

## 5. REPORT

### Background

5.1 Application by **ALEXANDRA PALACE TRADING LTD** for a Track Betting Premises Licence in respect of The Panorama Room at Alexandra Palace under the Gambling Act 2005. The application has followed the prescribed format and all consultations have been undertaken. **App 1 – Application form**

### 5.2 Definition of a 'track'

Within the Gambling Act 2005 (the Act) a track is defined as a horse racecourse. Dog track or other premises on any part of which a race or other sporting event takes place or is intended to take place.

If betting takes place at a track then a premises license, awarded by the local licensing authority, will be required.

The Act does not give a list of premises which are officially recognised as 'tracks' but there are a number of venues other than those mentioned above where sporting events do or could take place, and accordingly could accommodate the provision of betting facilities. Examples of tracks include:

- Football, cricket or rugby grounds
- An athletic stadium
- A golf course
- Venues hosting darts bowls, or snooker tournaments
- A premises staging a boxing match
- A section of river hosting a fishing competition
- A motor racing event

While many of these venues are not commonly understood to be 'tracks' they fall within the definition of 'tracks' as defined by the Act.

In theory betting could take place at any venue where a sporting or competitive event occurs. The Act provides for tracks which do not offer betting facilities currently but may elect to do so in the future.

There is a distinct difference between track premises licences and most other premises licences. Generally, a track owner admits third-party operators to provide betting facilities at the track whereas other premises licence holders provide the betting facilities themselves. Consequently, they are subject to the conditions of the operating licence as well as the premises licence.

The track premises licence authorises anyone upon the premises with an operating licence to offer betting facilities and the conduct of betting on track will be regulated primarily through these operating licences, since track betting operators will be subject to the provisions of their licence conditions while they are on track.

Most activities that the track premises licence holders will need to undertake to meet the licensing objectives are included in the mandatory and default conditions set by the Secretary of State.

The Gambling Commission as well as the Licensing Authority will be a responsible authority in relation to premises licences and will be able to request a review of a premises license if it suspects

the breach of a license condition. The Commission will liaise with licensing authorities in reviewing the standards of compliance displayed by track premises license holders and it is possible that the licensing authorities may attach conditions to premises licenses where local problems have been identified.

**5.3** The application was initially submitted for a full license that could be used at anytime a sporting event was taking place at the premises.

We were subsequently notified of an amendment so that the application would only cover the dates of the Darts Tournament which is held at the Palace each year. – **App 2 (letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2008)**

**5.4** Members should be aware that the Darts Tournament held in December 2007 did have facility to permit betting by way of an Occasional Use Notice. This required a written notification to be given to the Licensing Authority and the Metropolitan Police, the applicant has 8 days per calendar year to make use of this facility.

**5.5** Members are reminded of the three licensing objectives under the Gambling Act 2005 which are:

- (a) preventing gambling from becoming a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder, or being used to support crime.
- (b) Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way; and
- (c) Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

**5.6** When determining an application the Licensing Authority “shall aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as Members think it”:

- In accordance with the relevant Codes of Practice (under s.24) –**APP 4**
- In accordance with Guidance by the Gambling Commission (under s .25)
- Reasonably consistent with the three Gambling Licensing Objectives, and
- In accordance with the Haringey Council Statement of Gambling Policy.

**5.7** The Gambling Commission’s Guidance (paragraph 5.27) tells Local Licensing Authorities that moral objections to gambling are not a valid reason to reject applications for premises licences. This is because they do not relate to the Gambling Licensing Objectives. Except where a Council resolves not to allow casinos in its area, a decision on an application cannot be based on dislike of gambling or on a general notion that it is undesirable to allow gambling premises in an area. If an application is rejected, the Licensing Authority should rely on reasons that demonstrate that the Gambling Licensing Objectives are not being met, or are unlikely to be met.

**5.8** The Committee are asked to consider the application in light of the representation received from ‘interested parties’ attached at appendix 3. Members are guided to part 2 above ‘Principles to be applied’ and copies of the relevant codes of practice are attached with this report. (**App 4- Codes of Practice**)

- 5.9 There are also two statutory disregards. (i) It is expressly provided (s.153(2)) that in determining whether to grant a premises license, a licensing authority may not have regard to the expected demand for the facilities which it is proposed to provide. (ii) The licensing authority shall not have regard to whether the proposal is likely to receive planning or building regulations approval (s.210).

**6. RELEVANT REPRESENTATIONS (CONSULTATION)**

**Responsible Authorities:**

**6.1 The Licensing Authority**

No Comments received in relation to this application.

**6.2 The Gambling Commission**

A confirmation of receipt of the application has been given by the Commission

**6.3 London Fire and Civil Defence Authority**

No comments received in relation to this application

**6.4 The Metropolitan Police**

No representation made

**6.5 The Planning Department**

No comment received in relation to this application

**6.6 Environmental Health - Health and Safety/Noise Team/Pollution**

No comments received in relation to this application

**6.7 Trading Standards**

Have no objections to this application

**6.8 Safeguarding children nominee**

No comments in relation to this matter.

**6.9 Her Majesty's Commissioners of Custom and Excise**

Have received notification of the application

## 7.0 Interested Parties - App 3

For the purposes of this part a person is an interested party in relation to a premises licence or in relation to an application for or in respect of a premises licence if, in the opinion of the licensing authority which issues the license or to who the application is made, the person

- (a) lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities.
- (b) Has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities, or
- (c) Represents persons who satisfy paragraph (a) or (b)

Representation has been made by residents and this falls into (a) persons who live sufficiently close to the premises to be likely affected by the authorised activity. The residents have stated that the premises are not suitable for gambling activity and speak of the detrimental effects that granting such a license will have on the surrounding community.

## 8.0 Financial Comments

The fee which would be applicable for this application is **£2700.00**.

## 9.0 Licensing Officer comments

There are three types of conditions which may be attached to a Premises Licence.

- Mandatory (S167)
- Default (S168)
- Discretionary, set by the Licensing Authority (S169)

Mandatory and default conditions are prescribed in the Gambling Act 2005 Regulations for each premises type. Conditions attached by the Licensing Authority may not;

Conflict with Gambling Commission requirements (S169)  
Require memberships (S170)  
Limit stakes or prizes (S171)  
Restrict machines numbers (S172)

The Conditions Regulations (S.I. 2007/1409) stipulate the mandatory and default conditions every Premises License will have the following conditions:

### **Mandatory conditions attaching to every premises license**

3.—(1) The conditions specified in paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) shall be attached to every premises licence.

(2) The summary of the terms and conditions of the premises licence issued under section 164(1)(c) of the 2005 Act shall be displayed in a prominent place within the premises.

(3) The layout of the premises shall be maintained in accordance with the plan.

(4) The premises shall not be used for—

(a) the sale of tickets in a private lottery or customer lottery, or

(b) the sale of tickets in any other lottery in respect of which the sale of tickets on the premises is otherwise prohibited<sup>(a)</sup>.

### **Mandatory conditions attaching to all track premises licences**

1. No customer shall be able to access the premises directly from any other premises in respect of which one of the following premises licences has effect—

(a) a casino premises licence;

(b) an adult gaming centre premises licence.

2. A notice stating that no person under the age of 18 is permitted to bet on the premises shall be displayed in a prominent place at every public entrance to the premises.

3. The terms on which a bet may be placed must be displayed in a prominent place within the premises to which customers wishing to use facilities for betting have unrestricted access.

4. The premises licence holder shall make arrangements to ensure that betting operators who are admitted to the premises for the purpose of accepting bets—

(a) will be operating under a valid operating licence; and

(b) are enabled to accept such bets in accordance with—

(i) the conditions imposed under sections 92 (general betting operating licence) or 93 (pool betting operating licence) of the 2005 Act, or

(ii) an authorisation under section 94 (horse-race pool betting operating licence) of that Act.

5. The premises licence holder shall make arrangements to ensure that reasonable steps are taken to remove from the premises any person who is found to be accepting bets on the premises otherwise than in accordance with the 2005 Act.

6. Any ATM made available for use on the premises shall be located in a place that requires any customer who wishes to use it to cease gambling in order to do so.

### **Default conditions attaching to all track premises licences**

1. Subject to paragraph 2, no facilities for gambling shall be provided on the premises between the hours of 10pm on one day, and 7am on the next day.

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2. The prohibition in paragraph 1 does not apply on days when a sporting event is taking place on the premises, in which case gambling transactions may take place at any time during that day.

#### Gambling Act 2005 conditions / requirements

##### Section 178 Door Supervision

- (1) Where a condition for door supervision is attached to a premises licence (whether by virtue of section 167, 168 or 169) subsection (3) shall apply in relation to the licence.
- (2) In subsection (1) "condition for door supervision" means a condition requiring that one or more persons be responsible for guarding the premises against unauthorised access or occupation, against outbreaks or disorder or against damage.
- (3) If the person carrying out the guarding mentioned in subsection (2) is required by the Private Security Industry Act 2001 (c. 12) to hold a licence under that Act authorising the guarding, the requirements under that Act shall be treated for the purpose of this Act as if it were a condition of the premises licence attached by virtue of this section.

##### Section 179 Pool betting on track

- (1) A betting premises licence in respect of a track may not authorise the acceptance of bets by way of pool betting except in a case to which subsection (2) applies
- (2) This subsection applies to the acceptance of bets, by way of pool betting on horse-racing or dog-racing-
  - a. By the holder of the betting premises licence, or
  - b. In accordance with arrangements made by him.

##### Section 180 Pool betting on dog races

- (1) A betting premises licence in respect of premises other than a dog track shall by virtue of this section be subject to the condition that pool bets may not be accepted in reliance on the licence in respect of dog-racing other than in accordance with arrangements made with the occupier of the dog track on which the racing takes place.
- (2) ...
- (3) ...
- (4) This section ceases to have effect at the end of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 (and the condition attached by subsection (1) to premises licences in force on that date shall lapse in respect of anything done after that date).

##### Section 182 Exclusion of Children from track areas

- (1) A premises licence in respect of a track shall by virtue of this section be subject to the condition that the licensee shall ensure that children and young persons are excluded from-
  - a. Any area where facilities for betting are provided,
  - b. Any area where a gaming machine, other than a Category D machine, is situated.
- (2) But subsection (1)(a)-
  - a. Shall not apply to a dog track on the day on which dog-racing takes place, or is expected to take place, on the track, and
  - b. Shall not apply to a horse-race course on a day on which horse-racing takes place, or is expected to take place, on the course.
  - c. Shall not apply to any other track on a day on which a race or other sporting event takes place, or is expected to take place, on the track.

##### Section 183 Christmas Day

A premises licence shall, by virtue of this section, be subject to the condition that the premises shall not be used to provide facilities for gambling on Christmas Day.

**Section 184 Annual Fee**

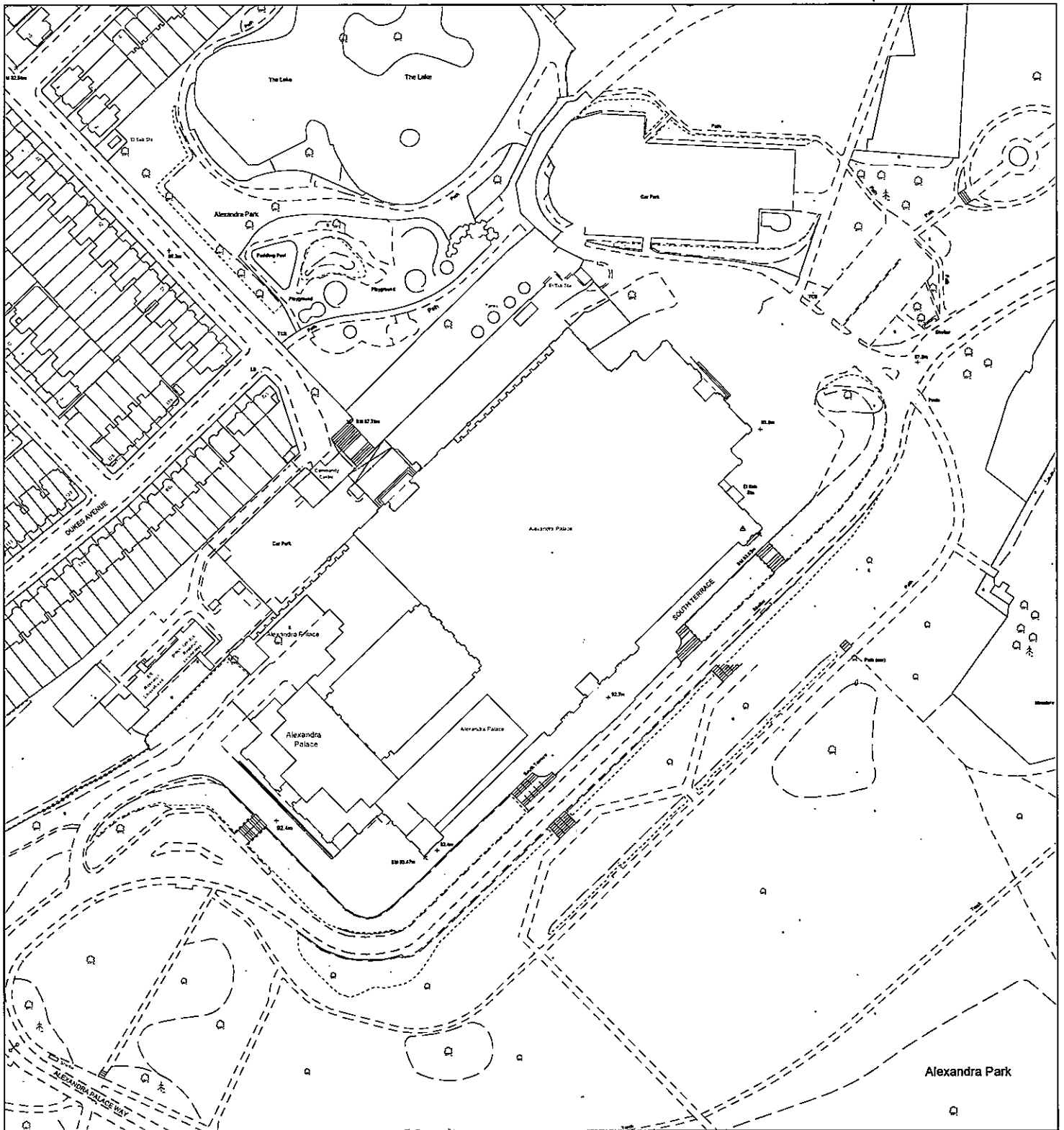
- (1) The holder of a premises licence-
  - a. Shall pay a first annual fee to the licensing authority within such period after the issue of the licence as may be prescribed, and
  - b. Shall pay an annual fee to the licensing authority before each anniversary of the issue of the licence.

**Section 185 Availability of licence**

- (1) The holder of a premises licence shall-
  - a. Keep the licence on the premises, and
  - b. Arrange for the licence to be made available on request to-
    - i. constable
    - ii. An enforcement officer, or
    - iii. An authorised local authority officer.

**Section 186 Change of circumstance**

- (1) If the holder of a premises licence ceases to reside or attend at the address specified in the licence under section 151(1)(b) he shall as soon as is reasonably practicable-
  - a. Notify the licensing authority, and
  - b. Inform the licensing authority of a home or business address at which he resides or attends.
- (2) The Secretary of State may make regulations requiring the holder of a premises licence-
  - a. To notify the licensing authority of any change of circumstances of a prescribed kind in relation to him or to an authorised activity, and
  - b. To give the licensing authority prescribed details of the change



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**Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (As amended)**

**Plan relating to the Enforcement Notice dated**

**ALEXANDRA PALACE, ALEXANDRA PALACE WAY N22**

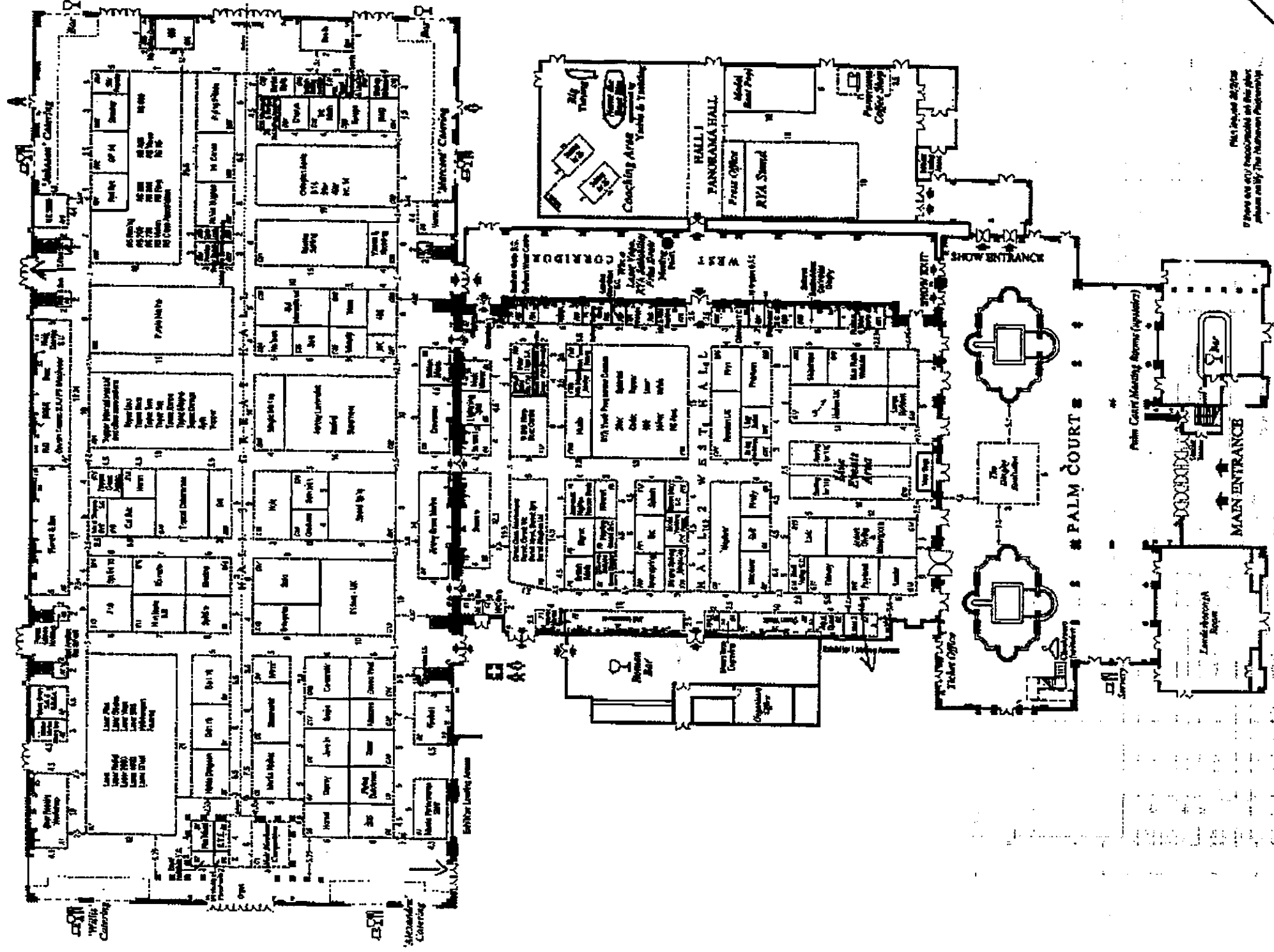


**Haringey Council**

Robin Payne  
 Assistant Director  
 Enforcement Service  
 639 High Road  
 Tottenham  
 N17 8BD

 NORTH	Drawn by	Haringey Council
	Scale	1:2500
	Date	20/11/2007
	Drawing	N/A





PLAN requires all areas to be licensed for betting. Please refer to the Minimum Requirements.

The Area Highlighted in Yellow  
 To Be Licensed For The Provision  
 of Betting

APPENDIX 1

APPLICATION FORM AND PLAN

# TRETHOWANS

The Director General's House  
Rockstone Place  
Southampton  
SO15 2EP  
DX: 154120 SOUTHAMPTON 48

Tel: 023 8032 1000  
www.trethowans.com

## SPECIAL DELIVERY

London Borough of Haringey  
Licensing Team, Enforcement Service,  
Environmental Services  
Civic Centre, High Road  
Wood Green  
LONDON  
N22 8LE

DDI: 023 8082 0472  
Fax: 023 8032 1001  
E-Mail: jane.walker@trethowans.com  
Our Ref: NJW01/145912  
Your Ref:

For attention of Licensing – Daliah Barrett

12 November 2007

Dear Sirs

### Application for a Betting (Track) Premises Licence

Alexandra Palace Alexandra Palace Way Haringey LONDON N22 7AY

We have been instructed to apply for a Betting (Track) premises licence for Alexandra Palace Trading Limited. We enclose the following:-

- Notice of Application for a Betting (Track)
- You have confirmed receipt of the fee and plan sent under cover of our letter dated 08.11.07

Please acknowledge receipt of this Notice in writing.

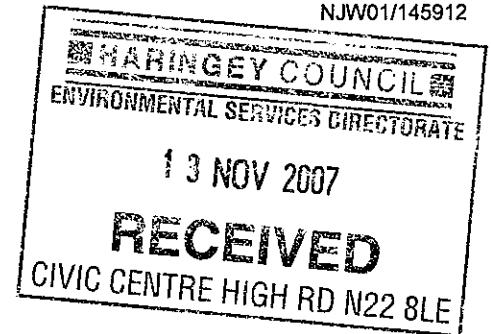
We confirm that the Notice in respect of this application has been served on the other Responsible Authorities today.

Please disregard the application served on the 8<sup>th</sup> November. This application replaces that application. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Yours faithfully



Enc



**Application for a premises licence  
under the Gambling Act 2005 (standard form)**

**PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you are completing this form by hand, please write legibly in block capitals using ink. Use additional sheets if necessary (marked with the number of the relevant question). You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form of your records.

Where the application is-

- In respect of a vessel, or
- To convert an authorisation granted under the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 or the Gaming Act 1968,

the application should be made on the relevant form for that type of premises or application.

**Part 1 - Type of premises licence applied for**

Regional Casino  Large Casino  Small Casino   
Bingo  Adult Gaming Centre  Family Entertainment Centre   
Betting (Track)  Betting (Other)

Do you hold a provisional statement in respect of the premises? No

If the answer is "yes", please give the unique reference number for the provisional statement (as set out at the top of the first page of the statement):

**Part 2 - Application Details**

If you are an individual, please fill in Section A. If the application is being made on behalf of an organisation (such as a company or partnership), please fill in Section B.

**Section A**

**Individual applicant**

1. Title: Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Dr  Other (please specify)

2. Surname: Other name(s):

*(Use the names given in the applicant's operating licence or, if the application does not hold an operating licence, as given in any application for an operating licence)*

3. Applicant's address (home or business - (delete as appropriate)):

4(a) The number of the applicant's operating licence (as set out in the operating licence):

4(b) If the applicant does not hold an operating licence but is in the process of applying for one, give the date on which the application was made:

5. Tick the box if the application is being made by more than one person.

*(Where there are further applicants, the information required in questions 1 to 4 should be included on additional sheets attached to this form, and those sheets should be clearly marked "Details of further applicants".)*

### **Section B**

#### **Application on behalf of an organisation**

6. Name of applicant business or organisation:

Alexandra Palace Trading Limited

*(Use the names given in the applicant's operating licence or, if the applicant does not hold an operating licence, as given in any application for an operating licence.)*

7. The applicant's registered or principal address:

Alexandra Palace  
Alexandra Palace Way  
Haringey  
LONDON

Postcode: N22 7AY

8(a) The number of the applicant's operating licence (as given in the operating licence):

N/A

8(b) If the applicant does not hold an operating licence but is in the process of apply for one, give the date on which the application was made:

N/A

9. Tick the box if the application is being made by more than one organisation.

*(Where there are further applicants, the information required in question 6 to 8 should be included on additional sheets attached to this form, and those sheets should be clearly marked "Details of further applicants".)*

### **Part 3 - Premises Details**

10. Proposed trading name to be used at the premises (if known):

Alexandra Palace

11. Address of the premises (or, if none, give a description of the premises and their location):

Alexandra Palace Way  
Haringey  
LONDON  
Postcode: N22 7AY

12. Telephone number at premises (if known): 020 8365 2121

13. If the premises are in only a part of a building, please describe the nature of the building (for example, a shopping centre or office block). The description should include the number of floors within the building and the floor(s) on which the premises are located.

Alexandra Palace is a venue for exhibitions, conferences, sporting events, hospitality and private celebrations.

14(a) Are the premises situated in more than one licensing authority area?

No

14(b) If the answer to question 14(a) is yes, please give the names of all the licensing authorities within whose area the premises are partly located, **other than the licensing authority to which application is made:**

#### Part 4 - Times of operation

15(a) Do you want the licensing authority to exclude a default condition so that the premises may be used for longer periods than would otherwise be the case? No *(delete as appropriate)* *(Where the relevant kind of premises licence is not subject to any default conditions, the answer to this question will be no.)*

15(b) If the answer to question 15(a) is yes, please complete the table below to indicate the times when you want the premises to be available for use under the premises licence.

	<i>Start</i>	<i>Finish</i>	<i>Details of any seasonal variation</i>
Mon	hh:mm	hh:mm	
Tue			
Wed			
Thurs			
Fri			
Sat			
Sun			

16. If you wish to apply for a premises licence with a condition restricting gambling to specific periods in a year, please state the periods below using calendar dates:

#### Part 5 - Miscellaneous

17. Proposed commencement date for licence (leave blank if you want the licence to commence as soon as it is issued): *(dd/mm/yyyy)*

18(a) Does the application relate to premises which are part of a track or other sporting venue which already has a premises licence? **No**

18(b) If the answer to question 18(a) is yes, please confirm by ticking the box that an application to vary the main track premises licence has been submitted with this application

19(a) Do you hold any other premises licences that have been issued by this licensing authority? **No**

19(b) If the answer to question 19(a) is yes, please provide full details:

20. Please set out any other matters which you consider to be relevant to your application:  
The Licence will cover the betting services provided for the World Darts Championship and other sporting events held at the in the hall at the Premises.

**Part 6 - Declarations and Checklist (Please tick)**

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge, the information contained in this application is true. We understand that it is an offence under section 342 of the Gambling Act 2005 to give information which is false or misleading in, or in relation to, this application.

We confirm that the applicant(s) have the right to occupy the premises.

Checklist:

- Payment of the appropriate fee has been made/is enclosed
- A plan of the premises is enclosed
- We understand that if the above requirements are not complied with the application may be rejected
- We understand that it is now necessary to advertise the application and given the appropriate notice to the responsible authorities

**Part 7 -Signatures**

20. Signature of application or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent. If signing on behalf of the applicant, please state in what capacity:

Signature 

Print Name: Trethowans

Date: 12 November 2007

Capacity: Solicitors and Agent for Applicant

## Part 8 - Contact Details

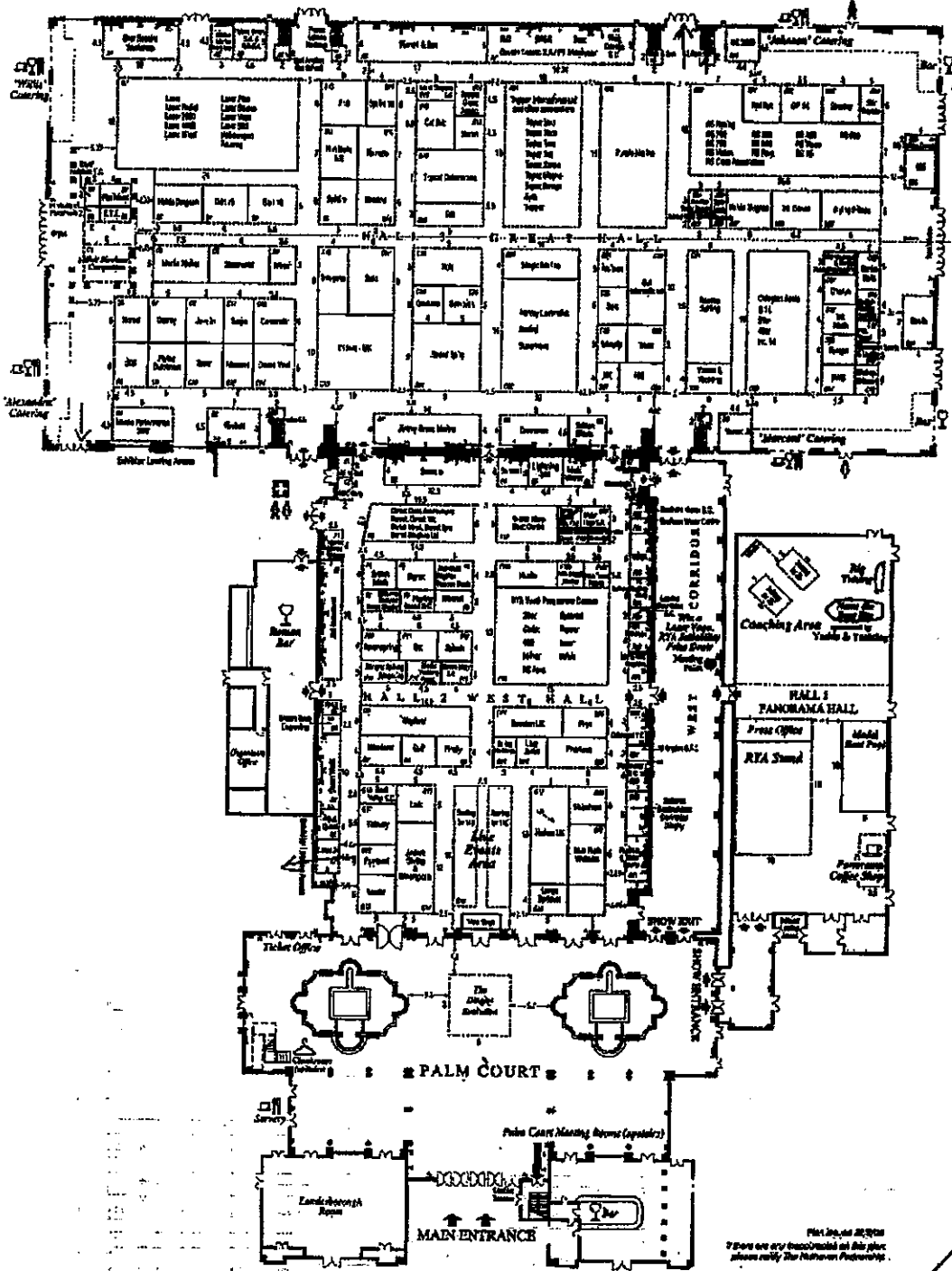
23(a) Please give the name of a person who can be contacted about the application:  
Jane Walker

23(b) Please give one or more telephone numbers at which the person identified in question 23(a) can be contacted:  
02380 820472

24. Postal address for correspondence associated with this application:  
The Director General's House  
Rockstone Place  
SOUTHAMPTON  
Postcode: SO15 2EP

25. If you are happy for correspondence in relation to your application to be sent via email, please give the email address to which you would like correspondence to be sent:  
jane.walker@trethowans.com





THE AREA HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW  
 TO BE LICENSED FOR THE PROVISION  
 OF BETTING

London Borough of Haringey  
Licensing Team, Enforcement Service,  
Environmental Services  
Civic Centre, High Road  
Wood Green  
LONDON  
N22 8LE

DDI: 023 8082 0472  
Fax: 023 8032 1001  
E-Mail: jane.walker@trethowans.com  
Our Ref: NJW01/145912  
Your Ref:

## For attention of Licensing

11 December 2007

Dear Sirs

### Gambling Act 2003 s39 – Occasional Use Notice Alexandra Palace Alexandra Palace Way Haringey London N22 7AY

Please accept this letter as notice of the intention to permit the acceptance of bets under s39 of the Gambling Act 2005 for events to be held at the above premises during December 2007 and January 2008

The event is the World Darts Championship and is held from 17 December 2007 to 1 January 2008. The area within the premises to be used for the provision of betting services will be the Panorama Room, The Palm Court, The VIP Bar to the right of the front door and the Londesborough Room. Betting Services will be provided on the following dates:

Thursday 20th December  
Friday 21st December  
Saturday 22nd December  
Wednesday 26th December  
Thursday 27th December  
Friday 28th December  
Saturday 29th December  
Sunday 30th December  
Tuesday 1st January 2008

Under s39 an Occasional Use Notice can be used on 8 days in any calendar year. We therefore have applied for 8 days in 2007 and 1 day in 2008 totalling 9 days when betting services will be provided at the site.

Ladbrokes Betting & Gaming Limited will be responsible for the betting services provided at Alexandra Palace and have been involved in providing betting services at many other similar venues across the Country over many years. An application for a new Track Betting Premises Licence to permit betting on a permanent basis has been made and the hearing is to be considered in the near future.

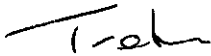


The Gambling Act requires notice to be served on the Local Authority and the Police before the event but does not require the payment of a fee nor give specific time limits for service of the notice. We confirm that notice has been copied to the Police today.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries in regard to this notice.

Finally we would be grateful if you could confirm receipt of this notice by returning the attached copy in the pre-paid envelope enclosed.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'T. Robinson' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Enc

## APPENDIX 2

### LETTER REQUESTING AMENDMENT TO THE APPLICATION

# TRETHOWANS

SOLICITORS

The Director General's House  
Rockstone Place  
Southampton  
SO15 2EP  
DX: 154120 SOUTHAMPTON 48

Tel: 023 8082 1000  
www.trethowans.com

London Borough of Haringey  
Licensing Team, Enforcement Service,  
Environmental Services  
Civic Centre, High Road  
Wood Green  
LONDON  
N22 8LE

DDI: 023 8082 0472  
Fax: 023 8032 1001  
E-Mail: jane.walker@trethowans.com  
Our Ref: NJW01/145912  
Your Ref:

For attention of Daliah Barrett

9 January 2008

Dear Sirs

**Application for a New Track Betting Premises Licence**  
**Alexandra Palace Alexandra Palace Way Haringey LONDON N22 7AY**

Further to our previous correspondence in respect of the above matter we would be grateful if we could make a formal amendment to the application which was lodged with you in November last year.

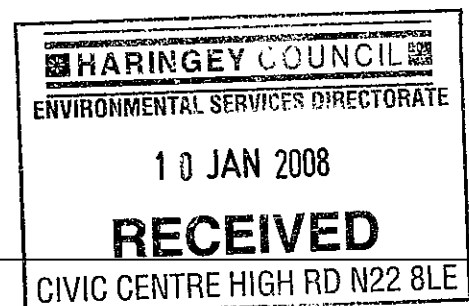
The initial application was lodged to cover the premises for betting throughout the year albeit that it would, in reality, be used only during the World Darts Tournament sponsored by Ladbrokes. We seek to amend the application so that it only covers the dates that the Darts Tournament is held each year. Ladbrokes are committed to sponsoring the Tournament and have signed a sponsorship deal for 5 years. The dates of the Tournament will be known in advance and the applicant will notify the Licensing Authority and Police in good time before the event so that the exact dates when betting will take place are specified.

We would be grateful if you could notify the amendment to the people who have made representations in relation to the original application. We would also like to assure those people who did make representations that betting is not linked to crime and disorder. Betting did take place legally at the recent Tournament for 9 days and during that time there was neither an increase in crime and disorder nor in any of the other matters raised in the letters of representation. The betting took place under an Occasional Use Notice which permits betting at premises on 8 days per calendar year. We used 8 days from 2007 and the final was on 1 January 2008.

We look forward to receiving your comments and confirmation if any representations have been withdrawn as a result of the amendment to the application.

Yours faithfully

*Trethowans*



**Lexcel**  
THE LAW SOCIETY

Trethowans - solicitors regulated by The Solicitors Regulation Authority  
A list of partners is available for inspection at the Salisbury office

145912

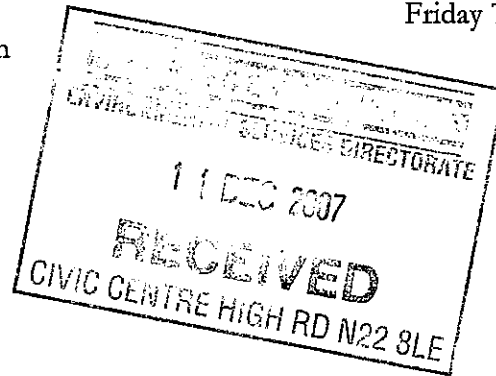
## APPENDIX 3

### LETTER OF REPRESENTATION FROM RESIDENTS

Lynne Zilkha  
23 Cranbourne Rd  
London  
N10 2BT

Friday 7th December 2007

Haringey Council Licensing Team  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Civic Centre  
High Rd  
Wood Green  
London  
N22 8LE



Dear Sirs,

**Gambling Act 2005 – Representation Letter.**

With regards to the recent track betting license application for use at The Alexandra Palace Panorama Room by Alexandra Palace Trading Ltd, I wish to make a representation. I take a particular interest in Alexandra Palace and Park because of my very close proximity to it.

I would like to make a representation opposing the granting of a permanent betting licence according to the licensing objectives of The Gambling Act 2005, on the following grounds:

**Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder, or being used to support crime:**

I believe that there is a significant potential of an increase in serious crime inside Alexandra Palace as well as its grounds, park and residential streets near to Alexandra Palace. Alexandra Palace and Park lies in an isolated locale surrounded by 196 acres of parkland and sloping ground. The park has been associated with muggings, attacks and antisocial behaviour, only some of which are reported. Numerous gangs have operated in this area, often watching for potential victims leaving the exits at night for the car park or bus stop. In the last couple of years, police protection was required for young skaters leaving the Alexandra Park building after a spate of muggings. There have been other attacks within the park documented, some of which have been very serious. Because of the number of incidents reported, the Police have identified the park as a crime “hot spot”. If the licence is granted then the public, of all ages, who attend events with betting will become targets for their credit cards, cash and id inside the Palace and in the grounds of the Palace, which is impossible to police.

**Protection of Children and Other vulnerable groups from being harmed or exploited by gambling:**

I understand that events such as the forthcoming World Darts Championship are ticketed events. Such tickets can be purchased in several ways including the internet. Event tickets can be sold to individuals under 18 who may or may not be accompanied by an adult, and children/teenagers can certainly attend such events. Alexandra Palace has a tradition of

being a family based sporting and cultural venue and it would be morally and psychologically improper to have children/teenagers exposed to an environment where active betting is taking place, particularly in a building owned by a Charitable Trust. The ice rink where teenagers largely attend and children play areas are close by. Children and teenagers will be under greater threat of attacks by muggers for their mobile phones and money than they are already.

A Charitable Trust within a park area managed by Haringey Council condoning on site betting is a questionable example to set.

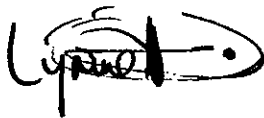
Note also that the aforementioned darts event will run day time and evening sessions throughout its duration. The likelihood of children being in the vicinity of a betting event is very probable. The Panorama Rooms share the same entrance as The Palm Court, The Phoenix Pub and Restaurant and The Great Hall. These are used by people of all ages. Gambling activities should take place in a room dedicated to gambling and would not have shared entrances.

While AP Trading Ltd is applying for the licence, it does not state who will supervise the gambling at each event.

Under this licence what is to stop a betting shop from being set up?

Based on the above points, I am opposing the gambling application and ask the Licensing Team not to grant the gambling licence.

Yours Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Zilkha', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Ms L Zilkha

NB see press articles attached to support the - I shall bring this letter with articles by hand this evening and leave at reception at Civic Centre.

PS It is widely known that Alexandra Palace Statutory Advisory Committee (APSAC) has not been consulted re this application as part of its function as laid down by The Alexandra Palace and Park Act 1985. The APSAC's function is to advise the Trustees and be consulted of the general policy relating to the activities and events arranged or permitted in the Park and Palace *and* the effects of such activities and events upon the local inhabitants and local environment



## Barrett Daliah

---

**From:** Lydia Rivlin [l.rivlin@btinternet.com]  
**Sent:** 07 December 2007 12:23  
**To:** Licensing  
**Subject:** Re: GAMBLING ACT representaton

Dear Ms. Barrett,

I was just worried that I might be objecting on the wrong grounds.  
Thank you for setting my mind at rest.  
Is the document acceptable and have I sent it in such a way that it will be registered?

--Lydia Rivlin

On 7 Dec 2007, at 11:59, Licensing wrote:

> Dear Ms Rivlin  
>  
> Sorry! My fingers slipped and pressed 6.  
>  
> Thank you  
>  
> Daliah Barrett (Lead Officer - Licensing) Haringey Council - Licensing  
> Authority Urban Environment Civic Centre High Road Wood Green London  
> N22 8LE  
>  
> T 0208 489 8232  
> F 0208 489 5528  
> E daliah.barrett@haringey.gov.uk  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Lydia Rivlin [mailto:l.rivlin@btinternet.com]  
> Sent: 07 December 2007 11:48  
> To: Licensing  
> Subject: Re: GAMBLING ACT representaton  
>  
> Dear Ms. Barrett,  
>  
> I am not aware of a Gambling Act 2006, I thought it was 2005.  
>  
> I understand that under this act I am permitted to object to the  
> licensing, temporary or otherwise, of premises for gambling.  
> I do object to the licence being granted for gambling in Alexandra  
> Palace on the following grounds:  
>  
> .1] Concerns about crime and violence  
>  
> It is self-evident that gambling attracts criminality. Sometimes this  
> can be controlled when the premises are situated in a busy area of  
> town where there is a constant stream of passers-by to report  
> problems. In the case of Alexandra Palace, an isolated building  
> surrounded by a park, there will be little control on such criminality  
> and drug dealing and prostitution can be conducted out of sight, in  
> the darkness of the park.  
>  
> 2] Protection of children  
>  
> Alexandra park is an area surrounded by suburbs and fulfilling all the  
> functions of a suburban park. It is visited by teenagers, families  
> with children, and people of all ages walking their pets.  
> The entire park would become very unsafe for the whole community if it  
> became the haunt of people involved in the fringes of the gambling  
> world. Alexandra Park is my local park and I frequently take walks  
> there. As a woman walking on my own I would feel very unsafe if any  
> part of the Palace were turned over to large-scale organised gambling.

>  
> Lydia Rivlin  
>  
> 26, Muswell Avenue,  
> Muswell Hill,  
> London N10 2EG  
> England  
>  
> tel: +44 (0)20 8444 2726  
> fax: +44 (0)20 8444 7381  
> =====  
> This email (which includes any files transmitted with it) may be  
> confidential.  
> If you have received it in error please forward it to me immediately,  
> destroy any copies and delete it from your computer system. Thank  
> you.  
>  
>  
>  
> On 4 Dec 2007, at 10:22, Licensing wrote:  
>  
>> Dear Ms Rivlin  
>>  
>> There is currently no application under the Licensing Act 2003 under  
>> consultation in relation to Alexandra Palace. I am unable to accept  
>> the document you have used as it is for use in relation to Licensing  
>> Act  
>> 2003 applications.  
>>  
>> You may write in to me if you want to make representation on the  
>> Gambling Act 2006 application. Please note that you may make  
>> representation only under the 3 licensing objectives under this Act:  
>>  
>> Keeping gambling free from crime or becoming a source of funding  
>> crime  
>>  
>> Making gambling open and fair  
>>  
>> Protecting children and the vulnerable from being harmed or exploited  
>> by gambling.  
>>  
>> Regards  
>>  
>> Daliah Barrett (Lead Officer - Licensing) Haringey Council -  
>> Licensing Authority Urban Environment Civic Centre High Road Wood  
>> Green London  
>> N22 8LE  
>>  
>> T 0208 489 8232  
>> F 0208 489 5528  
>> E daliah.barrett@haringey.gov.uk  
>> -----Original Message-----  
>> From: Lydia Rivlin [mailto:l.rivlin@btinternet.com]  
>> Sent: 04 December 2007 07:41  
>> To: Licensing  
>> Subject: GAMBLING ACT 2006 APPLICATION  
>>  
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>>  
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>> \_\_\_\_\_  
>> This email has been scanned by the MessageLabs Email Security System.  
>> For more information please visit <http://www.messagelabs.com/email>  
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>> For more information please visit <http://www.messagelabs.com/email>

### LICENSING ACT 2003 - REPRESENTATION FORM

To make a representation in respect of an application for a Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate please complete the following form. For representations to be considered relevant they must relate to one or more of the four "Licensing Objectives" (listed below).

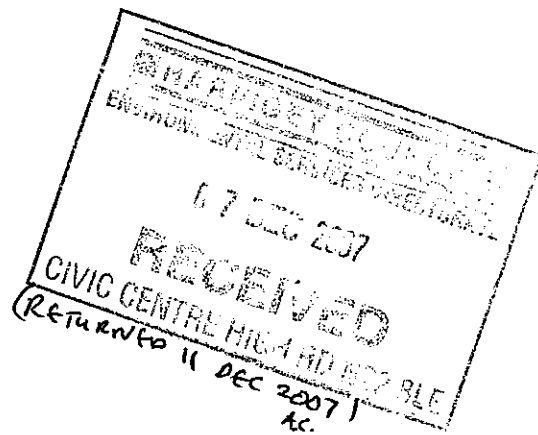
Please note all representations will be made available for applicants to view. If you make a representation objecting to the application it is likely that you will be called upon to attend a hearing and present your objection before a Licensing Committee.

**Personal Details**

Name A. CHRISTOFIS

Address 19 CONISTON RD, F3.  
MUSWELL HILL  
LONDON

Postcode N10 2BL



**Licence application you wish to make a representation on**

*You do not need to answer all of the questions in this section, but please give as much information as you can:*

Application Number ?

Name of Licensee Track Betting (PERMANENT LICENSE)

Name of Premises (if applicable) Alexandra Palace Panorama Room.

Premises Address (where the Licence will take effect).....  
Alexandra Way London (N22)  
WOOD GREEN

Postcode N22 7AY

**Reason/s for representation**  
GAMBLING Act 2005 (K)

*Under the Licensing Act 2003, for a representation to be relevant it must be one that is about the likely effect of the application on the promotion of the four licensing objectives. Any representations that are considered to be vexatious or frivolous will not be considered (please see Haringey Council's leaflet **Variations, Representations and Appeals for Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates**).*

*Fill in reason/s for your representation in the space provided under each Licensing Objective it relates to.*

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder etc permanent gambling is not compatible with the ~~charitable~~ Charitable aims & objectives - Haringey Council needs to be aware that this will encourage crime & disorder in a place that is to be specifically used for 'RESORT + RECREATION'! if gamblers are loitering in the park it will be no longer safe for children & families. Gambling is known to bring with it CRIMINAL ELEMENTS + PROSTITUTION!

(AC) ~~.....~~ - Gambling is all about money! Alexandra Palace is already a crime hot spot - the public will be at risk arriving and leaving the park carrying large sums of money - The public will be at risk from violent clashes/outbursts from the losers and those targeting the palace for crime - muggings/rape/stalking/indirect exposure

(AC) ~~The Prevention of Public Nuisance~~  
Betting/gambling at Alexandra Palace - may cause loitering Litter, screaming, noise, anger from losses - will attract negative elements to a park that is for 'RESORT' - Gambling is a blight on families

The Protection of Children from Harm etc  
we are from a large local family (3 generations) and the women and children use the facilities unattended by men. I want my children shielded from exposure to gambling, gambling addicts, and angry losers. The children have always traditionally learned to go to the park by themselves - this will stop if gambling is allowed. children need some freedoms! + space!

I, ..... A. CHRIS TOFIS ..... hereby declare that all information I have submitted is true and correct.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
A. ~~TOFIS~~ (AC) 3rd Dec 2007

Please send completed form to:  
Haringey Council Licensing Team  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Civic Centre  
High Road  
Wood Green  
London  
N22 8LE

Mr. A Young,  
32 Muswell Road,  
Muswell Hill,  
London,  
N10 2BG.

Friday 7th December 2007.

Ms Daliah Barrett,  
Haringey Council Licensing Team,  
2nd Floor,  
Civic Centre,  
High Road,  
Wood Green,  
London,  
N22 8LE.

Dear Ms Barrett,

I write to you regarding the company Alexandra Palace Trading Limited and the track betting licence applied for the Panorama Rooms within Alexandra Palace. I would like to register my opposition to the granting of such licence with reference to the following licensing objectives of the Gambling Act of 2005.

**Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder, or being used to support crime.**

Regarding this objective, the Palace lies isolated between a residential area and the substantial area of Alexandra Park. In such isolation the risk of crime can only increase with the lure of gamblers as easy targets. The motivation for an attack is obvious – money, credit cards and possibly personal identification. The Park is known to have problems with muggings, attacks and antisocial behaviour. Gangs have been known to operate in the area. They watch for potential victims leaving the Palace exits at night for the car park or bus stop. The Police have even identified the Park as a hot-spot of crime. I am concerned that the floodgates would open for an increase in crime in the locale.

**Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.**

Regarding this objective, I am concerned as to who would manage and monitor the licence and gambling activities once gambling commenced. This task would become only more difficult if the floodgates would then be open for additional gambling such as is available on any high street .

**Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.**

Regarding this objective, it should be noted that the Palace is used by people of all ages. The Palace has a tradition of being a family friendly venue. To access the Panorama Rooms one uses the same entrance for access to The Palm Court, The Phoenix Bar and The Great Hall. It is simply improper to grant a gambling licence here as the likelihood of children being in the vicinity of a betting event is high. In particular the forthcoming World Darts Championship is a ticketed event where tickets could be sold to those under the age of 18. I have noticed from the internet that the aforementioned darts event will run day time and evening sessions throughout its duration. The knowledge of there being gambling on the premises would place children and vulnerable persons at considerable risk of being lured towards such activity.

The granting of such licence is, in my view, completely and utterly improper and a poor example set on behalf the Charitable Trust and Haringey Council. Debt problem due to gambling is a rising issue in the UK. This can be verified by communication with the organisation Gamblers Anonymous. In short I believe that gambling at the Palace will be of detriment to the locale in terms of safety to all users of the Palace as well as to local residents. I therefore register to you my opposition the granting of any gambling licence at the Palace.

Yours sincerely,  
A. Young.

**Barrett Daliah**

---

**From:** Colin Marr [colin.marr@blueyonder.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 09 December 2007 12:50  
**To:** Licensing  
**Subject:** Gambling Act Application - Alexandra Palace - OBJECTION

Dear Licensing Team,

I wish to object to the recent application for a track-betting licence at Alexandra Palace.

My reasons for objection include:

- Gambling is incompatible with the charitable purposes that are the basis of Ally Pally's status as an asset under the management of a charitable trust.
- The Palace itself is a Grade II listed building and it is not part of its heritage to be associated with gambling. Although there used to be horse-racing in the Park this does not constitute a precedent.
- There is a correlation between crime and gambling. Alexandra Park is a local 'hot-spot' for crime, most of which is associated with events at the Palace - the presence of gambling there is likely to add to the risk.
- Issuing a licence could be seen as condoning gambling in a public space and this would be an unwelcome encouragement to young and vulnerable people.
- Firoka's presence at the Palace is of questionable legality. Granting a licence would seem to condone this tenancy.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Marr  
3 Methuen Park  
N10 2JR  
Tel: 020 8883 9069

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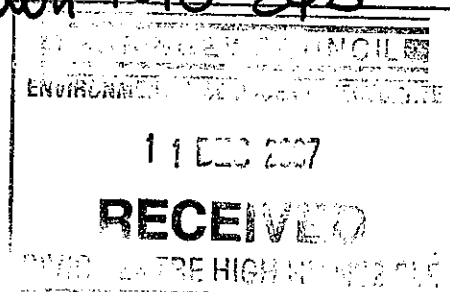
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For more information please visit <http://www.messagelabs.com/email>

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Daliah Barrett  
Licensing Team  
Haringey Council  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor High Rd  
London N22 8LE

Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2007

Dear Ms Barrett



My family and I live next to the Palace and we are writing to you to state our unreserved **objection to the granting of a Gambling License to The Alexandra Palace Trading Company Ltd** or to any other company, individual or organisation now or at any time in the future that wishes to set up a casino, of any size, in Alexandra Palace.

The great majority of residents in this area are overwhelmingly against the presence of a casino in our neighbourhood for the following reasons:

- Gambling is a morally reprehensible activity in itself, invariably attracting criminal activity such as drug pushing and prostitution.
- The Palace is intended, according to its Charitable Charter, to be for the greater good of the people. Gambling is only good for those who own the gambling business.
- Gambling often brings with it a range of other undesirable activities, which are invariably criminal in nature.
- Gambling frequently requires participants and operators to handle large quantities of cash, thus creating security risks and increasing the possibility of robbery and mugging in and around the gambling facilities. Despite local residents' frequent complaints over the years, the Palace grounds are completely unguarded at night and during the day. This is a well-known fact to criminals and a casino would be an advertisement for further illegal activity in the Park.
- **Many who enjoy the use of the Palace are children, often unaccompanied schoolchildren.** The presence of a casino in the Park would expose these children to gamblers, muggers, prostitutes and other dangerous and socially irresponsible individuals.
- Muswell Hill is a family-oriented area and Haringey Council rate-payers chose to live here because of the good schools and the peaceful atmosphere. We do not chose to live here in order to have access to gambling "facilities", drugs and prostitutes.

On a final note, after the recent High Court finding against the Trust and The Charity Commission on numerous grounds, most significant of which was **failure to consult properly**, The Council should realise that it is failing in its duty by only posting a small notice in the grounds of the Palace giving residents only 10 days to express their objections to a course of action that what would fundamentally change the function and atmosphere of the Palace and the surrounding neighbourhoods.

Yours sincerely,

  
Dermot Barnes

  
Giasmin Chilmi



## Noise

19th January 2006

[http://www.mirror.co.uk/search/display.var.625248.0.if\\_alexandra\\_palace\\_was\\_a\\_pub\\_it\\_would\\_have\\_been\\_shut\\_down.php](http://www.mirror.co.uk/search/display.var.625248.0.if_alexandra_palace_was_a_pub_it_would_have_been_shut_down.php)  
**If Alexandra Palace was a pub, it would have been shut down**

I read your article about Alexandra Palace with alarm (People's palace, January 13).

Those of us who live near the palace have endured years of noise pollution because the building is not sound-proofed and cannot contain the decibels of modern music.

Haringey Council has ignored residents' complaints for years because it is desperate to make money from the white elephant.

The council has even given the palace permission to make noise until 6am.

The palace is a yob. If it were a citizen it would have been given an Asbo long ago. If it were a pub it would have been shut.

But, because of its cosy financial relationship with the council, it is allowed to regularly deny sleep to its neighbours.

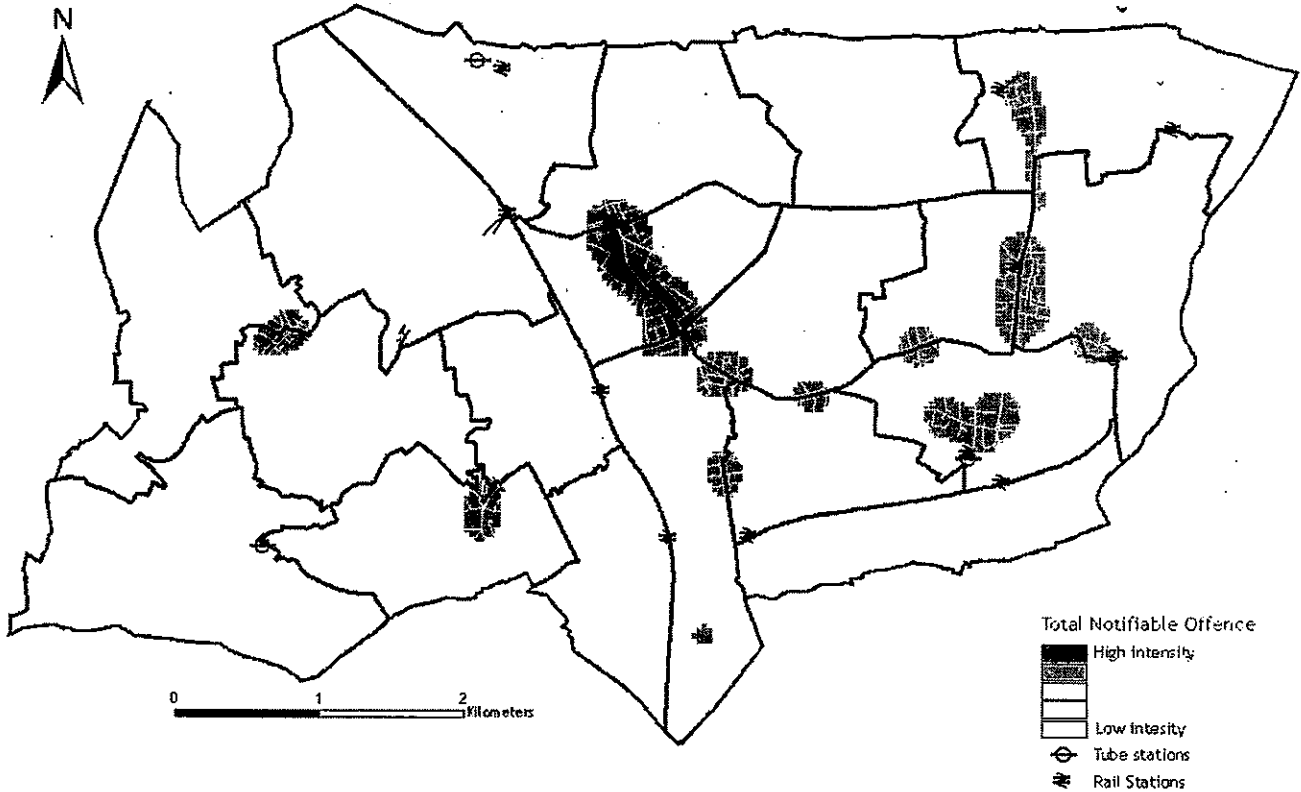
Therefore, any redevelopment of Alexandra Palace must include adequate sound-proofing of all music and event spaces. The idea of the palace containing hotels, casinos and nightclubs is a recipe for a 24-hour noise nightmare.

It would considerably lower the value of properties near the park and would deny us the peaceful enjoyment of our homes to which we are legally entitled.

Perhaps you could do a story about the environmental impact of noise, light and car exhausts, and the way the palace and council have conspired to put two fingers up to the area's residents for years.

John Guerrasio  
Redston Road, Homsey

## Crime level at the park and palace



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Bandwidth: 250 meters & cell size 35 meters  
Classification: Equal Interval [6]

2007

30/11/2007

But Redston Road resident John Guerassio, whose property backs onto the park, is annoyed at people using the grounds at night, including dog-walkers.

He said: "At night there are barking dogs there, fights there, people screaming and others playing football at midnight. If these people are somewhere where it's soundproof, I wouldn't care but it seems to be the same spots every night."

"There are lots of people every night who take their dogs in the park really late, but there are other places to walk your dog."

Mr Guerassio said that he is constantly disturbed by antisocial behaviour in the grounds late at night and thinks that if this could be prevented, crime would stop.

He said: "We need to get proper fencing or get police to patrol it the park. Anyone who is in there in the middle of the night is up to no good, they're not pillars of the community."

"A public space like that, open to the public after dark, is a magnet for trouble. The problem is that it's not illegal for people to be in the park after dark."

"People are not allowed in most London parks on a night but Alexandra Palace has some kind of special rules."

The Alexandra Park and Palace Trust charity is governed by an act of parliament which specifies that the park must be open for free use and recreation for the public, and therefore cannot be closed at night. Mr Holder said: "Even without the act of parliament, the palace runs a full bus service so even if we were able to lock our gates in the periphery, the park in its entirety could not be closed."

Mr Holder said Alexandra Palace has security guards inside the palace 24 hours a day who often patrol the park, but Mr Guerassio thinks that a dedicated patrol team should be based at the park to avoid antisocial behaviour and combat crime.

"It needs proper policing and proper funding for the policing," said Mr Guerassio.

Park by-laws and regulations are enforced by Haringey's Parks Constabulary, based in Finsbury Park, whose officers have the power of arrest.

Councillor Nilgun Conver, Haringey's executive member for crime and community safety, said: "They do patrol the area and they do patrol all parks in the borough, almost ten hours a day, but how much policing can go specifically to Alexandra Park is limited."

She added that the constabulary had weekly tasking meetings with police to discuss crime in the borough's parks and said police were expected to increase their patrols following the recent attack in the park.

In addition to this, the planned redevelopment of Alexandra Palace is likely to see more of the building in use, so security within the grounds is expected to be improved.

But Mr Guerassio is one resident who is not convinced any of these measures will make a difference.

He said: "Until we can change the rules and make it illegal to be there at night, things will not change."

2005

2nd March 2006

[http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.698639.0.police\\_to\\_step\\_up\\_patrols\\_around\\_ally\\_pally\\_ice\\_rink.php](http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.698639.0.police_to_step_up_patrols_around_ally_pally_ice_rink.php)

**Police to step up patrols around Ally Pally ice rink**

By Peter Stebbings

Haringey police say they are stepping up patrols at Alexandra Palace's ice rink and urging skaters to arrange lifts home in the evenings after two separate robberies on skaters in the past two weeks.

Two pairs of females have been targeted after leaving the rink on weekend nights. In the most recent case, at 11pm last Saturday, two 14-year-old girls from Enfield were approached by a group of four other teenagers.

After one of the girls refused to hand over her mobile phone, she was punched and kicked. The suspects, three girls and boy, all aged 12 to 16, made off on the W3 bus towards Wood Green. Police have made four arrests in relation to the assault and robbery.

Two other teenage girls were robbed in similar circumstances after leaving the ice rink on Saturday, February 18.

Police do not believe the robberies were carried out by the same group.

As part of their crackdown, police have increased their presence on weekend evenings to protect young skaters leaving Alexandra Palace. They have also been viewing CCTV footage from the palace and have made one arrest for possession of an offensive weapon.

A Haringey police spokesman said: "We urge skaters to be vigilant when leaving and to arrange lifts home with parents or guardians to prevent being targeted."

A spokesman for Alexandra Palace said he was surprised to hear of the police's concerns and stressed police had not informed the palace management of any particular problems.

The spokesman added the planned redevelopment of the palace would improve security.

"At the moment, 50 per cent of the palace is derelict and out of use. But with the redevelopment more of the palace will be brought into use."

If you have any information in relation to these two recent incidents, call Haringey police on 020 8345 0763.

23rd June 2005

[http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.608813.0.park\\_sex\\_attack.php](http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.608813.0.park_sex_attack.php)

**Park sex attack**

By Martyn Kent

Police fear a sex attacker could strike again after a woman was beaten and raped in broad daylight in Alexandra Park.

The woman was walking her dog when she was grabbed around the neck, punched repeatedly in the face, pushed to the ground and raped in long grass. The attack happened near the pitch-and-putt green and cricket pavilion in the north-east corner of the park, which was sealed off on Tuesday as officers carried out forensic work.

The victim told police the man had been lying on the grass, apparently enjoying the sunshine, before he approached her.

Detective Inspector Rita Tierney, of the Sapphire sex offences unit at Hornsey, urged any witnesses to come forward. "This was a violent and terrifying attack in broad daylight," she said. "There were many people in the park on such a sunny day, and we hope they may be able to provide us with vital clues."

"It is essential we trace this man before he has the opportunity to assault another woman."

The incident, which happened at 11am, has prompted director of Haringey Women's Safety Forum Michelle Stokes to call for increased security measures in parks.

"I think Haringey should build on the parks constabularies they have in central and east London," she said. "Perhaps there could be a role for new wardens."

But she urged women not to panic: "If women were to react to an 11am attack by stopping going out completely, then that would be a hugely sad thing."

"My advice on keeping safe would be to think about the route you are taking and take advantage of any level of supervision."

She also said women should run and shout as loudly as possible, rather than stand their ground, if they feel threatened.

30/11/2007

31st August 2006

[http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.902602.0.patrolling\\_the\\_park.php](http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.902602.0.patrolling_the_park.php)

#### Patrolling the park

By Kay Murray

Alexandra Park is often associated with reports of muggings, attacks and antisocial behaviour. KAY MURRAY reports on the extent of the problems and the measures being introduced to deal with them

In March, Haringey police increased their presence in the grounds of Alexandra Palace to protect young skaters leaving the building following the robbery of two groups of teenage girls leaving the ice rink.

Patrols were increased again in May after a spate of muggings in the park, and earlier this month a group of friends who took a late-night stroll there, after attending a party at a nearby property, were attacked by a gang, prompting police to increase patrols yet again.

The number of incidents reported in the past year would suggest that the park is a crime hot-spot, yet Alexandra Palace general manager Keith Holder begs to differ.

"I actually think that there's a lot of misunderstanding about what is crime within the park and what is crime within the surrounding streets," he said.

"People often report it as Alexandra Park when it happens in the neighbouring streets. I actually think the comments by some people are misunderstood."

Sergeant Ian Wells, from the Alexandra Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT), agrees with this theory.

He said: "The thing is, the palace grounds stretch to a number of different areas, and there may be a mile or half-a-mile difference in where something took place. People may say they have been robbed near the grounds but are not specific about where the area is."

"The area is often called a hot-spot when sometimes the crimes committed are on the periphery."

The palace grounds fall within the boundary of three different SNTs, including Homsey and Muswell Hill. Mr Wells said that a recent Alexandra SNT Have a Say Day revealed that the park was not the main concern of residents in the ward.

However, he said that there were a number of measures in place to combat potential crime in the area, including an intelligence-based motorcycle response unit, a dedicated robbery squad and a new scheme involving dog-walkers, which will start this weekend.

"We have been trying to mobilise dog-walkers, as you get people walking their dogs in the evening and early hours of the morning in the park," said Mr Wells.

"These people see things and hear about things that go on in the park. If they are patrolling the area they can contact us to pass any information on."

The team is visiting the park this weekend to speak to dog-walkers about the new initiative and will also be putting up posters around the park.

30/11/2007

2006

4th May 2006

[http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.750740.0.teenagers\\_robbed.php](http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.750740.0.teenagers_robbed.php)

#### Teenagers robbed

Three Homsey teenagers were mugged on Bank Holiday Monday near Alexandra Palace.

The boys, aged 14 and 15, were walking down Dukes Avenue, Muswell Hill, at about 8pm when they were approached by two black boys, aged around 17. The robbers threatened to stab the victims if they did not hand over mobile phones.

In an unrelated incident in Muswell Hill on Saturday, a gang robbed three people of their mobile phones at 6.30pm. The three got off the W7 bus by Priory Road and were followed along Cranley Gardens by seven black youths, aged about 16.

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If you have any information about either incident, call Sergeant Lee Adamson on 020 8345 0763.

18th May 2006

[http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.764236.0.palace\\_area\\_is\\_hotspot\\_for\\_muggers.php](http://www.muswellhilltimes.co.uk/search/display.var.764236.0.palace_area_is_hotspot_for_muggers.php)

#### Palace area is hot-spot for muggers

By Kay Murray

Police officers will patrol the grounds of Alexandra Palace in an attempt to combat the increasing problem of late-night muggings in the area.

In May alone, there have been five known muggings in and around the landmark's grounds, which seem to be a favourite for thugs after mobile phones and money.

A Haringey police spokesman said: "We're warning people to be on their guard when leaving the premises. We're going to increase patrols and target the area for undercover operations."

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Three of the muggings took place last Friday at around 11pm close to the ice rink entrance at the palace when three teenage girls had their mobile phones taken from them.

Although the muggings were separate incidents, they were thought to have been carried out by the same two boys, described as black, around 6ft 2in tall, and aged between 16 and 18. They were wearing bandanas over their faces one yellow, one black when they approached the girls, two of whom were 15, the other 14.

Alexandra Palace facilities manager David Loudfoot said: "Mobile phone theft is sadly a growing crime. We will be reviewing our security arrangements."

Anyone with information can contact Haringey police on 020 8345 0763.