

Licensing and Gambling Act Sub-Committee

1 December 2025

Review of the Club Premises Certificate for Corfe Mullen Royal British Legion For Decision

Cabinet Member:

Cllr G Taylor, Health and Housing

Local Councillor(s):

Cllrs S Florek and D Sowry-House

Senior Leadership Team:

S Crowe, Director of Public Health & Prevention

Report author and job title: Aileen Powell

Email: Aileen.Powell@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Statutory Authority: Licensing Act 2003

Report status: Public

Executive summary

An application has been made to review the club premises certificate for the Royal British Legion, Corfe Mullen, Dorset. The application has been out to public consultation and representations have been received. A Licensing Sub-Committee must consider the application and representations at a public hearing.

1. Recommendation(s)

The Sub-Committee determines the application in the light of written and oral evidence and resolves to take such steps as it considers appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives:

- a) The prevention of crime and disorder
- b) The prevention of public nuisance
- c) Public safety
- d) The protection of children from harm

2. Reason for the recommendation(s)

The Sub-Committee must consider all the written representations, the oral representations made at the hearing, and any other information given at the hearing before making a decision.

3 Statutory Authority

3.1 Section 4 of the Licensing Act 2003 sets out the duties of the Licensing Authority, it states that a Council's licensing functions must be carried out with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives of: -

- (a) the prevention of crime and disorder;
- (b) public safety;
- (c) the prevention of public nuisance; and
- (d) the protection of children from harm.

3.2 All applications and decisions must be made with due regard to the [Licensing Act 2003](#) (the Act), the [Revised Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003](#) (the Guidance) and the [Dorset Council Statement of Licensing Policy](#) (the DC Policy).

4. Details of the review application

4.1 John and Jane Cordner have applied for a review of the club premises certificate for Corfe Mullen Royal British Legion Club (Corfe Mullen RBL), 80 Blandford Road, Corfe Mullen, Wimborne, BH21 3HQ. The application form is attached at Appendix 1.

4.2 The review was requested under the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and prevention of public nuisance relating to noise and anti-social behaviour.

4.3 The application contains a suggested set of conditions at section 11 of the Notes accompanying the Review Form with some additional remedies at section 12; -

- a) Hours of Regulated Entertainment: The playing of recorded or live music (including amplified music from tenants) shall cease by 23:00 hours each day.
- b) Closing and Dispersal Time: The premises shall close to the public no later than 23:30 hours, and all patrons must vacate the premises and curtilage by that time.
- c) Noise and Bass Control: A noise management plan shall be implemented to ensure that no licensable activities or use of any part of the premises (including by tenants) shall cause a public nuisance to nearby residents.
- d) The premises shall install and maintain a sound limiting device, set to a level agreed in writing with Environmental Health, and all amplified music shall be routed through this device.
- e) Management of External Areas: From 23:00 hours onwards, staff shall actively monitor and discourage loitering or congregation in the area immediately outside the front of the premises. Clear signage shall be displayed at all exits requesting patrons to leave quietly and respect neighbouring properties.
- f) Door Supervision: On Fridays, Saturdays, and during large-scale events, a minimum of two SIA-registered door supervisors shall be on duty from 21:00 hours until closure. A written record of door supervisor attendance shall be kept and made available for inspection on request.

- g) Incident and Barring Policy: The premises shall maintain an incident log, to record any complaints, refusals of entry, ejections, or incidents of disorder or disturbance. Patrons who are involved in serious or repeated incidents of anti-social behaviour shall be refused entry and banned for an appropriate period, to be determined by the club premises certificate holder.

Additional Remedies Sought

- Suspension of the club premises certificate for a period of up to three months to allow the premises to reset operations and install agreed noise mitigation measures.
 - A formal warning from the licensing sub-committee that further breaches will result in consideration of revocation.
- 4.4 An additional measure of removing the DPS was requested, but there is no DPS on a Club Premises Certificate.
- 4.5 The Live Music Act 2012 section 177A(2) would render the proposed conditions c) and d) above ineffective unless a statement were to be added to the condition under section 177(A)(3) stating that section 177A(2) does not apply.
- 4.6 The review application also contained a link to some filmed footage. This footage is not included in the public domain due to potential for collateral data breaches. The footage has been made available to Corfe Mullen RBL and to the Members of the Sub-Committee. The footage is at Appendix 2.

5. The Club Premises Certificate

- 5.1 The Club Premises Certificate (CPC) has been held by the Corfe Mullen RBL since November 2005, when the function for licensing clubs was transferred to local authorities.
- 5.2 A CPC authorises the supply of alcohol, and the provision of regulated entertainment for members of clubs and their guests. If a club wants to open their doors to non-members they must also have a Premises Licence or serve Temporary Event Notices (TENs).
- 5.3 The CPC allows for the following:

Films, Indoor Sporting Events, Live and Recorded Music and Performance of Dance (indoors)

Every Day 06:00 to 02:00

Supply of alcohol (consumption on and off the premises)

Every Day 06:00 to 02:00

A copy of the CPC is at Appendix 3.

6. Temporary Event Notices

- 6.1 Temporary Event Notices (TENs) are a streamlined process intended for short-term events involving fewer than 500 attendees. There are statutory limits on the number of TENs that can be served within a calendar year. A TEN may be submitted to a licensing authority as late as five clear working days before the event.

6.2 TENs are served on an authority rather than being applied for, and a licensing authority only exercises discretion if an Objection Notice is received. Objection Notices can only be served by Dorset Police or Environmental Protection (EP).

6.3 Conditions may be attached to a TEN only where:

- A premises licence or club premises certificate is already in place, and
- An Objection Notice has been submitted by either the Police or EP requesting the imposition of conditions.

6.4 Corfe Mullen RBL have served nine Temporary Event Notices (TENs) for open days during 2025: -

Date of TEN	Times of TEN
22/11/2025	18:00 - 23:59
27/09/2025	18:00 - 23:59
24/08/2025	12:00 – 23:00
17/08/2025	12:00 - 23:59
09/08/2025	18:00 - 23:59
12/07/2025	18:00 - 23:59
14/06/2025	18:00 - 23:59
24/05/2025	18:00 - 23:59
18/04/2025	16:00 – 23:59

6.5 None of the TENs attracted Objection Notices and so none had conditions from the CPC placed upon them.

7. Response to the Review from the Club Committee

7.1 Three responses to the Review Application have been received from the Corfe Mullen RBL Committee. These responses are attached at Appendix 4.

8. Representations to the Review from Responsible Authorities

8.1 Section 13 of the Licensing Act contains the list of Responsible Authorities who must be consulted on each application. Dorset Police, Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Service, Public Health Dorset, the Immigration Authority, Dorset Council Trading Standards, Dorset Council Children's Services, Dorset Council Planning, Dorset Council Licensing, Dorset Council Environmental Protection and Dorset Council Health and Safety have all been consulted.

8.2 Dorset Council Environmental Protection have made a representation outlining their involvement with the Club. Their representation is attached at Appendix 5.

8.3 There were no representations from any of the other Responsible Authorities.

9. Representations from other people

9.1 Corfe Mullen Town Council submitted a representation outlining the details of issues that they have been made aware of. Their representation is attached at Appendix 6.

9.2 3 people have made representations supporting the review. Their representations are attached at Appendix 7.

- 9.3 61 people have sent in representations supporting the Royal British Legion. Their representations are attached at Appendix 8.

10. Relevant information

- 10.1 Section 11.7 of the Guidance states; -

In every case, any application for a review must relate to particular premises in respect of which there is a premises licence or club premises certificate and must be relevant to the promotion of one or more of the licensing objectives. Following the grant or variation of a licence or certificate, a complaint regarding a general issue in the local area relating to the licensing objectives, such as a general (crime and disorder) situation in a town centre, should generally not be regarded as relevant unless it can be positively tied or linked by a causal connection to particular premises, which would allow for a proper review of the licence or certificate. For instance, a geographic cluster of complaints, including along transport routes related to an individual public house and its closing time, could give grounds for a review of an existing licence as well as direct incidents of crime and disorder around a particular public house.

- 10.2 Any complaints relating to the Dance School or the Burger Van are therefore not relevant as these activities are not covered by the CPC, nor were the activities that happened there licensable activities. Section 16.5 of the Guidance states:-

There are a number of exemptions that mean that a licence (or other authorisation) under the 2003 Act is not required. This Guidance cannot give examples of every eventuality or possible entertainment activity that is not licensable. However, the following activities are examples of entertainment which are not licensable:

-
- education – teaching students to perform music or to dance;
-

- 10.3 Any food concession would only be a licensable activity if it operated after 11pm, when it would need to be covered for Late Night Refreshment. Any food van operating in the car park after 11pm would have needed to be covered by a separate licence as the CPC did not specify Late Night Refreshment.

- 10.4 Parking is usually a consideration for the planning authority and the highways authority rather than the licensing authority whose authority is limited to permitting the activities within a licensed premises.

- 10.5 Complaints about noise after an event finish are relevant as they would relate directly to the activities authorised by a CPC, unless the activities were authorised by way of a TEN.

11. Guidance and Policy

- 11.1 Chapter 11 of the [Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003](#) (the Guidance) relates to reviews of CPCs. Officers have identified the following paragraphs as being particularly relevant.

11.2 Paragraph 11.1 of the Guidance states:-

The proceedings set out in the 2003 Act for reviewing premises licences and club premises certificates represent a key protection for the community where problems associated with the licensing objectives occur after the grant or variation of a premises licence or club premises certificate."

11.3 Paragraph 11.2 states: -

At any stage, following the grant of a premises licence or club premises certificate, a responsible authority, or any other person, may ask the licensing authority to review the licence or certificate because of a matter arising at the premises in connection with any of the four licensing objectives.

11.4 Section 13 of the [Dorset Council Licensing Policy](#) (the DC Policy) contains guidance on how the Licensing Authority will deal with enforcement and reviews. Paragraph 13.1 states: -

The Licensing Act contains measures to ensure that the council, and responsible authorities, are able to deal with premises that wilfully and persistently undermine the licensing objectives. The council and responsible authorities are committed to encouraging a thriving day time and night-time licensed economy but will not tolerate those premises whose activities break the law or infringe upon the quality of life for local residents and businesses.

11.5 Paragraph 13.9 of the DC Policy states: -

The council will seek to establish the cause or causes of the concern and remedial action will be targeted at such causes. Any action will be proportionate to the problems involved.

12. Options

12.1 The Sub-Committee will determine the application in the light of all the written representations and any oral evidence from the hearing. They will take such steps as they consider appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives of: -

- a. The prevention of crime and disorder
- b. The prevention of public nuisance
- c. Public safety
- d. The protection of children from harm

12.2 The steps that the Sub-Committee may take are:

- To not take any action
- Issue an informal warning
- Modify the conditions of the certificate
- Exclude a qualifying activity from the scope of the certificate,
- Suspend the certificate for a period not exceeding three months
- Withdraw the certificate.

13. Financial Implications

Any decision of the Sub Committee could lead to an appeal by any of the parties involved that could incur costs.

14. Environmental Implications

None.

15. Well-being and Health Implications

None.

16. Other Implications

None.

17. Risk Assessment

HAVING CONSIDERED: the risks associated with this decision; the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low

Residual Risk: Low

18. Equalities Impact Assessment

Not applicable

19. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Review application

Appendix 2 – CCTV footage (redacted)

Appendix 3 – Current Licence

Appendix 4 – Response from Club Committee

Appendix 5 – Representation from Responsible Authority

Appendix 6 – Representation from Town Council

Appendix 7 – Representations from other people supporting the review

Appendix 8 - Representations from other people supporting the Club

20. Background Papers

[Licensing Act 2003](#)

[Home Office Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003](#)

[Dorset Council Statement of Licensing Policy 2021](#)