

14.7.19

Sarah White  
Licensing Officer

Dear Ms White,

1. Prevention of public nuisance:

Does anyone seriously believe that once this limited drinks' licence has been obtained, the operator is going to stop there? A cursory glance at the Puttin the Park's website shows a variety of venues available for adult hire, for weddings, birthdays, corporate events - with flood lighting illuminating the festivities, when the light fades plus requisite DJ and sound systems, no doubt. As if one party venue in the Park is not enough! viz 'The Cricket Pavilion'. Which since it has become involved with an outside operator, now hosts noisy parties well into the night - will complaints to match.

2. Public safety.

Parking, per se, is a problem. But

<sup>2</sup> to my mind, in The gathering ~~dark~~, ~~are~~  
are those on foot going to exit the Park  
in safety. This leads naturally on to...

### 3. Protection of children from harm.

There is a difference here between young  
people leaving, say the fabulous children's  
play area, as night draws on, and  
youngsters leaving a venue where  
alcohol has been on sale all day.


Pries are quoted for children tickets at  
Putt in the Park: why would alcohol be on  
sale anywhere there are unaccompanied  
youngsters? By no means a Teetotaler myself,  
I struggle to see why alcohol needs to be  
sold around children and young adults  
enjoying themselves. What message are  
we giving them?

Literally alongside the safety of  
children, I would like to put the safety  
of our wild life: as directly adjacent to  
one of the fences of Putt in the Park is  
a long standing Wild Life Area, avidly  
policed - and rightly so - by the park  
rangers. The proposed licence will ride

3 roughed out over this too. Drunk, noise,  
lighting threaten bats which use that  
part of the Folly as a high way; and it  
is the only place in Colchester where I  
regularly see stag beetles flying, in  
early June ...

In conclusion, whilst on the subject  
of drink, and as a matter of genuine  
interest, does anyone know of anybody  
who has even obtained a ticket, yet  
alone attended the Oktoberfest event the  
Park now hosts? A mysterious affair. A  
big money-maker for someone. Viscount  
Cowdrey must be turning in his grave  
as he sees the Park he gifted to the  
people of Colchester 100 years ago,  
rimmed out to the unacceptable face  
of capitalism by the very Borough  
Council who were meant to be its  
custodians.

Yours



PUTT IN THE PARK  
LICENSING APPLICATION



14 July 2019

To the Licensing Officer.

I am writing to object to the application for a license to serve alcohol at the 'Putt in the Park' operation in the Castle Park. My grounds for objection fall into the category of 'public nuisance'.

The application states that the license will only be valid during the park opening times. Fine, as long as the park opening times remain as published at the time of application. However, my major fear is that this is a 'Trojan Horse' operation that will see observation of the public license during park opening times, but a

(2)

very different regime when the site is used for 'private events'.

'Putt in the Park's other three sites - Wandsworth, Battersea and Acton Parks - all advertise as major features: late licenses, music and floodlit golf. ([www.puttinthepark.com](http://www.puttinthepark.com)) Is there any reason that, with their major investment in Colchester, this company will not seek to do the same here?

Residents of Castle & Roman Roads and of the Riverside Estate will inevitably suffer considerable 'public nuisance' in such a scenario. Late night music, drinking and coming and going as well as parking problems will be the price paid for allowing this operation to develop.

③.

Those of us living in the environs of Castle Park naturally expect a reasonable level of entertainment and activities. As a resident of 35 years standing I have never felt the need to make any kind of complaint. However, since the council has franchised out the organising of events the increase in noise and disruption has been exponential.

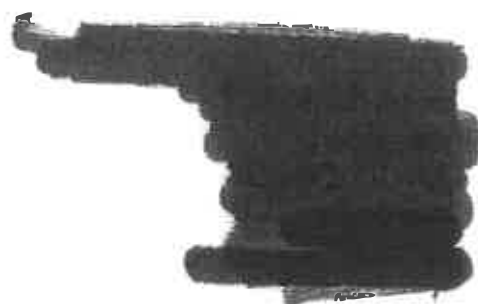
Coming on top of this, the current application for a seemingly innocuous daytime alcohol license rings alarm bells. I cannot see 'Putt in the Park' settling for anything less than the ability to operate as they do on their other three sites. This application is the thin end of the wedge - once on, this company will take the next step

②

of extending their license to  
cover 'private events' resulting  
in misery for all in the  
neighbourhood.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature.



Colchester Borough Council Licensing Authority  
P O Box 889  
Rowan House  
Sheepen Road  
Colchester  
CO 3 3WG

16 July 2019

Dear Colchester Borough Council Licensing Authority,

**Re: Application for a Premises License by David Beamish for the premises 'Putt in the Park', Upper Bowls Green, Castle Park, Colchester CO1 1UG**

We, the undersigned residents at nos 88, 90 and 92 Roman Road, Colchester, wish to express our strong objection to this application for a premises license to sell alcohol at what will be this 'Putt in the Park' venue in the former upper bowling green in Castle Park.

Our houses are within about 100 metres of this venue, and we are concerned that the proposed sale of alcohol from 8am until 9pm / seven days a week, as the application apparently states, could represent a significant change to the character of this quiet and peaceful part of the town centre.

We do not see any need at all to sell alcohol at such a venue. The 'Putt in the Park' company's website ([www.puttinthepark.com](http://www.puttinthepark.com)) clearly shows that its other venues in London are not just about 'golf-putting', as we innocently assumed, but are being marketed as party venues for corporate functions as well as weddings and private parties. This will not just be a daytime activity for children and families in warmer months of the year but the clear boast of a "floodlit" course indicates that a substantial part of the activities will be these parties.

The sale of alcohol is clearly integral to the proposed operations of Putt in the Park. We recognise that not all alcohol consumption leads to public displays of anti-social behaviour, but already there are often problems with excessive alcohol consumption in the town centre, and Roman and Castle Roads see the unfortunate effects and results of this on regular occasions. This is also increasingly the case with the ever-greater number of ticketed private events taking place in what is a public park, when the park is closed off to all but ticket holders (an aberration of the very definition of a "public park" anyway). Such events frequently lead to an increase in litter in the



surrounding area (which no-one, it seems, bears any responsibility for clearing up except local residents themselves), and sometimes arguments and disturbances, obviously fuelled by excessive alcohol consumption.

There will also be great pressure on the availability of public parking close to this former bowling green. There is no parking immediately nearby, and we are concerned that party events in the evenings and on Sundays – which is most probably when they will take place and for when the alcohol license will be required, and which happens to be when the residents parking permissions are not in force – will lead to an increase in Putt in the Park customers looking to park their cars in Roman and Castle Road. The company's website says it can cater for parties of between 10 and 70 people. This could significantly contribute to what is already intense pressure on available parking spaces most of the time in these two roads.

Although it is too late to object to the Putt in the Park development even going ahead – which we would have done had we been aware of it – we wish to strongly oppose this application for an alcohol license on the grounds that it is unnecessary and will be a contributory factor to greatly increased noise, light pollution, litter, traffic issues, and potential anti-social behaviour. It could distinctly change the character of the area, which is why many of the residents live in Roman and Castle Roads, and the nearby Riverside area of housing, and have done for many years, and what attracts new residents.

We hope due consideration will be given to our objection,

Yours faithfully,

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