

**From:** Richard Gorton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 02 December 2023 14:57  
**To:** licensing  
**Subject:** Wolstanton Social Club, Pitgreen Lane, Wolstanton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, ST5 ODB – Review of License

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Licensing Officers,

I would like the representation below to be brought to the attention of the Licensing Committee when the application to review the license held by Wolstanton Social Club is considered.

Cllr. Richard Gorton

Wolstanton Social Club, Pitgreen Lane, Wolstanton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, ST5 ODB – Review of License

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I understand that the license held by Wolstanton Social Club, Pitgreen Lane, Wolstanton is under review. I am neither a member of this Club nor am I connected with the Club's management or staff. As one of the Borough councillors representing Wolstanton, I am aware that the Club has been a feature of social life in Wolstanton for many years. I think the Club should be viewed as an asset to the community. If the Club loses its license, the Club will close and an organization which gives a good deal of pleasure to many Wolstanton residents will be lost. Having read the notice served by the Borough Council, I understand that the Club's license is under review because it has been alleged that the Club ignores anti-social and nuisance behaviour. I believe that the Club's current management committee can provide strong evidence that any Club member who behaves in an anti-social or irresponsible manner will have his or her membership suspended or withdrawn. Club officers and staff supervise the activities taking place in the Club and challenge any anti-social or nuisance behaviour which may take place on the premises. During the last eighteen months or so the composition of the Club's management team has changed, and the present officers have ended the membership of individuals who in the past may have acted in ways which may have brought the Club into disrepute.

I understand that since the Covid pandemic the number of private functions held in the Club has fallen, with the result that to take part in activities individuals must hold Club membership. In fact, the overall volume of functions has reduced. I would argue that the current level of Club business makes it easier for staff and officers to supervise events and discourage any anti-social behaviour.

The present management of the Club appreciates that they need to have a good relationship with residents who live close to the premises. I understand that an 'open day' has been held, which provided an opportunity for residents to voice any reservations or complaints they may have over the operation of the Club. I think this demonstrates a willingness by the Club's current management to reach-out to the local community with a view to establishing a good relationship with residents.

In conclusion I would ask the licensing authority not to revoke the license held by Wolstanton Social Club. I would argue that the current officers of the Club are aware of their responsibilities and have demonstrated a determination to manage the Club in a way which discourages and penalizes anti-social and nuisance behaviour.

Richard Gorton, Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Councillor, Wolstanton Ward