Tracey Consterdine

From: mike edwards [redacted]
Sent: 16 October 2011 19:38
To: Rod Hotton; envsupport; Planning
Subject: FW: Planning for Roller rink and alcohol licence

Sunday 16th October 2011.

To whom it may concern,
Today I came home to my houseboat (Surry Boat Yard) to find lots of people I didnt know wandering around the boatyard area, apparently visitors at the new roller rink. On discussion with these people it seems that there is only one toilet inside the facility and that the organisers of the roller disco have instructed people to use our boat yard toilet (for which we pay a faciliies charge!)
In doing so these people are also wandering around our private pontoons and this feels very unsafe and we feel like we are in a Zoo! Let alone left wondering wether this open access leaves us vulnerable to possible crime/thefts .

Unlike the boats accross the river which are high up ,ours are low and people can just look straight through the windows. This is such an invasion of privacy. I do not feel like our possessions ie bikes etc are safe anymore.

On top of this they are adding rubbish to our houseboat bins and the toilet is the only one we can use if the tide is out. I counted 75 cars in the car park. Each car is likely to have had at least 2 or more passengers and that's not including those who walked, got a train or bussed here. When you take this into consideration it is likely that there were over 200 people attending the rink, of those goodness knows how many came into our private boat yard to use our facilities. Certainly a steady stream of people in the short time I was there .This means that we now have to wait in turn to use our own toilet ! Basically we try to use the outside toilet as much as possible due to smells and too much sewage pouring straight on to the river bank. If the roller rink visitors also use our toilet this will create further health and safety issues. It feels reasonable to expect some protection from the relevant council dept to uphold our rights as residents particularly in view of health and safety regarding the toilet as the ONLY main sewage outlet we have. In addition as winter approaches and our pipes freeze we will have to use those toilets all the time. This is a major environmental concern for us.
This afternoon there were also children unsupervised in the same area, this again creates risks and hazards which need to be avoided.

Further more, I saw some people carrying bottles of beer and when I eventually asked gentleman where he had bought his beer, he clearly stated he got it from a bar in the roller rink (even gave directions of how to find the bar) and there was a witness to this conversation. My understanding is that the application for an alcohol licence was indeed refused!!

I now formally give you my notice that I not only strongly object to the alcohol license application but also the proposal for a roller disco to be there. My wife and I were intitially happy for its application to be a roller disco as long as respect for our privacy and function on the boat yard was not infringed in any way. Since however, the owner of the rink has instructed people to use our toilet without discussion and seems to be selling acohol illegally then, I'm affraid, I have no faith that boundaries and respect will be maintained. Indeed many a time we have also had to call the police in because of loud noise and they seem to turn it down until they go. This does not inspire me with confidence as to how she will conduct herself when she gets any kind of offcial permission. Indeed when a boat owner said she had no objection for the rink to be there but not happy about the alcohol application the response from the lady owner was "Do your worst!". This does not bode well for future harmony and for such reasons I do not want to have a rink run the way it is at present.

Mike Edwards (Sumaris Boat)