have personally experienced car theft, car break ins, stolen property, a motor bike wilfully set alight, near 3 parked cars, one of which was mine. Fortunately I heard it and rang the fire brigade. It was past midnight and it was unusual for me to be up. If I had not rung the police the 3 parked cars would have exploded at a certain point. The police turned up 2 days after the incident. That seems to be the level of police protection I am able to get at Friars Quay. And yet, people under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or both probably, do behave irresponsibly and cause criminal damage and violence. This is recognised wisdom and the proposed entertainments would open the door wide to just such behaviour. Also not just once or twice, but regularly.

Next to my house is a wildlife garden with a bench, often used by drunks or drug takers or for noisy copulating when it is dry in the summer. To remonstrate would be folly and dangerously unsafe, so I am forced to suffer this invasion into my private life, my sense of responsibility as a thoughtful/considerate resident and taxpayer.

For the last month there are daily disturbances taking place in the playground, where teenagers gather and create a public nuisance well into the night. It appears there is no system in place either by you or the police to prevent such nightly disturbances to residents living near the Green.

Your application would bring far more people into my neighbourhood and thus further increase crime and disorder due to the effects drink and drugs clearly have on people.

Public Safety

As above, and as a woman on my own I am deeply concerned when there are lots of people in this area who certainly will be under the influence of alcohol and drugs. The Green is already used for drug taking during the day, either as lone or in groups. I find it alarming that City Hall and the Police do nothing about this flouting of the law. There is also a playground and often I wonder how worrying this official turning a blind eye is for small impressionable children. Again, the police always have more important matters to attend to, but for me as a female and resident of Friars Quay this state of affairs causes me deep concern, in fact frightens me. As we know alcohol and drugs are often the cause for violent assaults, if not murder.

Litter like broken bottles, cans just thrown anywhere, discarded fast food boxes, even syringes have been found at the Green, distressing facts. Have they been given thought before this mad scheme was put out for us to consider?

It is my view that your blanket application would further encourage flouting of the law and dangerous behaviour by large numbers of non-residents coming to events just on my doorstep..

Public Nuisance

It can be assumed that large crowds as planned for the events will inevitably present a public nuisance to residents. Noise, litter, drunk and disorderly behaviour, possibly police presence long after an event must represent public nuisance for residents. I am astonished such an application could ever pass the initial hurdles for a licence application to be presented to the residents of Friars Quay and the wider public. Here the issue of litter, mentioned above, must be mentioned.

To protect children from harm

With drug taking openly happening at the Green immediately near the playground, it is self-evident that this Application did not bear in mind the harm drunken and drug induced behaviour can do to children and residents. All I mentioned above will be harmful to children as it is to residents.

The litter concern also applies here as children are also affected by litter, broken bottles, disposed of cans or even a syringe or two.

These are my objections to the above licence application.

What Norwich needs is a place like the Green, where there is a place for simple calm enjoyment of the outdoors, where office workers picnic, where children play in the playground and an older person/woman can still walk without looking over the shoulder. A quiet breathing space for everybody within the City Centre.

To conclude I would like to point out that in the present economic climate it is hardly appropriate for the City of Norwich to still be spending money on wholly unnecessary projects when most ordinary people are forced to drastically curb their expenditure.

Yours sincerely



Elisabeth Juen (Ms)

Ian Streeter
Licensing Manager
Norwich City Council
City Hall
Norwich NR2 1NH

ELISABETH JUEN, M A, 8 FRIARS QUAY, NORWICH NR3 1ES

23 October 2008

Dear Sir

Ref: City Centre – 4 St Georges Street
Licensing Act 2003 – Premises Licence

I now enclose the form Statement of Support or Objection to an Application for a Premises Licence, which I omitted to attach to my letter of objection dated 17 October 2008.

Yours sincerely

Elisabeth Juen (Ms)

Ian Streeter
Licensing Manager
Norwich City Council
City Hall
Norwich NR2 1NH

Norwich City Council Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003

Statement of support or objection to
an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	ELIZABETH JVEN
Postal address	8 FRIARS QUAY, NORWICH NR3 1EJ
Email address	
Contact telephone number	01203 232323

Name of the premises you wish to support or object to	City Centre - 4 St Georges St
Address of the premises you wish to support or object to.	entire application

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	see covering letter dated 17.10.08
Public safety	
To prevent public nuisance	
To protect children from harm	

Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.	to withdraw application
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Signed: *[Signature]* Date: 22.10.08

Please see notes on reverse

DEREK MORRIS PPRBS
SCULPTOR

Ian Streeter,
Licensing Department,
Legal and Democratic Services,
Norwich City Council,
City Hall,
St Peters Street,
Norwich, NR2 1HN.

19th OCT. 2008.

Dear Mr Streeter,

I and my wife have received notification that a new application for a Grant of Premises Licence to cover the area City Centre - 4, St Georges Street is being presented to the Licensing Department of Norwich City Council. I am sorry to say that once again we have serious concerns about the effect such a far reaching licence will have not only on the area in question but also on other residential areas that are adjacent to St Georges Street. We believe that there is real potential for the licensing objectives of Public Safety and Prevention of Public Nuisance to be breached without much clearer guidelines as to how the events proposed will be controlled. We are not opposed in spirit to events like these being held, but we would wish to be reassured by Norwich City Council that the following points are taken into account when considering the application.

[1a] Public Nuisance - Noise Pollution. How will the noise levels of live music and dancing events be controlled? Although the cut off points for the events are reasonably timed there is still potential for real disturbance in an area that is at least in part residential which includes us in Elm Hill.

[1b] Although the finish time for the events seem reasonable, they will not in fact be the actual finish time as clearing of equipment will naturally extend these times towards 24-00 in the case of live performances and 01-00 in the case of films. We believe these constitute unsociable hours and that the finish time should be 22-30 for live events and 23-30 for films.

[2] Public Safety. We note that the provision of alcohol is not included in the application. This fact is hardly comforting with regards to issues of public safety when there are no less than three bars within the designated licensing area. How does the Council seek to control unlicensed drinking during the events and indeed control the numbers of people attending them?

[3] The fact that this application is of an all inclusive nature does concern us as there are no indications how often these events might take place. Theoretically they could take place every day of the week. Will the Events Team still be governed by the requirement to advertise descriptions of proposed activities in the press and at the "premises"?

Once again the blanket nature of this application is a cause of concern for us. Unfortunately the lack of clarity over detailed intentions does not give us confidence concerning how the events will be run. Therefore we must again object to this application in its present form.

Yours sincerely,



1 THE MONASTERY COURT
ELM HILL
NORWICH
NR3 1HW





The Reverend Canon
Michael McLean
30 Friars Quay Norwich NR3 1ES
Telephone 01603 433333

The Licensing Office
Norwich City Council
City Hall
Norwich

20th October 2008

Dear Sirs

St George's Street Area Licence

With some hesitation – unwilling to be charged with nimbyism – I have decided to oppose the Council's Events Team application for a licence for events in this area.


Although when I first read the application I had misgivings on three grounds:

- a) the 'blanket' nature of the application, which even includes unspecified "similar" events,
 - b) the late hour (midnight) proposed for the end of some events, when 9 or 10 o'clock seems more reasonable in what is largely a residential area,
 - c) the unnecessary provision of such a setting when Chapel Fields Gardens and the Forum provide more appropriate venues,
- but I decided reluctantly that I did not feel it right to object.

However I have since learnt from the "risk assessment report" that the application envisages the possibility of permitting 2500 people on St George's Park. This seems to me wholly unacceptable.

Hence my opposition to the proposal.

Yours faithfully

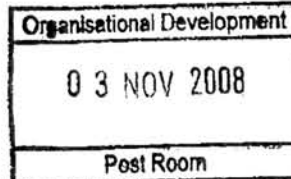


The Reverend Canon
Michael McLean
30 Friars Quay Norwich NR3 1ES



Mr Ian Streeter
Licensing Legal and Democratic Services
Norwich City Council
City Hall Norwich NR2 1NH

31st October 2008



Dear Mr Streeter

Licence for St George's Street area

Thank you for your letter of October 30th with its degree of reassurance about this licence application, stemming from representations by the Friars Quay Residents Association committee.

I was particularly pleased to see the reduction in potential crowds on St George's Park from the totally unacceptable 2500 to 1000 (the principle cause of my letter of objection), and also the earlier terminus for events on most days.

I remain of the opinion however that this is an inappropriate area for such events, and unnecessary since at least two other large public spaces exist already in the city. And I must add that the thought of two events per month (however improbable that may be) disrupting life - on twelve of them until 22.00, 23.00 or even midnight, some even for two consecutive days - is singularly unattractive.

I regret having to maintain this position since entertainment and fun are important in the city, but I feel on balance that this area is the wrong place.

Yours sincerely

Norwich City Council Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003

Statement of support or objection to
an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	DR and MRS C.N. SMITH and our near neighbours in Friars Quay
Postal address	41 Friars Quay Norwich NR3 1ES
Email address	
Contact telephone number	01603

Name of the premises you wish to support or object to	St Andrews Plain, St Georges Park, St Georges Street, from St Andrews St to Colgate
Address of the premises you wish to support or object to.	Application submitted by the Norwich City Council Events team

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	Drunkenness. Alcohol readily available from out lets nearby.
Public safety Hygiene - Lack of Access to ambulances and other emergency vehicles if road is closed will be difficult. Very near River Wensum.	public toilets within easy reach.
To prevent public nuisance not adolescents and adults. Damage to the newly landscaped gardens. Risk to cars in designated <u>privately owned</u> car parking spaces in constant use.	Damage to fenced-off play area <u>especially</u> for small children -
To protect children from harm Inconvenience to residents who already are not able to use their cars on Lord Mayor's Day.	Noise in a residential area. Measures have been taken about excessive noise from <u>inside</u> St Andrews Hall.

Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns. Chapelfield gardens is bigger. The city fringes e.g. Earham Park. No river danger at Chapelfield.	This is not the best city centre site. Much better and bigger sites on
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Signed:

Date: 21 Oct 2008

Please see notes on reverse

Norwich City Council Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003



Statement of support or objection to
an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	DR. AUBREY + DR. CAROLE HILL
Postal address	29, FRIARS' QUAY, NORWICH, NR3 1ES.
Email address	
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you wish to support or object to	CITY CENTRE - A, ST. GEORGE'S STREET NORWICH
Address of the premises you wish to support or object to.	St. George's park green, and playground.

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	UNDERAGE DRINKING and VANDALISM (GRAFFITI + CAR DAMAGE) already taking place (see your log). Such open license can only increase this.
Public safety	Public use will increase broken broken glass/needles already found in PLAY PARK, especially since increased "day light" lighting of green and playground at night.
To prevent public nuisance	This area is a thoroughfare, especially late at the weekends. (I was woken three times last night (17.10.08). The noise and litter issues can only worsen. Illegal parking is already happening.
To protect children from harm	See above (public safety). The tearing of tree branches and leaving them for children (and others) to trip over. It is not always a safe environment when the playground is taken over by youths.

Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.	Limitations (enforced) on hours of events. Increased cleaning of playground especially. Restrict bright lighting which attracts groups until the early hours of morning.
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Signed:

Date: 18.10.08

Please see notes on reverse

All that said, it seems to me that any limiting of the 'open license' is virtually unenforceable, so we oppose it.

11 Lowes Yard
St George Street
Norwich
NR3 1AW

Ian Streeter
Licensing Manager
Legal and Democratic Services
City Hall
Norwich NR2 1NH



18 October 2008

Dear Mr Streeter

Your Ref. 08/01831/PREM
Re: City Centre – 4 St Georges Street Norwich
Licensing Act 2003: Premises Licence - New

Thank you for your letter of 1 October 2008 addressed to 'The Occupier' at 11 Lowes Yard. We write to you as owners and residents of that address.

Having read the full version of this application we write to record our strong objections to this application for reasons outlined below.

Objections.

The applicants seek a licence for a wide variety of unspecified events in the area described in the application. Events envisaged include plays and films; other events include live music, recorded music, dance performances and 'anything similar' to these categories. The application goes on to outline various activities but is not specific on any details of any single activity proposed. Our main, but by no means only, objection to this application is this: in attempting to appropriate powers to authorise any and every event which would otherwise be dealt with by the licensing authority on a case by case basis, the applicant will be denying the general public and, in particular, local residents, the opportunity to have any say before such events take place. We have been enthusiastic supporters of a broad range of cultural activities in this City for many years, and we can foresee many events in this area which would have our enthusiastic support. However, we cannot be expected to make any realistic judgement as to the adequacy of any risk assessment for such a wide variety of unspecified events in respect of the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance or the protection of children from harm.

11 Lowes Yard
St George Street
Norwich
NR3 1AW

Ian Streeter
Licensing Manager
Legal and Democratic Services
City Hall
Norwich NR2 1NH



18 October 2008

Dear Mr Streeter

Your Ref. 08/01831/PREM
Re: City Centre – 4 St Georges Street Norwich
Licensing Act 2003: Premises Licence - New

Thank you for your letter of 1 October 2008 addressed to 'The Occupier' at 11 Lowes Yard. We write to you as owners and residents of that address.

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Objections.

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Further clues as to the nature and size of events foreseen can be gleaned from the map which accompanies the full application. It states a 1300 capacity crowd for events on St Andrews Plain which it marks as suitable for 'workshops, demonstrations & performances, small bands, projections, small stages etc.' Another area of the map is variously described in the application as St Georges Plain and St Georges Park (incidentally, neither name recognised hereabouts). Here, activities listed include those listed for St Andrews Plain. The crowd capacity in this area on the map is stated as 2500. This area is immediately adjacent to a toddler's playground, Friars Quay residential development and within sight or sound of several hundred residents in the immediate vicinity.

The seating capacity of Norwich Theatre Royal is 1300. The combined capacity of Norwich Theatre Royal, The Maddermarket Theatre and The Norwich Playhouse is a little over 1900. This, perhaps, puts any such proposed 'events' in St Georges Plain/Park and St Andrews Plain into perspective. The applicants provided the proposed crowd capacity figures on the map so it seems reasonable to expect that, if this licence is granted, they envisage such events will be staged at some time. They have provided no risk assessment or indications of provision for an adequate risk assessment for events be they small or, possibly, involving crowds of 2500. In the event that this licence is granted, we - local residents - will have no prior say in the permission for such events. Thus, we urge that this application be rejected and, in summary, suggest that this application has not adequately demonstrated that it satisfies any of the required criteria. Namely, to prevent crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

Additional Observations

We are aware that a similar application was rejected by Norwich City Council Licensing Committee in March this year, and that this was again rejected on an appeal to the Licensing Justices in June. However tempting it might be, we have avoided any reference to matters arising from that previous application and subsequent appeal which we consider should not be entangled with this present application. Our objections to this application are quite clear and are, we believe, within the scope of the guidance and policy of the 2003 act.

Permit us please a few final observations which surely reflect on the presentation of this application. Your letter to us as 'the Occupier' at 11 Lowes Yard included a summary of this application. The compiler of that summary saw fit to include a statement, in bold letters, drawing attention to the fact that: **'The provision of alcohol has NOT been applied for as part of this application'**. That summary, strangely, omitted to mention the possibility of events with crowds of up to 2500. Only those of us who had gone to the trouble of seeking a copy of the detailed application - and a powerful magnifying glass - would be aware.

Those of us who live in the immediate vicinity are well aware that there is absolutely no shortage of licensed premises hereabouts to fuel the drunken antics we have to endure most nights – and days - of the week. And that is without any of the further unspecified activities proposed here. Please once again study the map. You will see that the vast majority of residents are – just that, residents. Many of us have lived here for years. Half a lifetime in our case. We wholeheartedly supported the scheme to pedestrianise St George Street. We enclose a copy of our recent letter to the Eastern Daily Press praising the scheme. Were we naive in missing the fact that that pedestrianisation plans for St George Street masked a City Council aim to transform our street into an 'entertainment zone'? An area to stage whatever it sees fit, whenever it sees fit – all day and every day if it so wishes?

Please, halt this madness.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Chastney

Janette Macmillan.

enc. EDP

ERS & EMAILS

For safety's sake, we need maroons

IAN ROPER,
Church Street,
Sheringham.

It was with deep regret and fear that I read Monday's EDP article that the RNLI would no longer use maroons to inform the public that their locally-supported lifeboat was being called out on an emergency rescue.

I say "with fear" because this one act of firing maroons is like a piece of life-saving equipment in itself. To inform a casualty that help is on its way might just make the

difference for that person to hang on that bit longer and to calm the sense of panic that sets in when you fear that you might lose your life.

In my town of Sheringham, there has been one such rescue that took place this year in freezing-cold conditions late at night. This involved a person who was drunk and didn't want to be rescued, but a friend of his had gone into the water and held on to him even though he struggled to break free. For him to hear those maroons

and know that help was on its way made all the difference as to how much longer he could hold on to him even though his hands had gone numb with cold.

The RNLI proudly holds as its motto: "It exists to save lives at sea." But, by taking away this valuable piece of equipment, it might just end up losing a few. If you have strong feelings over this decision, please write to: Andrew Freemantle, Chief Executive, RNLI HQ, West Quay Road, Poole, BH15 1HZ.

Picture: EDP LIBRARY



PRECINCT PRAISE: St George's Street in Norwich.

Dig this for daftness

OLIVER CHASTNEY,
Loves Yard,
Norwich.

Over the past months, I have been watching the magnificent transformation of St George's Street in Norwich. What is emerging from the previous potholes and uneven pavements, the traffic-choked pedestrian nightmare is what must be one of the finest pedestrian precincts in the city. All credit to the designers and the contractors: I hope they win prizes. Yesterday morning, I watched as the site huts were loaded on to a lorry, signalling that this project was coming to a conclusion. I watched as the workmen were carefully positioning and grouting the last few paving stones. I didn't have the heart to tell them, as I was admiring their workmanship, that a few moments after I had waved farewell to their site hut I watched another convoy of contractors arriving with diggers and pneumatic drills. (ep, at the time of writing, EDF Energy is digging up the new pavement. You couldn't make it up!

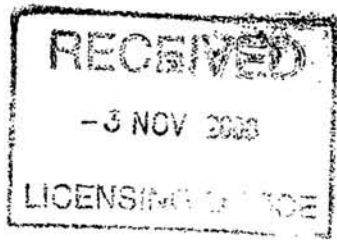
What happened to council loans?

PHILIP MARKHAM,
Harvey Lane,
Thorpe St Andrew.

Why can't our beloved government change the rules so that councils can lend money from their reserves to individuals or small businesses on a short-term basis at a commercial rate of interest, or even introduce a credit card? My own credit card provider charges around 17pc a year. What rate of interest would have been earned with the Icelandic banks? Whatever happened to obtaining a mortgage with the council? At one time the only way you could get a mortgage on a terraced house in Norwich was through Norwich City Council. At least if there were problems with the borrower, the house would revert back to the council and could either be resold or used as council housing.

A singularly plural affair

JOHN R SHARP,
Wolly Blue Road,
Wymondham.



11 Lowes Yard
St George Street
Norwich
NR3 1AW

Ian Streeter
Licensing Manager
Legal and Democratic Services
City Hall
Norwich NR2 1NH

1 November 2008

Dear Mr Streeter

Your Ref. 08/01831/PREM

**Re: Licensing Act 2003: Application for grant of Premises Licence –
City Centre 4 (St Andrews Plain / St Georges Park / St Georges Street
from St Andrews Street to Colegate).**

Thank you for your letter of 30 October 2008 detailing amendments the applicants wish to make to the operating schedule for the above premises licence, following their meeting with Friars Quay Residents' Association.

You enquire, in the light of the amendments outlined in your letter, if this would impact on the representations we have made.

In short, the amendments outlined do not address our objections to the licence application as specified in our letter to you dated 18 October. They do, however, prompt us to make further observations which we trust you will add to our previous correspondence:

We are not represented by Friars Quay Residents' Association and we are unaware of any discussions or correspondence with that association which might have prompted the applicants' amendments.

The fact that the applicants indicate that The Friars Quay Residents' Association Chair is to be informed by the event organiser for consultation at least two weeks in advance of events is of little interest to those of us who are not represented by the Friars Quay Residents' Association. If this all-encompassing Premises Licence is granted, the Chair of Friars Quay Residents' Association might well have an opportunity to voice objections or support for any individual events. However, in common with anyone else who might wish to register their support for - or objection to - any specific event we will be denied the opportunity of voicing our opinions to an independent licencing authority. This independent judgement will have been appropriated by the event organiser. That is surely wrong.

As to the schedule of the number and duration of activities permitted, this is of academic interest. Without knowing specific details for individual events it is not possible for residents or business owners to pre-judge support for or objection to that event.

Regarding the proposed restriction of 1000 persons – half the figure on the original plan submitted – for 'St Georges Park' events, it is difficult to envisage, in practical terms, how this number could be restricted. There are at least seven direct public access points to that area. In addition, no mention is made regarding any amendment to the proposed 1300 persons at St Andrews Plain. Neither 'St Georges Park' or St Andrews plain is suitable to accommodate such large gatherings and the consequent disruption such events inevitably cause. We enclose a picture of the queue for St Andrews Hall Beer Festival taken on Friday 31 October at lunchtime. The queue at that time was quite densely packed with about 200 persons and stretched to a little short of Blackfriars Bridge. Hopefully, this helps to illustrate the difficulty of accommodating even a fraction of the proposed maximum numbers proposed while maintaining access for residents and to local businesses.

Please accept the above comments as additions to our previous letter of 18 October.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Chastney

Janette Macmillan.

