

## UPDATE REPORT

BY THE DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES  
READING BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021

**Ward:** Abbey  
**App No.:** 211725/FUL  
**Address:** Kings Meadow, Napier Road, Reading  
**Proposal:** Temporary Change of Use for up to 45 days in a calendar year, to Change from Class F2 (Local Community Uses) to Christmas Party Events at Kings Meadow, with the site being restored to its former condition at, or before 14:00hrs on 31st December 2021  
**Applicant:** Eventist Group Ltd  
**Target decision date:** 27/01/21

### RECOMMENDATION:

To GRANT temporary planning permission with the conditions and informatives as per the main report

#### 1. Consultation Period

##### *Public consultation*

- 1.1 Since the publication of the main report, the public consultation period closed (on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021). No comments have been received by members of the public.

##### *Internal Consultees*

- 1.2 Since the publication of the main report Officers have received no objections from the Transport and Ecology departments, with comments being in line as previous years for this proposal. Transport conditions are proposed and have been included as per previous years.

#### 2. Further information on noise concerns

- 2.1 As outlined in the main report, the Environmental Health team have no objections to the application based on noise concerns. Officers note that a number of Christmas events are happening around the borough and so the cumulative impact of all events needs to be discussed. The submitted noise assessment does not take into account noise levels from surrounding events.
- 2.2 The Environmental Protection team has since advised that the situation concerns the Parks team and their decisions on which sites they let out to what events and when. It is not considered possible to control noise to an extent that residents are not adversely affected at all; rather the aim is to control the noise being a nuisance which can be controlled under the Premises License for each event. The only way to achieve no noise impact would not be to hold the events.

- 2.3 The relevant Council departments would work with the management of this event (and other Christmas events) to resolve such noise issues, but this is not an instantaneous process and the amount of nuisance being created needs to be considered and assessed in deciding how to proceed.
- 2.4 On the basis of the above, planning officers are satisfied that noise levels could and will be controlled under the separate premise license as there are a number of licence conditions in place which the Council can enforce if necessary, in response to complaints should they arise.

**Case Officer: Connie Davis**