

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**LICENSING COMMITTEE – 21 MARCH 2012**

Title of report	REQUEST TO OPERATE ASHBY STATUTES ON SUNDAYS
Contacts	Portfolio Holder - Councillor Alison Smith 01530 835668 alison.smith@nwleicestershire.gov.uk Head of Community Services 01530 454832 john.richardson@nwleicestershire.gov.uk Cultural Services Team Manager 01530 454601 goff.lewis@nwleicestershire.gov.uk
Purpose of report	To consider the request to open the annual Ashby Statutes Fair on Sundays
Council Priorities	Pride in the Community
Implications:	
Financial/Staff	NWLDC costs are met through event licence fees
Link to relevant CAT	Business CAT
Risk Management	Not applicable
Equalities Impact Assessment	None discernible
Human Rights	None discernible
Transformational Government	Not applicable
Comments of Head of Paid Service	The report is satisfactory.
Comments of Section 151 Officer	The report is satisfactory.
Comments of Monitoring Officer	The report is satisfactory.

Consultees	Ashby Town Council (Ward members) Police Authority Chair of Cabinet Leicestershire County Council Businesses in Ashby Residents in Ashby Town Centre
Background papers	Licence agreement between NWLDC and Pat Collins Fun Fairs
Recommendations	THAT LICENSING COMMITTEE DETERMINE - THE APPLICATION TO OPEN ASHBY STATUTES ON SUNDAYS BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 12:00 MIDDAY AND 6:00PM FOR THE DURATION OF THE LICENCE TO BE GRANTED OR DETERMINE TO GRANT THE APPLICATION FOR A TRIAL PERIOD OF ONE YEAR ONLY

1.0 HISTORY OF ASHBY STATUTES

- 1.1 In 1260 a Charter was granted for Ashby de la Zouch to hold an annual fair where merchandise could be sold in the street. The Charter was a gift to Alan La Zouch, Lord of the Manor at that time, from King Henry III. Although the reasons for granting the charter aren't clear it did state that the citizens 'might enjoy themselves merrily'.
- 1.2 Apart from merriment the fair had another important purpose for many years; it was also a hiring fair. Being held at the end of the harvest period, it was ideally timed to serve the dual purpose of relaxation after a busy time, while also enabling labourers and maids from the area to seek contracts for the coming year. Servants, dairymaids, cowmen and shepherds would all seek work at the Statutes and once a master took them on they would be given a shilling, part of which would be spent on a ribbon that they'd wear to show they had been hired.
- 1.3 Stall holders used to be charged individually for their pitches by the Ashby Urban District Council, but as time went on it was let to one showman, Mr Pat Collins. Pat Collins Funfairs still run the event, under the present day owner Mr Anthony Harris.

2.0 LICENCE

- 2.1 The agreed dates of the fair are licensed to Pat Collins Fun Fairs on a 3-year licence basis. These dates are agreed on a Custom and Practice basis with the District Council as copies of the original Charter cannot be found. The current licence has expired and a new one will be issued following the outcome of this request.

3.0 THE EVENT

- 3.1 The Ashby Statutes Fair takes place over a weekend in September each year. Pat Collins Fun Fairs operate and manage the fair and have been doing so for many years. The footprint of the fair takes up the entire length of Market Street and Brook Street in Ashby

de la Zouch, Leicestershire. It does not change from year to year and it is contracted that the nature of the fair should not change.

- 3.2 The set up of the fair takes place from the early hours on Friday and dismantling takes place late evening Tuesday and early hours Wednesday. The fair is open for business on Friday evening, Saturday afternoon & evening, Monday and Tuesday evening. On Monday morning the fair is open for children with special needs who are given free rides. This is co-ordinated by Ashby Lions in conjunction with Mr Harris. As many as 700 children take part and Ashby School's 6th form students help accompany children around the fair and on the rides.
- 3.3 The fair comprises a mix of traditional and contemporary rides, side stalls and catering units.

4.0 REQUEST FOR CHANGE TO OPENING ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2011

- 4.1 In 2011 the District Council received a letter from Pat Collins Fun Fairs requesting that the opening arrangements be extended to include a Sunday operation from 4-8pm.
- 4.2 A consultation process was sent to approximately 400 residents and businesses with the following summary responses.

Results

Replies	136
In Favour	94
Not in Favour	21
No view	21

- 4.3 The delegated decision was taken by officers to refuse the request due to the following reasons;
- the nature of reasons given in the objections
 - the location of residents who objected compared to those in favour
 - the potential for increased anti-social behaviour on Sunday evenings
 - the views of the local Churches

5.0 AMENDED REQUEST FOR SUNDAY OPENING ARRANGEMENTS

- 5.1 Having listened to the feedback a fresh request (**See Appendix 1**) has now been made by Pat Collins Fun Fairs to open on Sundays with a number of significant amendments, as follows;
- Sundays will be promoted as a family day
 - The Sunday event will be preceded by a church service in the Town Centre
 - Community groups and organisations will be encouraged to operate stalls
 - Family street theatre and entertainment will be provided during the event
 - The opening hours will be limited to 12noon-6pm
- 5.2 On the back of this new request a further consultation letter was sent (**See Appendix 2**)
- 5.3 All consultation responses are attached at **Appendix 3** but the summary is as follows

NAME	SUPPORT	OBJECT	COMMENTS
Councillor Roger Bayliss Ashby Town Councillor		✓	On behalf of the residents of Brook Street, The Green and Claridge Place. Members of the public including Council tenants have voiced their objections. Residents already put up with enough disruption and opportunity for peace on the Sunday should be maintained.
Samantha and Ryan Adcock, 17 South Street, Ashby, LE65 1BQ		✓	Do not welcome the disruption and issues with parking, which Sunday hours, would present. Also do not support the concept of a Sunday outdoor church service because there are already enough church services on a Sunday.
Tim Phillips on behalf of the Holy Trinity Church Council		✓	They do not see any benefit to the town or community and do not believe that an outdoor service would be appropriate.
Mrs Redfern, 22 Millbank, Ashby.		✓	Mrs Redfern proposed that the Family Day should be included in the normal Saturday operating hours.
Mr H Pass, T Pass & Son, 43 Market Street, Ashby. LE65 1AG		✓	Owners of 5 Residential Flats close to Market Street. Sunday is the only day residents have a break from the noise levels. Please decline request at all costs.
Andrew Farmer, 14 South Street, Ashby.		✓	Sunday is unsuitable and is a day of rest from the noise, litter, crime and parking issues. Families can attend Saturday. People attend their own churches on a Sunday and wouldn't attend a service on a stupid dodgem platform. This proposal is a joke, please think of the families who live close to the town. The fair should finish after the Saturday!
Georgina Muiniam, 11 South Street, Ashby		✓	No, No, No, No, No. All my friends are against this proposal.
Gillian Petzan Shellbrook Toys, 1A Market Street, Ashby. LE65 1AF		✓	Our trade is already affected during the Ashby Statutes period. Also, as a resident, I do not want any additional noise and mess during a potential

NAME	SUPPORT	OBJECT	COMMENTS
			Sunday event.
Mr Terry Hill, 4 Lower Church Street, Ashby.	✓		No objections
Jim Curtois, Park Holme, South Street, Ashby. LE65 1BR	✓		No objections
Brian Gough, 26 Trinity Close, Ashby.	✓		Support in principle, but request that No Parking Cones are extended to all of Trinity Close.
Dawn Maddin 22 Trinity Close, Ashby. LE65 2GR		✓	No objections to the extension of the Fair but many concerns of current parking restrictions which are not adhered throughout Trinity Close. There is a lack of public parking (throughout the Town) during the Statutes and concerns of increased traffic using Trinity Close as a 'rat run' to avoid the one way system in place.
Ashby Baptist Church, Brook Street, Ashby. LE65 1AH		✓	<p>Strongly opposed to the proposal for the following reasons:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would restrict car access to their building and impacts on disabled and infirm customers attending their service. • Additional noise and disruption • Undermines the benefits the town has of a day that remains relatively free of commercial activity. • Could the open air service on the dodgems be organised on another day i.e. not interfere with existing services provided to the community by the churches. <p>In conclusion: In view of detrimental effect on the town and the problems it would cause local churches in the communities they serve, we plead with you to refuse this proposal, putting the well being of the community above the commercial interest of the fair.</p>

NAME	SUPPORT	OBJECT	COMMENTS
Rev Brian Robertson, Rector, St Helen's Church, Ashby. (Part of the Ashby and Breedon Team Ministry)	✓		In principle, not against the proposals for the Statutes Fair being open on the Sunday, but have the following questions/suggestions:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Altering the time to 1pm – 6pm may accommodate the Statutes event interfering with the time of certain church services in town. • Not convinced that the Sunday fair time will focus on families and children. Could rides/entertainment be offered at a discount price for children. • Charge for stalls kept to a minimum. • They would be prepared to help organise a special 'Act of Worship' on the Sunday (in collaboration with other church leaders) possibly a child friendly service. • Anything that builds close partnerships between the community groups in Ashby has my full support.
Rev Catherine Booton, Minister Ashby Congregational Church		✓	The proposed operating hours on a Sunday will provide additional disruption to local residents and an interruption to our Sunday church services. The Fair is a commercial venture and to be open on a Sunday is inappropriate for our congregation. The increased level of opening will put further pressure onto family's time and finances.

6.0 VIEWS OF ASHBY TOWN COUNCIL

6.1 The matter was discussed at Ashby Town Council on 16 January 2012 and the following response was received;

Despite some reservations from one of the ward members regarding possible further disturbance to local residents, the Town Council supports the principle of Sunday opening for the fair.

7.0 VIEWS OF NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

- 7.1 A response has been received from PC Mark Arjoo, North West Leicestershire Police as follows;

We would NOT object to this change, and in fact I would go as far to say that we would fully support it. In my opinion, if it is anything like the Ashby Christmas Events, ie the lights switch-on, it will encourage community spirit and cohesion, whilst at the same time, bring extra revenue to the town centre businesses.

8.0 OTHER CONSULTEE RESPONSES

- 8.1 The Chair of the Cabinet has responded with no objections to the request.
- 8.2 The Highways Authority have not responded to date.
- 8.3 The Director of Services made the original decision in 2011 to refuse the request and therefore has passed this further request to Licensing Committee.

9.0 DECISION MAKING PROCESS

- 9.1 The Chief Executive of the Council has the power under Part 3, Section 7, para 7 (a) to agree to the grant and the terms of the licence for the Statutes. However, under the Scheme of Delegation at 2.(iii) the Constitution states that “an officer may always refer a delegated matter to the Cabinet or Council or to one of its Boards or Committees such as Licensing Committee for consultation or decision rather than take the decision him/herself”. However, they must exercise the delegated power as set out in the Constitution. Specifically, “in consultation with the Chairman of the Cabinet, ward members, the Director of Services, Ashby Town Council and the Highways Authority”.
- 9.2 Accordingly, Licensing Committee would need to be assured of the evidence of such consultation, but on this basis the Committee would be able to make the final decision. The committee would also be required to observe the provisions at 2. (i) – (vii) on the exercise of delegated powers.
- 9.3 Licensing Committee are therefore requested to determine the application to open the fair on Sunday's.
- 9.4 Members may wish to consider a trial year in 2012 in order that an assessment of the effects of allowing Sunday opening can be made and a report brought back to Licensing Committee following the event.

19 OCT 2011

ESTABLISHED 1875



Pat Collins

Mr John Richardson
Head of Leisure & Culture
NW Leicestershire DC
Council Offices
Coalville
Leics
LE67 3FJ

18th October 2011

Ref: Ashby Statutes Fair 2012 Sunday Operation

Dear John

Following our meeting and the on going conversation regarding the above. We wish to make a further request for us to be allowed to operate on the Sunday with restricted provision.

1. We make it a family day
2. Possible church service in the beginning say 12 noon ish
3. We encourage local interest i.e charity stall etc - lions club
4. We get face painting, possible street theatre
5. Restrict operation to 12 noon to 6 pm on a trial period and review as we go.

The above comes to mind as a starter for 10. Your input would be most welcome.

Yours sincerely

A D Harris
Pat Collins Fun Fairs / Councillor

Community Services

Please ask for: John Richardson
Telephone: 01530 454832
Ref: JR/SP/008
Date: 20 December 2011

Dear Resident

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH STATUTES FAIR

Following this year's Ashby Statutes Fair the District Council have received a request from the operator Pat Collins Fun Fairs to extend the event to include operating on the Sunday.

A proposal for Sunday opening was consulted on in 2010 and subsequently declined; however, a fresh proposal addressing a number of the concerns raised has now been received.

These include;

- Operating the Statutes on a Sunday between 12 Noon and 6pm
- Promoting the Sunday as a 'Family Day'
- Providing childrens entertainment including street theatre and face painting
- Allowing charity stalls to be present on the Sunday
- Holding a Sunday church service before the start at 12 noon on the non-operational platformed dodgem car area
- Close partnership working with Ashby Town Council, Ashby Lions, Ashby Museum and other local agencies

The Ashby Statutes fair in Market Street and Brook Street dates back as far as 1260 when a Charter was granted for Ashby de la Zouch to hold an annual fair where merchandise could be sold in the street. The Charter was a gift to Alan La Zouch, Lord of the Manor at that time, from King Henry III. Although the reasons for granting the charter aren't clear it did state that the citizens 'might enjoy themselves merrily'. Stall holders used to be charged individually for their pitches by the Urban Council, but as time went on it was let to one showman, Mr Pat Collins. Pat Collins Funfairs still have the rights to run the event, under the present day owner Mr Anthony Harris who liaises with North West Leicestershire District Council. The fair takes place in September each year.

As this new proposal addresses a number of the previous resident and agency concerns including finishing the event at 6pm to reduce noise levels into the evening, we are now re-consulting with residents and interested parties. All responses are proposed to be taken to the Councils Licensing Committee in February or March 2012 for debate and decision.

If you would like to comment on this proposal please address your response to Goff Lewis, Cultural Services Team Manager, North West Leicestershire District Council, Council Offices, Coalville, LE67 3FJ or via email to goff.lewis@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

The deadline for responses is Friday 20th January 2012.

Thank you in advance for consideration of this.

Yours faithfully



John Richardson
Head of Community Services

GOFF LEWIS

From: Jack Fargher
Sent: 17 January 2012 09:32
To: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: Statutes Fair 2012 - proposed Sunday opening

Dear Goff,

I refer to John Richardson's letter to the Council dated 20th December 2012 regarding the proposed Sunday opening for the Statutes Fair in 2012.

This was discussed by the Town Council last night. Despite some reservations from one of the ward members regarding possible further disturbance to local residents, the Town Council supports the principle of Sunday opening, as set out in John's letter, for the fair. This is consistent with the position that the Council took last year.

Regards,

Jack Fargher
Town Clerk.

GOFF LEWIS

From: Arjoo Mark
Sent: 17 January 2012 23:30
To: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: ASHBY STATUTES FAIR

Hi Goff.

Hope you are well.

I refer to the letter I recently received from John Richardson, regarding the Ashby Statutes Fair proposal to take place between 12 noon and 6pm on a Sunday.

We would NOT object to this change, and in fact I would go as far to say that we would fully support it. In my opinion, if it is anything like the Ashby Christmas Events, ie the lights switch-on, it will encourage community spirit and cohesion, whilst at the same time, bring extra revenue to the town centre businesses.

Hope this helps.

Regards.

Mark.

PC 1667 Mark Arjoo
North West Leicestershire Police.
Beat Manager - Ashby town centre.

Been subject to a crime? Or want to prevent one from happening? Go to www.leics.police.uk/support
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Thank you for your co-operation.
(c) Leicestershire Constabulary

GOFF LEWIS

From: JOHN RICHARDSON
Sent: 18 January 2012 11:50
To: 'R D Bayliss'
Cc: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: RE: Ashby Statutes Sunday opening

Hi Roger,
Comments received and they will be fed into the consultation responses.
Thankyou



John Richardson
Head of Community Services

Direct line: 01530 454832
Email: john.richardson@nwleicestershire.gov.uk
Web: www.nwleics.gov.uk

From: R D Bayliss
Sent: 18 January 2012 10:42
To: JOHN RICHARDSON
Subject: Ashby Statutes Sunday opening

'morning, John

Ashby Town Council resolved, on a majority vote, to support the application by the fairground operators to open on Sunday.

As Holywell ward member and especially on behalf of the residents of Brook Street and the Green, including Claridge Place, I wish my objection to the proposal to be taken into consideration when the application is determined. Members of the public, including the Council's tenants, have voiced their objection to me and I have no difficulty in supporting them as it reflects my own view: there is ample opportunity for anyone to visit the fair and although the noise and disruption is tolerable on weekdays and Saturday, the opportunity for peace and quiet on Sunday should be maintained.

Roger Bayliss

GOFF LEWIS

From: Samantha Adcock
Sent: 19 January 2012 19:01
To: GOFF LEWIS
Cc: Ryan Adcock
Subject: Comment - Ashby de la Zouch Statutes Fair

Dear Mr Lewis,

Re- Sunday proposal - **ASHBY DE LA ZOUCHE STATUTES FAIR**

We object to the proposal.

We would still prefer to have a break from the noise and disruption on the Sunday of Statutes week, both from the fair itself and from people parking nearby.
Also, we have a concern that if this proposal is approved then a further application may be put in next year to extend later into the evening.

In our opinion, holding a church service as proposed is a very strange idea as there are many churches in Ashby available to attend on Sunday morning which are better suited for worship.

Samantha & Ryan Adcock

Ashby de la Zouch
Leicestershire

GOFF LEWIS

From: Tim Phillips
Sent: 12 January 2012 16:00
To: GOFF LEWIS
Cc: Ken & Glenis Garner; Lyn Thomas; Graham Heath
Subject: Ashby Statutes Consultation Your Ref: JR/SP/008

Dear Goff,

I hope this finds you well. We very much appreciate being consulted on this matter.

Writing as the Vicar of Holy Trinity, following a brief discussion of this matter with our church council, our clear opinion is that we do not support the extension. We do not see a benefit to the town or community that we serve and we do not believe that an outdoor service at this time would be appropriate.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information.

Kind Regards

Tim Phillips

GOFF LEWIS

From: STEPHANIE PEARCE
Sent: 05 January 2012 16:55
To: JOHN RICHARDSON
Cc: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: Sunday Opening Statutes Fair

Hi John,

I have received a telephone call from Mrs Redfern of Ashby de la Zouch, concerning the letter re Sunday opening of the Ashby Statutes Fair. Mrs Redfern does not agree to these proposals, and has suggested that if a family day is required then can this happen on the Saturday. She didn't want to send a letter as we didn't include a stamped address envelope.

Kind regards
Steph



Stephanie Pearce
Corporate Management Support

Direct line: 01530 454502
Email: stephanie.pearce@nwleicestershire.gov.uk
Web: www.nwleics.gov.uk



T. PASS & SON

- 5 JAN 2012

North West Leicestershire District Council
c/o. John Richardson

Jan 3rd 2012

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for your letter regarding the Continual attempts to Open a Fun Fair on a Sunday.

I Have 5 Residential Flats close to Market Street. The Only Peace & Quiet they get is on Sunday which is a Break from the Continual Noise generated From the Fair which appears to get Louder every year.

I am certain if allowed to open on a Sunday they will then apply to open at Night and we will then Have Continuous Noise every Night From Friday to Tuesday.

This should be Declined at all Costs and remind them also that they are only allowed Half of Market Street in the Statutes Act of Parliament.

Yours faithfully
Howard Pass.

AUDIO - VIDEO

DIGITAL T.V. - SATELLITE

RENTAL - SALES - REPAIRS

GOFF LEWIS

From: Andrew Farmer
Sent: 22 December 2011 10:24
To: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: Ashby statutes fair

Mr Lewis

Can I put forward a new proposal for the Ashby statutes, that being that Saturday they pack up and move off site, the proposal for it to be opened on a Sunday is unsuitable, it's a day of rest and the noise during the day and litter, parking and crime it brings to the area is enough already. Why not move the fair out off the town if they want to operate on a Sunday.

Families already have the Saturday to attend, this can also be a charity day, the decent people of Ashby will go to their own church on a Sunday not a stupid dodgem platform, get a grip for crying out loud how out off touch are you with the people you represent. The statutes is no longer wanted in the town and if you wish to keep it move out to somewhere else.

Has you can tell I find the new proposals a joke, think of the families who live close to the town, we have rights too, and the noise, litter and crime it brings is enough, so take my proposal to Mr Collins that Saturday be is last day, he then moves off site, or move it out of town.

Mr Farmer

Sent from my iPad

Please ask for: John Richardson
Telephone: 01530 454832
Ref: JR/SP/008
Date: 20 December 2011

Dear Resident

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH STATUTES FAIR

Following this year's Ashby Statutes Fair the District Council have received a request from the operator Pat Collins Fun Fairs to extend the event to include operating on the Sunday.

A proposal for Sunday opening was consulted on in 2010 and subsequently declined; however, a fresh proposal addressing a number of the concerns raised has now been received.

These include;

- Operating the Statutes on a Sunday between 12 Noon and 6pm
- Promoting the Sunday as a 'Family Day'
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- Holding a Sunday church service before the start at 12 noon on the non-operational platformed dodgem car area
- Close partnership working with Ashby Town Council, Ashby Lions, Ashby Museum and other local agencies

IT WAS A HIRING FAIR.

The Ashby Statutes fair in Market Street and Brook Street dates back as far as 1260 when a Charter was granted for Ashby de la Zouch to hold an annual fair where merchandise could be sold in the street. The Charter was a gift to Alan La Zouch, Lord of the Manor at that time, from King Henry III. Although the reasons for granting the charter aren't clear it did state that the citizens 'might enjoy themselves merrily'. Stall holders used to be charged individually for their pitches by the Urban Council, but as time went on it was let to one showman, Mr Pat Collins. Pat Collins Funfairs still have the rights to run the event, under the present day owner Mr Anthony Harris who liaises with North West Leicestershire District Council. The fair takes place in September each year.

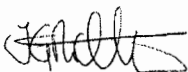
As this new proposal addresses a number of the previous resident and agency concerns including finishing the event at 6pm to reduce noise levels into the evening, we are now re-consulting with residents and interested parties. All responses are proposed to be taken to the Councils Licensing Committee in February or March 2012 for debate and decision.

If you would like to comment on this proposal please address your response to Goff Lewis, Cultural Services Team Manager, North West Leicestershire District Council, Council Offices, Coalville, LE67 3FJ or via email to goff.lewis@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

The deadline for responses is Friday 20th January 2012

Thank you in advance for consideration of this.

Yours faithfully



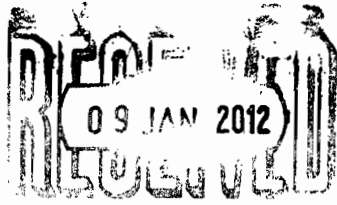
John Richardson
Head of Community Services

No, No, No, No, No, No.
SHOPS OPEN IS BAD ENOUGH. I AND ALL MY FRIENDS ARE AGAINST THIS
Georgina Turman.



Mr Goff Lewis

Ashley, the - the Local
Leicester



5/1/12

Dear Sir

Once again I must make my
views clear about the Statues wanting to
open on Sunday. We don't need the fair to
open any more days. As a retailer in
the town our trade is devastated for
the week before the fair, during, and after.
As a council you expect us to carry
on paying rates etc.

As a resident I don't
~~to~~ want any more noise i.e. screaming
and shouting until the early hours after the
fair has shut, also the mess to clear-
up I leave that to your imagination!

The fair may be good for the charity but
certainly not for retailers, people keep away
from the town which doesn't help us run our
business and pay our bills.
Gillian Petzom

GOFF LEWIS

From: Terry hill
Sent: 23 December 2011 11:20
To: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: Ashby De La Zouch statutes fair

With reference to the proposed Sunday operating, I do not have any objections.

I live at . Ashby.

regards

Terry Hill

GOFF LEWIS

From: Jim Curtois
Sent: 29 December 2011 15:35
To: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: ASHBY STATUTES FAIR

Dear Mr Lewis

With reference to your letter of 20/12/2011, I have no objection to the proposal for Sunday opening.

Yours sincerely

Jim Curtois

Ashby-de-la-Zouch

GOFF LEWIS

From: Brian Gough
Sent: 29 December 2011 10:46
To: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: Ashby Statutes Fair

Re the Sunday opening of the Ashby Statutes this is fine, but is it possible to extend the parking to all of Trinity as we live at [redacted] and cars park after the cones and blocks the road for the people who live at the far end

Many Thanks

Brian.Gough

Mobile



Ashby De La Zouch
Leicestershire

13 January 2012

Dear Mr Lewis

Consultation on extension of opening to Ashby De La Zouch Statutes Fair

I have read the proposed concessions suggested to enable Sunday operation of the Fair and note that there are no provisions made for parking.

Parking provision for those who wish to visit the Fair does not appear to have been addressed since 1260 when the volume of traffic would have been substantially less and of a different nature.

Living on Trinity Close in Ashby residents are subjected every year to increased traffic due to those using the route as a short cut to avoid the one way system in place in the town. The parking restrictions applied over recent years have caused inconvenience for residents who are not able to park their own vehicles or receive visitors at their own homes. The restrictions in place are not adhered to by the public and last year I was forced to call the Police to enforce the restrictions as visitors to the Fair and the town in general had chosen to disregard the parking restriction notices.

Whilst I have no objection to the extension of the Fair and its planned activities I do object to the non enforceable parking restrictions along Trinity Close, the inconvenience caused to my family and our visitors who are unable to park outside our own property and to the lack of public parking provision made in the town centre for those wishing to visit the fair.

If the charter is to remain recognised and enjoyed centuries after it was first granted so that Ashby citizens 'might enjoy themselves merrily', surely free town centre parking for the duration of the event may enable this to be the case for the majority rather than the few.

I object to this proposal.

Yours sincerely

Dawn Maddin

GOFF LEWIS

From: Graham Heath
Sent: 12 January 2012 14:53
To: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: Ashby Statutes consultation
Attachments: 12.01 Statutes.doc

Your Ref: JR/SP/008

Dear Goff

Please find attached our response to the proposed extension to Sunday of the Ashby Statutes Fair.

We feel that we must oppose any such extension, due to the detrimental impact it would have, not only on the churches in the vicinity, but on the wider community as well.

Therefore, we very much hope that the request for an extension will be refused, putting the interests of those in the locality before the commercial interests of the Fair.

Yours sincerely

Graham Heath

Rev Graham Heath
—

Ashby Baptist Church

To know God, to love God, to show God, through Jesus.

Team Minister: Rev Graham Heath



Goff Lewis
Cultural Services Team Manager
North West Leicestershire District Council
Council Offices
Coalville
Leicestershire LE67 3FJ

Ref: JR/SP/008

12 January 2012

Dear Mr Lewis

Ashby De La Zouch Statutes Fair

I write in response to John Richardson's letter of 20th last month, addressed to our administrator, inviting comments on the request from the Fair operator to extend the above event to include Sunday opening.

As minister of Ashby Baptist Church, I must convey our dismay at this request for Sunday opening, and our strong opposition to it. There are several reasons for this, including:

1. If the Fair opened on Sunday, it would restrict car access to our building, and so prevent us serving the community by offering lifts to the disabled and infirm. Our morning service alone requires car access from 10.00am to 1.00pm.
2. If the Fair opened on Sunday, the noise would not only interfere with church activities, but also be detrimental to local residents, who already have to cope with considerable disruption and noise during the other days of Statutes.
3. If the Fair opened on Sunday, it would undermine the benefit our town has of a day that remains relatively free of commercial activity. Many parents appreciate a day when they are not pestered to go and spend money; many employees and their families appreciate sharing a day when they are not pressured to work.
4. The suggested benefits of Sunday opening could be better provided on the other days of the Fair. Past experience indicates that even a church service on the dodgems would be more beneficial for the community if it happened while the Fair is open on another day, when it would not interfere with the existing services provided to the community by the churches, and when visitors would be present to share in the occasion.

In conclusion, in view of the detrimental effect on this town, especially on those residents who would not be able to escape the noise, and of the problems it would cause local churches and the communities they serve, we urge you to refuse any request for the Fair to open on Sundays.

Thank you for consulting with us. We hope that you will be able to put the well being of the community above the commercial interests of the Fair.

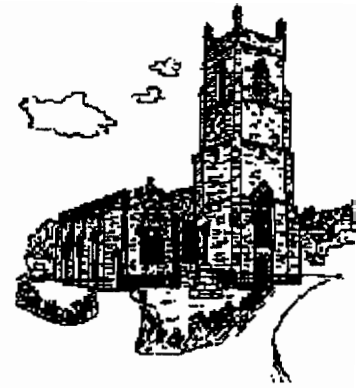
Yours sincerely

Graham Heath

Rev Graham Heath

ST HELEN'S, ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH

- PART OF THE ASHBY AND BREEDON TEAM MINISTRY



Mr Goff Lewis
Cultural Services Team Manager
NWLDC
Council Offices
Coalville
Leicestershire LE67 3FJ

18 January 2012

Dear Mr Lewis

Ashby de la Zouch Statutes Fair

Thank you for the letter sent to me by Mr John Richardson, regarding proposals for the Statutes Fair this year.

In principal, I am not against the proposal for the Statutes Fair being opened on the Sunday, but have the following questions and / or suggestions.

1. Altering the time to 1pm to 6pm may accommodate some of the concerns I have heard raised about the timing of the Statutes interfering with the time of certain church services in the town.
2. I'm not sure how they propose to mark the Sunday Fair time as "Family Time". I am very impressed and supportive of what is done on the Monday morning for children and people with special needs, but am not clear as to how the Sunday Fair time will focus on families and children. One way would be to offer rides and entertainments at a discount price for young children?
3. The idea of special children's entertainment and charity stalls is a good one - as long as the charge (if any) for charity stalls is kept to a minimum.
4. I would be happy to help organise a special "Act of Worship" on the Sunday - but probably starting at 12 noon and leading straight into the opening of the Fair. Ideally I would like to do this in collaboration with other church leaders. My suggestion is that this would be a short, music filled and child friendly service.
5. anything that builds close partnership between the community groups in Ashby has my full support.

My apologies for a late reply to your letter. But I hope this will be of some help. Please feel free to get in touch if needed.

Yours sincerely

Revd Brian Robertson
Rector, St Helen's Church, Ashby de la Zouch

Revd Brian Robertson,

GOFF LEWIS

From: Catherine Booton
Sent: 23 January 2012 09:40
To: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: Ashby statutes fair

I am writing to express the opposition to sunday opening of the statutes,as felt by Ashby Congregational church We feel sunday opening is not a good idea. It would cause further disruption to ashby residents and to the services offered by our church It is also as a commercial venture not appropriate on a sunday and would put further pressure on families times and expenses by being open on an additional day.

We hope the council will decide to decline this applicaton With kind regards Rev Catherine Booton Minister, Ashby Congregational Church sent with my Samsung Galaxy Ace by Orange

GOFF LEWIS

From:
Sent: 23 January 2012 11:17
To: GOFF LEWIS
Subject: Ashby Statutes Fair

I am writing to pass on the comments of Ashby Congregational Church re the proposed opening of Ashby Statues Fair on a Sunday. I have tried to send this email 3 times now but it keeps bouncing back. I hope therefore that this will arrive OK and also be included in the comments on the proposal even though it is now being sent after the deadline.

We, at Ashby Congregational Church, would like to object to the proposal on the following points

1. The fair opening on a Sunday will provide additional disruption to local residents and an interruption to our Sunday church services due to the time of opening and closing of the fair
2. As it is proposed that the fair, as a commercial venture, be open on a Sunday this is felt to be inappropriate by our congregation
3. The increased level of opening will put further pressure on to families time and finances

We therefore hope that the council will decide to reject this proposal and not allow the fair to open on a Sunday

With Kind Regards

Rev. Catherine Booton
Minister, Ashby Congregational Church