MINUTES OF THE TETTENHALL COMMUNITY FORUM

Parish Rooms, Tettenhall 11th December 2025 at 6.30 pm

APOLOGIES

Colin Whittingham, Jane Meek, Marion Reeves. Also Neal Kelshaw and Becky Cresswell were unable to attend due to attending the Stakeholder's meeting of the Aethelflaed project.

There were 6 residents in attendance.

MATTERS ARISING

REGISTRATION

No change from the previous meeting. We still await David Pattison's (DP) suggested date for a joint meeting between the 6 ward councillors and the TDCT Steering Group to agree a structure for updating the Neighbourhood Plan. Robin Hacking (RH) reported that in a reply from Ian Culley (IC) on another matter, see 'Planning' below, it was confirmed that contact would be made soon. However, various ward councillors have indicated to RH that we are unlikely to hear further until the new year.

PETITION

No change to be reported regarding the council's consideration of our April 2024 petition. John Charles's email to RH on 17th October, in which he confirmed that consideration of the next steps for the Rock Junction is ongoing, and the suggestions put forward through the petition will be considered as part of that work, is still the last communication received from the council on this matter.

PLANNING

Planning Applications in General

As reported at previous Forum meetings RH has been attempting to correspond with Stephen Alexander (SA), Head of Planning, but has as yet received no response to his 3 requests for a meeting to open up a(n) (informal) channel of communication between the Planning department and residents, particularly in relation to deteriorating listed buildings and their redevelopment and the protection of green spaces. SA has deferred to IC on these matters and a constructive response has been received from IC.

It has been pointed out to the council that, whereas delays to the approval of a registered organisation to be the resident-led vehicle for updating the Neighbourhood Plan is yet to be determined by the council (our application dated November 2024) we are also registering the lack of a mechanism to discuss with the Planning Department their interpretation of the requirements of the existing Neighbourhood Plan where they differ significantly from the interpretation by residents, for example Lower Green Health Centre. In response to these 2 points IC has confirmed that DP's department will be approaching us to agree a new date for his cancelled meeting between the Steering Group and the ward councillors and that IC is happy to meet with RH in the new year to discuss issues relating to the current Neighbourhood Plan. The date proposed by RH for this meeting is 7th January 2026 (unconfirmed).

Chill Wine Bar

The Statutory Licensing Sub-committee met on 9th December to decide on Chill Wine Bar's application for a variation to their existing license. This public meeting was attended by Cllr Jonathan Crofts (JC), councillor for the Wightwick ward, who made representations on behalf of specific residents who had approached him for support and also RH, Chair Tettenhall Community Forum, who represented residents' general requests, observations, and concerns expressed at 3 Forum meetings where this matter had been raised including the specific concerns of 2 residents who have been badly affected by behaviours inside the venue and after closing time. The application had sought 3 amendments to the license which were dealt with as follows:

1 Licensable Area

The extension of the licensable area to include an upstairs room which was approved but with a limit to 2300 hours for live music.

2 Conditions

The variation was to amend conditions in relation to SIA door staff and, as a result of a mediation between the licensee, the local authority and West Midlands Police, a compromise position was agreed on this item.

3 Hours

The sub-committee determined to reject that part of the application requesting an extension of the current licensing hours.

The sub-committee noted that there was to be a review hearing in respect of the license on 6th January. A copy of the decision notice is attached to these minutes.

Head of Environmental Services, Charlotte Rose, has informed us that, although the council offices will be closed over the Christmas period, any concerns regarding excessive noise or other environmental health issues which may affect our residents throughout the district during that period, ie not just in relation to this particular venue, should be reported by email to environmentalhealth@wolverhampton.gov.uk and they will be considered in the new year.

FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

The next working party by Friends of St Michael's is due to take place on 12th December at 1400. RH reminded the meeting that people who were unable to attend the working groups have the opportunity to donate to support the costs incurred, eg disposal of rubbish and planting, by making a donation through our Friends of St Michael fund collected by Tettenhall District CIC via https://square.link/u/LBzREJCN.

SMESTOW VALLEY NATURE RESERVE

Following the meeting on 5th November between officers and a wide range of community interest groups, ward councillors and individual residents the proposed installation of motorbike restrictor gates had been paused. It was hoped that the council would consult more fully on their proposals which were considered to be inappropriate, ineffective and costly and lacking any meaningful consultation with users of the Smestow Valley Local Nature Reserve. RH communicated the council's response which was tin-eared in relation to the issues raised by residents. The installation is going ahead with minor changes. We will be seeking to make further representation on this. Attendees at the Forum were universally disappointed and angry at this response and the cavalier attitude of council officers in relation to some safety issues which had been raised previously and continued to be ignored. The

damage to the kissing gates at Compton Road, which has allowed children and dogs to exit the park unrestricted on to the main road, has not been addressed. Nicola Rudge had expressed her concern about electric vehicles approaching silently on the path and had asked the council's clerk of works to publish details on the reserve when these vehicles were operating but he refused to do so citing it as a contractor's responsibility.

STEERING GROUP UPDATE

No further reports from Steering Group meetings other than as recorded here.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Colin Whittingham had notified that green waste bin collections would now cost £55 per bin when the collections were renewed. The council citing financial pressures when challenged on the significant increase in costs.

RH advised the meeting that residents had been offered the opportunity to consult on the council's spending plans for 2026/2027 via the following link; https://consultation.wolverhampton.gov.uk/cwc/budget-2026-2027/

The closing date for views to be submitted is 16th January 2026.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 2000 hours.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Our next scheduled meeting is on 8th January 2026 at 1830 in the Parish Rooms.

11 December 2025



Mr Neal Kelshaw Chair, Steering Group, Tettenhall District Community Trust Director, Tettenhall District Community Interest Company

Sent via email: r

Dear Neal,

Thank you for your correspondence and for taking the time to share the group's comments and concerns regarding the installation of motorcycle barriers and fencing at Smestow Valley local nature reserve.

The council values the feedback provided by community stakeholders. Please be assured that all comments submitted were received, carefully considered, and fully reviewed.

Following this thorough review and consideration of all perspectives, the decision has been made to proceed with the contract and the installation of the motorcycle barriers and fencing as originally planned. Minor amendments to the contract for the treatment of some areas has been made following feedback received. This decision was reached to address the long-standing issues of antisocial behaviour at the site. Timber gates and fencing have been vandalised, businesses have suffered damage and valley users have reported feeling unsafe.

The installation of the barriers and fencing at the site is supported by West Midlands Police local policing team.

We appreciate the input provided by the Friends group throughout this process. The council remains committed to ensuring the safety and security of the area for all users.

If you are dissatisfied with this response and would like to request a further investigation, please contact the Customer Liaison Team in writing within 20 working days from the date of this letter as follows:

Via email: customerfeedback@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Or via post to:

Customer Liaison Team City of Wolverhampton Council Civic Centre, St Peter's Square Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

Tel: 01902 552989

Yours sincerely

DES

Dave Millington Green Spaces and Bereavement Lead

E-mail: <u>Dave.Millington@wolverhampton.gov.uk</u>

wolverhampton.gov.uk

@WolvesCouncil

WolverhamptonToday



STATUTORY LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

DECISION NOTICE

Application for Variation of Premises Licence pursuant to Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003

Chill Wine Bar, 4-6 High Street, Wolverhampton, WV6 8QT

Introduction

An application was received on 24 September 2025 from Mr Mohamed Camara ('the Applicant") for a variation of a premises licence in respect of Chill Wine Bar, 4-6 High Street, Wolverhampton, WV6 8QT ("the Premises").

The Premises is in the Tettenhall Wightwick ward.

The application was to:

- extend the licensable area;
- · extend licensable timings by 30 minutes; and
- amend and remove existing licence conditions.

Relevant representations were received from the Licensing Authority (LA), Environmental Health (EH), West Midlands Police (WMP) and Other Persons (five members of the public).

Written Representations

Environmental Health

EH indicated it was objecting to the application under the licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance.

EH submitted statements from two local residents detailing noise complaints. Along with these statements was a log of complaints. The noise complained of was primarily loud music and noise from people congregating outside/leaving the Premises. There were 14 incidents recorded from 9 August 2025 and 2 November 2025. The earliest disturbance was 9pm though the majority of the complaints were from 11pm and lasted to between midnight and as late as 2:15am on one occasion.

EH also provided a statement from Charlotte Rose, Team Leader in Environmental Health. Ms Rose set out that the Premises is located within close proximity of residential properties, including an adjacent first floor domestic flat. The neighbourhood is quiet, and the majority of commercial properties within the High Street are retail sites, which operate during traditional day time office hours.

On 8 August 2025, Senior Environmental Health Officer, Ms Emma Waites, had visited the Premises and discussed with the Applicant his duties to ensure that he managed noise emanating from the Premises, including the management of patrons as they smoke outside and as they leave at closing times and he was also reminded of his condition to keep windows and doors closed from 22:00 hours.

On 27 September 2025, Ms Rose attended the home address of one of the complainants with a colleague. They arrived at 9:30pm and by 11pm observed noise levels from loud music deemed as a statutory nuisance under provisions within the Environment Protection Act 1990 which got worse as the night progressed. At 11:45pm they observed patrons outside the Premises who were not being managed by the SIA doorman. At 12:35am the music was still playing and was audible from the complainant's property.

At 12:40am they attended the Premises and asked the doorman if the Premises were still serving drinks. The doorman was unsure but said he didn't think so. They observed intoxicated patrons congregating outside the Premises so left.

On 30 September 2025, Ms Rose attended the Premises with the Section Leader for Licensing, Debra Craner. Ms Rose and Ms Craner viewed CCTV from the Premises and found the following:

- 28 September 2025:
 - The service of alcohol was observed, including the exchange of monies after 00:30 hours.
 - Although the CCTV was inaudible, customers were observed dancing at this time.
 - At 01:19 hours, customers were still on site, and the premises was later vacated at 01:30 hours.
- 27 September 2025:
 - At 00:35 hours, alcohol was served and the exchange of monies.

The Applicant was advised that:

- they had observed unacceptable levels of noise disturbance during the evening of the 27 September and early hours of the 28 September 2025;
- he needed to reduce the noise levels from 23:00 hours;
- any Live or Recorded Music must be turned off at 00:00 hours.

The Applicant agreed that he would manage noise from loud music and patrons outside.

On 1 October 2025, Ms Rose wrote to the Applicant, confirming his responsibilities and her actions and findings so far.

The log provided by the complainant contains 6 disturbances after 1 October 2025, after the Applicant agreed to manage noise and after the letter from Ms Rose.

Licensing Authority

The LA indicated that it had no objections to the extension to the licensable area, that it was willing to mediate in relation to the amendment to conditions but that it was opposed the extension to licensable hours and was not willing to mediate on this part of the variation application.

Before the hearing the LA indicated it had mediated conditions with the Applicant though it still objected to the extension in licensable hours.

West Midlands Police

WMP indicated that it was objecting under the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and the protection of public nuisance. Before the hearing WMP submitted a mediation document agreeing conditions with the Applicant.

Members of Public

Five members of the public objected. These objections were in relation to the Prevention of Crime and Disorder and Prevention of Public Nuisance licensing objectives and primarily concerned late night/early morning noise form the Premises including loud music, shouting, swearing and noise from customers leaving the Premises.

Members of the public submitted that the licensable hours should not be extended as these issues would only become worse.

In relation to the amended conditions, it was also submitted that SIA door staff should not be moved to a risk assessment basis as there should be a security presence maintained on Friday/Saturday night from 6pm so as to ensure Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety and Prevention of Public Nuisance, and the restriction on children after 6pm should be maintained to uphold the Protection of Children from Harm Licensing Objective.

In relation to the extension of the licensable area it was submitted that the problems already being experienced with a smaller number of people would increase if the licensable area was extended.

Statutory & Legal Framework

Section 35 of the Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act") provides that where a Licensing Authority receives an application for variation of a premises licence properly made in accordance with section 34 of the Act, it must grant the application. However, where relevant representations are made the Licensing Authority must hold a hearing and having regard to the representations, take such of the following steps, if any, as it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives:

- 1. Modify the conditions of the licence; or
- 2. Reject the whole or part of the application.

Section 4(1) of the Act states that a Licensing Authority must carry out its functions under the Act with a view to promoting the licensing objectives, namely:

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

In addition, regard shall be had to Guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182 of the Act and the City of Wolverhampton Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

The Hearing

Applicant

Mr Camara attended the hearing and submitted that he submitted the application because he was trying to make his business successful and that he wanted to make everyone happy.

In response to questions he confirmed that:

- he would be on the Premises at all times and he would close the Premises when he went on holiday;
- he would agree to SIA door staff from either 8pm or 9pm;
- the upstairs area would be used as an additional bar but was only needed on Friday and Saturday nights; and
- he controls noise from the Premises by turning the music off at midnight and when customers are congregating outside the Premises, he goes outside and asks them to leave politely.

Environmental Health

Charlotte Rose attended on behalf of EH and:

 explained the procedure followed by Environmental Health to investigate a noise nuisance complaint; of the CCTV recording, or it wasn't available and they had also witnessed the sale of alcohol after licensable hours so increasing hours would only increase these concerns.

It was confirmed that the occasion the sale outside licensable hours occurred was the same as that detailed in Ms Rose's statement.

West Midlands Police

Kayley Nixon attended on behalf of WMP and submitted:

- WMP had no representations in relation to the plan;
- They had mediated successfully with the Applicant in relation to conditions;
- The Premises was surrounded by residential properties and there was the outstanding review which is why WMP had not mediated in respect of hours as extending the hours is not something WMP would support.

In response to questions Ms Nixon confirmed:

- SIA door staff offer extra guidance and support for customers and staff; they
 are an extra pair of eyes to help monitor the number of people entering a
 premises and in monitoring levels of drunkenness within a premises.
- SIA door staff can help with dispersal of persons but that would require an additional condition requiring SIA door staff to remain for a period of time after a premises has closed to assist with dispersal.
- The briefing given to SIA door staff would depend on the instructions given by the Premises Licence Holder about their Premises and what they expected for example the number of people attending.
- WMP would support a condition requiring SIA door staff to remain after closing to assist with dispersal of customers if that was something the Sub-Committee saw as necessary.

Members of the Public

Mr Hacking attended and submitted:

- The Premises was not meeting the licence conditions now so it would be unwise at this stage to extend the hours further.
- There was a community forum at which two persons had made specific complaints in relation to noise nuisance and others had made general complaints about the Premises.
- It was confirmed that the two persons who complained to the community forum had also submitted representations which were included in the papers for the hearing.

Councillor Crofts attended and made submissions consistent with his written representation. He confirmed that:

- The extension in licensable hours was not supported:
- The numbers of persons allowed in the upstairs room should be limited to 30, and as it was adjacent to a residential property there needed to be appropriate soundproofing and the cut off time should be 11pm;

- SIA door staff should be present from 8pm; and
- Conditions mediated in relation to children on the Premises were agreed.

It was established that in addition to Mr Hacking and Cllr Croft, three other members of the public had submitted representations, two of whom were the persons that complained to the community forum and one of whom was the person who had made a complaint to EH.

Decision

The Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee considered the application, representations made, Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and the Statement of Licensing Policy.

Licensable Area

The Sub-Committee noted that the LA and WMP did not have any objections in relation to the extension to the Licensable Area. However, bearing in mind that EH is the Sub-Committee's expert in relation to noise nuisance, the Sub-Committee had particular regard to EH's submission that the room is adjacent to a residential premises and for that reason regulated entertainment should be limited to 11pm.

The Sub-Committee was therefore, of the view that extending the Licensable area to the upstairs room with the same licensable hours as the remainder of the Premises would undermine the Prevention of Public Nuisance licensing objective and consequently decided to grant the application but limit hours to 23:00 for Live and Recorded music.

Conditions

The variation was to amend the condition in relation to SIA door staff and to extend the time persons under 18 could be in the Premises from 6pm to 9pm.

The LA and WMP mediated similar conditions in relation to SIA door staff and persons under 18.

EH had no comment on the conditions and members of the public submitted that the SIA condition should be from 8pm, however, relying on the expertise of WMP and the LA, the Sub-Committee was satisfied that if the conditions were amended as per the mediation documents, the licensing conditions would not be undermined.

<u>Hours</u>

The Sub-Committee noted that there was to be a review hearing in respect of the licence in the coming weeks. However, neither the LA nor WMP submitted any evidence in relation to the reasons for this review which could be considered by the Sub-Committee at this hearing.

The fact that there was an outstanding review hearing was of itself not sufficient for the Sub-Committee to determine that the Premises were not being managed appropriately, as at a review hearing, the Sub-Committee is able to determine that no action is require i.e. just because a review had been called, it was not a certainty that the Premises would be found to be at fault and to take action simply because a review was outstanding, without any evidence being provided, was not appropriate or fair.

However, EH has submitted a statement detailing two occasions in which the Premises had traded out of its hours, and it was confirmed that these were the occasions to which the review related. EH had also confirmed it had witnessed a statutory noise nuisance from the Premises.

There were also three households that had made complaints and/or submitted representations in relation to noise nuisance. Whilst one of the complainants confirmed noise had been improving, there had still been occasions after advice was given to the Applicant, that noise had been a nuisance.

The Sub-Committee therefore accepted that the Premises had been causing noise nuisance to surrounding properties. The Sub-Committee was not reassured by the submissions made by the Applicant as to how he would manage noise and given he had traded beyond his licensable hours on two occasions, was not confident that the Applicant would uphold the Prevention of Public Nuisance licensing objective if the licensable hours were extended.

Therefore, the Sub-Committee decided to reject this part of the application.

Summary

- The application to vary the conditions is granted and the conditions are amended as set out in the Appendix.
- The application to extend the licensable area is granted though with a condition that live and recorded music in this area should cease at 23:00hrs.
- The application to extend the licensable hours is rejected.

Appeal Rights

An appeal may be made to the Black Country Magistrates' Court against this decision, by the Applicant, a responsible authority or any person that made a relevant representation, within 21 days from the date of receipt of this written notice of decision.

9 December 2025

Appendix

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Remove: SIA approved door staff to be used at the premises on Friday and Saturday nights from 6pm until closing. Any SIA staff will provide their names, addresses and contact details on request.

Replace with: SIA front-line licensed door supervisors will be in place on Friday and Saturday evenings as well as the evening before a bank holiday, 22:00 until close of business, at a ratio of at least 1:100. The SIA door staff will be smart and wearing high-visibility jackets to ensure they can be identified. The DPS shall ensure that the provision of door staff at the premises is appropriate to ensure the safe control of the premises and shall review this on a regular basis. A register shall be maintained of all persons engaged as door supervisors, to include the name and SIA number of the staff. A daily briefing of door supervisor responsibilities (to include the NaCTSO HOT protocols) shall take place and a written record shall be maintained of the time and dates commenced and finished and signed to confirm the briefing has taken place.

Protection of children from harm

<u>Remove:</u> Person under 18 allowed on the premises between 08:00 – 18:00 7 days per week.

Replace with: No person under the age of 18 shall be present in the venue after 21.00 hours, with the exception of those attending a pre-booked events as long as they are accompanied by a responsible adult.

Public Nuisance

<u>Add:</u> No Live or Recorded music is to be played on the first floor of the Premises between 23:00 and close.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FORUM MEETINGS

8th January 2026

Parish Rooms, Tettenhall WV6 8QF - 18.30 start

WOLVERHAMPTON CRICKET CLUB

19th December - Christmas Coffee Morning 11.00 - 13.00

FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARD

Interested parties can sign up on https://www.facebook.com/TettenhallTrustPage.

SMESTOW VALLEY NATURE WALKS

Every Thursday - Ramblers Wellbeing Walk. Meet at Windmill Community Church, Henwood Road, WV6 8PG at 10.00 for 10.15 start.

LOCAL POLICING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Cuppa wit	h a Copp	a - Tettenhall	Regis
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10:00AM - 12:00PM, Thu 18 December

2025

Cheeky Monkey Cakery, 76 Green

Lane, Tettenhall

Drop in surgery - Tettenhall

9:00AM - 11:00AM, Sat 20 December 2025

Tesco Express, Codsall Road, Whampton

<u>Tettenhall - Love Your Community</u> <u>Meeting</u>

6:00PM - 8:00PM, Thu 15 January 2026

Wolverhampton Cricket Club, Danescourt Road

Drop in surgery - Compton

3:00PM - 4:00PM, Fri 19 December

2025

Sainsburys, Bridgnorth Road,

Compton

<u>Drop in surgery – Tettenhall</u>

12:00PM - 2:00PM, Sat 20 December

2025

Co-op, Pendeford Avenue,

Wolverhampton

Chatter & Natter – Oxley

2:00PM - 3:30PM, Tue 03 February

2026

Oasis Cafe, Whitburn Close, Tettenhall

Oxley - Love Your Community Meeting

6:00PM - 8:00PM, Tue 03 February 2026

Rakegate Methodist Church Renton Grove

Tettenhall, Penn, Merry Hill and Oxley | Police.uk