

Good Morning Craig,

Please see below issues and thoughts coming from a point of frustration as a respected licensee and independent business owner to be read prior to the impending committee meeting on Wednesday 3rd June.

IN REGARDS TO THE INITIAL PRE-APPLICATION PROCESS

Upon applying for this trading pitch, I first went through the pre-application process.

I was kindly informed that instead of applying for a 6-month arrangement a 12-month term would be beneficial due to the subsequent lower monthly charge.

Obviously as a summer dependent business 6 months was more suited to our business model, but the full application was completed in the knowledge that due to payments being taken on a monthly basis one could 'terminate' the contract at any given time.

It was also discussed that the hours submitted would be for business flexibility rather than extensive ours over several days of the week.

Had we known the application would face an objection for the 12-month application would a 6-month agreement have been approved?

OBSERVATIONS MADE IN REGARDS TO THE MANY EVENTS HELD ON BOTH THE IMPERIAL AND MONTPELLIER GARDENS IN REGARDS TO BEING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

Both Montpellier and Imperial Gardens hold regular annual events that tend to require extensive re-turfing of substantial areas due to the damage caused by holding these events.

The local council seem to constantly push for independent traders and events to be more 'environmentally friendly', yet allow events to resort to replacing vast areas of damaged turf rather than insist on better protection prior to the event taking place.

(Please see images attached).

Yes, it could be argued that such replacement costs are covered within the events ticket price, but even so it seems like a cost that could be avoided. This in turn would mean lower ticket prices making the events more widely available to even those on restricted household budgets?

Why aren't the council more pro-active in protecting the gardens to ensure the regular re-turfing doesn't have to be carried out on a regular basis following these events?

So, it does seem rather detrimental to those operating a small independent business to be asked to operate under stricter 'environmental' controls than those events organised by the council?

IN RESPONSE TO THE ARGUMENT THAT A GENERATOR WOULD RELEASE FUMES HARMFUL TO CHILDREN.

Both the Montpellier and Imperial Gardens welcome all ages including parents and children yet it seems there are no designated smoking / vaping areas.

Should a family be sat next to a group of those smoking the onus is on the parents being responsible and moving their themselves and children to an area away from such activities that could cause harm to themselves and family members.

Surely the same could be argued that a family wouldn't sit in close proximity to any unit using a generator to operate and would sit themselves a safe distance from such unit?

Also, has traffic flow in the surrounding area been monitored to know what adverse effects this may have on those sat in the Imperial Gardens?

As the gardens are indeed located in a town centre location adjacent to a busy through road, again isn't the onus on those wishing to use the gardens to ensure they are not over exposed to any such traffic fumes?

IN RESPONSE TO THE COUNCILS DESIRE TO ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2030.

Why are council contractors such as Ubico still using diesel generators for such tasks as jet washing the town centre streets?

(Please see additional images attached).

What is the time frame for these to become obsolete in the council's quest for being carbon neutral as surely this can be rectified almost immediately council budget allowing?

If this is long time frame can't an independent business use a similar diesel power generator until such a time as all council and associated contractors using diesel generators become electric, bio fuel or similar?

In relation to the above point of bio fuel we are actively looking at HVO fuel (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil, a renewable diesel alternative made from vegetable oils and animal fats) which is a renewable, high-quality diesel alternative that offers environmental benefits, operational reliability, and compatibility with existing diesel infrastructure, making it a preferred choice for sustainable energy solutions.

Is this something that the committee will take into account when discussing our street trading application?

AND FINALLY IN RESPONSE TO THE PRE-APPLICATION, APPLICATION, SUBSEQUENT OBJECTION AND IMPENDING COMMITTEE MEETING TIME FRAME.

As a weather dependent and independent business, the time taken to get to this point has massively affected our business reputation not to mention the initial costs of the application process, but also any prospective revenue required to make our business a success.

We were previously based in the Montpellier Courtyard, but the subsequent rent, business rates and other associated costs meant that we had to try another way to succeed hence the purchase of the mobile trailer.

Surely the council need to be on the side of independent businesses in order for the town to remain vibrant, exciting destination for locals and visitors alike so hopefully you can see we are passionate about what we do and would like the opportunity to provide our products again to our customers both old and new.

Many thanks,

Gary & Kay @ Moolicious



