

APPENDIX 4

To: SMDC

From: Cloudside Residents, Staffordshire

Date: 5th March 2021

cc: Staffordshire Police

Re: Cloudside Neighbourhood representation

We all have a duty to take responsibility for our actions. As residents we have previously reported to the police and council that Cloudside Shooting Club are disregarding some of the terms of their licence, this evidence is important as these specific licence terms are there to promote the licencing objectives (stated below) and therefore relevant to this case.

1. Prevention of Crime and Disorder
2. Public safety
3. Prevention of Public Nuisance
4. Protection of Children from Harm

PC Cooper's investigation details the potential criminal activity and irresponsible behaviour of the gun club owners and manager, we are in full support of the police efforts to revoke the licence. We completely agree with all PC Cooper's findings, as we too have witnessed this kind of activity.

It is difficult for us to obtain extensive evidence given the layout and location of the site (we cannot enter the grounds) and the intimidatory nature of the owners when we are seen taking photographs or when they discover we have made a complaint. Our only option is to report any instances to the police or the council.

Specifically, between us we have witnessed and reported to the authorities (along with evidence), Cloudside Shooting Club;

1. Facilitating COVID breaches & and children's safety concerns.

Since government advice from 16.03.20 onwards - Instructors not wearing masks and not following social distancing guidance with customers including children. Other reports of potential COVID breaches taking place; car park full after shooting has finished for the day, customers seen inside the clubhouse.

Evidence: Reports previously submitted to the police/council;

Date: 18.03.20	Time: Throughout day
Date: 21.03.20	Time: Throughout day
Date: 03.05.20	Time: Various times (no social distancing)
Date: 04.07.20	Time: 12.10pm (instructor & child shooter – no social distancing & no masks)
Date: 21.11.20	Time: Throughout day (Police ref: RBB-14618-20-2121-C)
Date: 12.12.20	Time: Throughout day (Police ref: RBN-15585-20-2121-C)
Date: 19.12.20	Time: 1.30pm

2. Extensive breaking of a specific licence condition.

Taking deliveries/removal of waste during anti-social hours.

Evidence: Reports previously submitted to the Council

Date: 21.08.19	Time: Before 8.30am
Date: 23.08.19	Time: 7.45am
Date: 29.08.19	Time: Before 8.30am
Date: 20.09.19	Time: 7.40/8am

Date: 17.10.19	Time: Before 8am
Date: 18.10.19	Time: Before 8am
Date: 18.03.20	Time: Before 8am
Date: 21.03.20	Time: Before 8am
Date: 09.06.20	Time: Before 7.45am
Date: 10.06.20	Time: Before 7.45am
Date: 12.06.20	Time: 7.10am
Date: 13.06.20	Time: 7.25am
Date: 26.06.20	Time: 6.50am
Date: 01.07.20	Time: 7.45am
Date: 17.07.20	Time: 6.40am
Date: 24.07.20	Time: 6.45am

3. Being Anti-social in their behaviour and aiding Public Nuisance.

Excessive noise levels at the site from shooting, amplified loud music, setting up for and hosting big unlicensed events. Hosting numerous large charity events for the general public despite the planning restriction. Crowds of people arriving (some by helicopter) socialising and drinking outside the clubhouse, on the carpark and on the lane. Leaving the site in a noisy manner, not respecting the proximity of local residents.

Evidence: Reports previously submitted to the Police & Council.

Date: 01.08.19	Time: 6.22pm & 8.30pm
Date: 10.09.19	Time: 2.45pm
Date: 12.09.19	Time: 12noon
Date: 20.09.19	Time: 10.10am
Date: 20.09.19	Time: 10.40am
Date: 20.09.19	Time: 3.20pm
Date: 20.09.19	Time: 1pm-11pm
Date: 22.10.19	Time: all day
Date: 02.11.19	Time: 6pm – 12midnight
Date: 05.06.19	Time: all day
Date: 06.06.19	Time: all day
Date: 17.12.19	Time: 1.46pm

4. Disregarding public safety and children's safety.

Drinking and shooting taking place at the same time. Advertising pre shooting champagne reception for a ladies' day event. Guns left out of whilst customers drinking (photos on Facebook). Allowing lead shot to hit residents (including children), workmen and property. Children playing on carpark with shooters carrying guns past them. No warning signs on adjacent lane warning pedestrians, horse riders etc that shooting is taking place.

Evidence: Reports previously submitted to the Police & Council.

Date: 31.08.19	Time: n/a
Date: 06.09.19	Time: 2.30pm
Date: 07.09.19	Time: 11.30am
Date: 14.09.19	Time: 12.45pm
Date: 21.09.19	Time: 11.47am
Date: 07.12.19	Time: 11.55am
Date: 18.12.19	Time: 11.30am
Date: 07.03.20	Time: n/a
Date: 21.03.20	Time: 11am
Date: 04.07.20	Time: 11.45am

A lot of the customers are one-off attendees generated through adverts from the web-site Groupon, these inexperienced guests rely on the integrity of the club management to keep them and their families safe whilst at the club. We as neighbours are concerned for our immediate safety, we are forced to always remain vigilant.

Before the gun club had a licence to serve alcohol it was well-known that they disregarded the rules and served alcohol anyway, we have previously submitted evidence of alcohol being offered for sale before the licence was granted. It is a concern of the neighbours that they will indeed revert to this kind of behaviour should circumstances permit.

Initially, when the gun club applied for a licence, this was refused. However, on appeal they were awarded the licence. Since obtaining the licence they have continued to disregard some of the terms of the licence. We as a neighbourhood have reported various untoward activities, including when they established a wedding venue business in 2019, without seeking the appropriate planning approval and licences.

In June 2019, the shooting club hosted an open day for wedding events. A number of residents peaceably attended the event aiming to establish the nature of this new business. Later the same evening Simon and Kirstin Bailey had a police visit stemming from a report by Karen Sellars and Maurice Snelling that the 'gang' of neighbours had 'mobbed' them. The police disclosed that Karen and Maurice had CCTV footage readily available recording the neighbours visit. Once the police gathered all facts no action was necessary.

This wedding venture was abandoned following intervention by SMDC planning department.

The Gun Club are advertising on their Facebook page to re-open on the 31st March 2021, if this is lawful and permitted we would request greater monitoring of safety and compliance of all activities by the authorities due to Public Safety concerns (including protecting children from harm, to aid the prevention of crime, disorder and Public Nuisance).

We are not against local businesses, as a community we support many local businesses. In this instance due to the evidence presented by the Police we fully support the police and council in revoking the licence.

Yours faithfully

Cloudside Residents

Names and contact details of Cloudside Residents:

Simon & Kirstin Bailey - *Cloudside, Cloudside*

Simon & Joy Gulliford - *Greenacres, Cloudside*

Neil & Jill Oaken - *Dukes Well, Cloudside*

Lorna Berisford - *Bramble Nook, Cloudside*

Hugh Kiff - *Rock Cottage, Cloudside*

Geraint & Kate Davies - *Mill House, Cloudside*

Ian & Jackie Anderson - *Willow Cottage, Cloudside*

Alan & Cecilie McBeath - *Beach Tree Cottage, Cloudside*

Kevin & Jenny Lyons - *Beech Tree Farm, Cloudside*

Philip Arden - *Ravensclough Farm, near Cloudside*

Roger & Vanessa Bailey - *Landowners and employment at Cloudside, Cloudside, residence:*