

Fuller, Maxine

From: Mike Smyth
Sent: 28 August 2025 09:29
To: LICENSING
Subject: Norwich City Football Club - License application dated 31.07.25

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Dear Sirs

I object to the recent license application submitted by the football club.

Firstly I would like to note that the plan of the proposed extended area for bars is not available to view or download from the Council's website. I also question whether the correct fee has been paid for this application given attendance is in the 20- 29,999 bracket.

The existing license has allowed the football club to open a bar the full length of the northern Barclay Stand with open bar frontage at either end. This was permitted without consultation with local residents including those whose homes face this bar. At the last music event in May, loud music was played in this bar until midnight despite it opening onto residential housing. Despite complaints about the noise the loud music it was not turned down and continued until 12pm. A complaint to the Council received the response that the bar was acting under the terms of it's existing license.

As well as this bar running the entire length of the Barclay Stand the club has many more inside the ground and also uses portable and temporary bars within the confines of it's car park on match days and during events.

There is no reason whatsoever why the club should require further bars to be situated on the road next to the public highway during events and before every home game. There is no requirement or reason to place bars on the road outside an existing bar running the length of the stand.

This proposal will include games that start at lunchtime, mid and late afternoon and evenings, on weekends and week days. Fans will be allowed to buy alcohol and loiter at bars in the street while residents and traffic pass by. Not only will this lead to noisy and antisocial behaviour it would also be dangerous. The proposal would allow bars in the street being placed directly in front of residential housing on Carrow Road and Geoffrey Watling Way.

The football club has already been given the benefit of the most far reaching alcohol and events license in the county if not the entire country by this Council. I would ask those voting on this decision to compare the existing alcohol and events license with that of the club's nearest comparable organisation in Ipswich. The generosity of the clubs existing license is staggeringly apparent when compared with similar organisations.

The club has this already overreaching license despite being in the center of a residential area. It also adjoins one of the busiest junctions in the city, a junction with inner ring roads running alongside two of the three roads where bars are proposed. These are roads that are not closed before kick off on match days and are not closed for events.

It should be clear that this proposal is not safe, it poses the likelihood of antisocial behaviour, and it is entirely unnecessary. It is another example of mission creep by the football club and it's plans to develop outside the stadium and over the land recently purchased from the Council on which it recently felled every tree.

I strongly urge this entirely unnecessary proposal be rejected. If it is passed questions will need to be raised with the **LGO**.

Kind regards

Mr M Smith