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# AGENDA

Committee PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Date and Time TUESDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2021, 11.00 AM of Meeting

Venue REMOTE MEETING VIA MS TEAMS

Membership Councillor Mackie (Chair) Councillors Sattar, Asghar Ali, Derbyshire, Goddard, Jacobsen, Hudson, Lancaster, Robson and Wood

## 1 Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence.

#### 2 Declarations of Interest

To be made at the commencement of the agenda item in question, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

3 Minutes (Pages 3 - 4)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2021.

- 4 Authorisation of Officers and Delegations (Pages 5 8)
- 5 **Control of Street Trading in Whitchurch** (Pages 9 24)
- 6 Urgent Items (if any)

Davina Fiore Director Governance & Legal Services Date: Wednesday, 24 November 2021 Contact: Graham Porter, 02920 873401, g.porter@cardiff.gov.uk This meeting will be recorded for subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The whole of the meeting will be recorded, except where there are confidential or exempt items. A copy of the recording will also be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy.
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email Democratic Services

## PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

#### 2 NOVEMBER 2021

- Present: Councillor Mackie(Chairperson) Councillors Sattar, Derbyshire, Goddard, Hudson, Lancaster, Robson and Wood
- 1 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ashgar Ali and Councillor Frank Jacobsen.

2 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3 : MINUTES

The minutes of the Public Protection Committee held on 11 May 2021 and the Public Protection Sub Committees of 11 May, 1 June, 6 July, 10 August, 7 September and 6 October 2021 were approved by the Committee as a correct record.

4 : RENEWAL APPLICATION OF A SEXUAL ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE – LOVECRAFT, 80 COWBRIDGE ROAD EAST, CARDIFF

The Committee received a report regarding a Sex Establishment Licence renewal application in respect of Lovecraft, 80 Cowbridge Road East.

Members were advised that under the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 Sex Establishment premises are required to renew their licences annually. A renewal application in respect of these premises was received on 13 August 2021.

As part of the renewal application process there is a 28-day consultation period during which a notice is displayed at the premises and advertised in a local newspaper. During the consultation period 1 objection was received. The objection was appended to the report at Appendix A.

RESOLVED – That the objection to the renewal of the sex establishment licence in respect of Lovecraft, 80 Cowbridge Road East, Cardiff be approved.

5 : URGENT ITEMS (IF ANY)

No urgent items were received.

The meeting terminated at 10.20 am

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# CARDIFF COUNCIL CYNGOR CAERDYDD

# Agenda No.

PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 30 NOVEMBER 2021 Report of the Head of Shared Regulatory Services Authorisation of Officers and Delegations

# 1. Background

- 1.1 As the result of the changes in post designation within the Council and the Shared Regulatory Service there is a need to update authorisation and delegation arrangements to ensure that the officers involved in enforcement activities have the appropriate formal authorisation to act on the Council's behalf. The Committee is requested to delegate the appropriate powers to officers; legislation sets out those circumstances where officers may not undertake decisions.
- 1.2 The only procedural change arising from these delegation requests are to provide officers with the ability to suspend a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence for failing to produce their medical certificate to the Licensing Authority on request. Currently these matters have to be reported to Committee which provides delay in what is a routine administrative matter.

# 2. Delegation of Authority

- 2.1 The Council Constitution identifies the Public Protection Committee as having responsibility for the functions identified in Schedule 1 to this report. This report updates and consolidates the current officer authorisations and delegations for the discharge of those functions that can be delegated to officers.
- 2.2 In the interests of effective performance, it is proposed to delegate the responsibility for authorising officers to administer the requirements of functions identified in Schedule 1, to the following officers:
  - Assistant Director Street Scene
  - Head of Shared Regulatory Services
  - Operational Manager Neighbourhood Services
- 2.3 Where appropriate, any authorised officers be approved to:
  - 1. Issue Notices and Orders;
  - 2. Grant and refuse consents;

- 3. Implement the relevant provisions in respect of offences or other requirements;
- 4. Consider applications and to issue licences;
- 5. Approve or reject applications;
- 6. Revoke with immediate effect hackney carriage/private hire drivers in the interest of public safety;
- Suspend or revoke hackney carriage vehicle, private hire vehicle and hackney carriage/private hire driver's licences for failure to comply with any approved policy or standards;
- 8. Arrange for the execution of works pursuant to any of the rules, regulations and/or Orders made thereunder (or any replacement or re-enactment thereof) identified in Schedule 1.
- 2.4 It is important that resilience remains in place for Officers to continue to exercise the above delegated powers, not only to assist with the day to day operation within Shared Regulatory Services but to ensure action is taken where public safety is at risk. For example, if a notification is received from the Police of a serious sexual assault by a licensed driver it is imperative that action be taken immediately to revoke the drivers licence in the interests of public safety.
- 2.5 The only proposed operational change as a result of this report is to enable officers to suspend hackney carriage/private hire driver's licences in circumstances where a driver has failed to produce a medical certificate upon request by the Licensing Authority.
- 2.6 A medical certificate is required (in certain circumstances) to ensure that drivers are in good enough health to maintain public safety on the roads and on average, the Licensing Authority has approximately 15 outstanding certificates at one time.
- 2.7 If approved this would allow the Licensing Authority to deal with outstanding certificates without significant delays, thus providing greater protection for the public.
- 2.8 If a driver's licence was suspended because of a failure to produce a medical certificate, as soon as the required medical certificate was produced the suspension would be lifted, as is currently the case.

# 3. Achievability

3.1 The recommendations can be achieved. These authorisations and appointments enable the officers to undertake their statutory duties.

# 4. Legal Implications

4.1 The authorisations and appointments proposed will ensure that the officers involved have an appropriate authorisation to carry out the relevant regulatory functions.

# 5. Financial Implications.

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report, for which delegated authority is to be exercised appropriately and within the existing budget.

# 6. Recommendations

It is recommended that Committee: -

- 6.1 Authorise the Assistant Director Street Scene, the Head of Shared Regulatory and the Operational Manager – Neighbourhood Services to act as authorised officers and undertake the roles identified in 2.3 above.
- 6.2 Delegate authority to the Assistant Director, Street Scene and the Head of Shared Regulatory Services to appoint and authorise appropriately qualified staff to act on the Council's behalf under each of the functions listed in Schedule 1 and any relevant future enactments determined to be the responsibility of the Public Protection Committee.

Such officer authorisations to be for the administration of the requirements of the functions in Schedule 1 and to enable entry onto premises, inspection, sampling, recovering of evidence and any other related operational purposes.

# Dave Holland

# 9 November 2021

# Head of Shared Regulatory Services

This report has been prepared in accordance with procedures approved by the Corporate Managers.

Background papers: None

**Schedule 1** (to be read in conjunction with the Council Constitution and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Functions and Responsibilities) (Wales) Regulations 2007 as amended)

# Local Choice Functions

- Any function relating to contaminated land.
- The discharge of any function relating to the control of pollution

## **Responsibility for Non-Executive Council Functions**

#### Functions relating to Licensing and registration:-

- 1. Power to license hackney carriages and private hire vehicles.
- 2. Power to license drivers of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles.
- 3. Power to license operators of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles.
- 4. Power to license sex shops and sex cinemas.
- 5. Power to license performances of hypnotism.
- 6. Power to license premises for acupuncture, tattooing ear piercing and electrolysis.
- 7. Power to license market and street trading.
- 8. Power to issue, amend or replace safety certificates (whether general or special) for sports grounds.
- 9. Power to issue, cancel, amend or replace safety certificates for regulated stands at sports grounds.
- 10. Duty to promote fire safety.
- 11. Power to license dangerous wild animals.
- 12. Power to enforce regulations in relation to animal by-products.
- 13. Power to license the employment of children.
- 14. Power to grant a street works licence.
- 15. Power to sanction use of parts of buildings for storage of celluloid.
- 16. Power to make an order identifying a place as a designated public place for the purposes of police powers in relation to alcohol consumption.
- 17. Power to register common land or town or village greens, except where the power is exercisable solely for the purpose of giving effect to:
  - An exchange of lands effected by an order under Section 19(3) of, or paragraph 6 (4) of Schedule 3 to, the Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (c.67) or
  - b. An order under Section 147 of the Enclosure Act 1845 (c.8 & 9 Vict.c.118).
- 18. Power to register variation of rights to common.

City Of Cardiff Council Cyngor Dinas Caerdydd

## Agenda No.

#### Public Protection Committee: 30 November 2021

#### Report of the Head of Shared Regulatory Services

#### Control of Street Trading in Whitchurch

#### 1. Background

- 1.1 Street Trading is controlled by Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.
- 1.2 The Act provides that a district council may by resolution designate any street in their district as:
  - i) a "prohibited street" where street trading is prohibited;
  - ii) a "consent street" where street trading is prohibited without the consent of the district council; and
  - iii) a "licence street" where street trading is prohibited without a licence granted by the district council.
- 1.3 This report requests consideration of the streets surrounding the junction of Tynewydd and College Road in Whitchurch as Prohibited Streets.
- 1.4 A request was previously made in 2015 to designate roads in Whitchurch and Tongwynlais as prohibited, which included the roads to be considered in this report. The request in 2015 was made on the basis that "the streets are in close proximity to schools in the area and the street trading of food such as burgers is not considered conducive to healthy eating and the health and well-being of pupils in the schools". At the meeting of 8 September 2015, Members resolved not to designate the roads as prohibited as they "felt that they were unable to make a decision on the issue as no evidence was put forward to support the application". A link to the minutes of the 2015 meeting are available <u>here</u>.

#### 2. Details.

2.1 The Licensing Department have received requests from local residents and the Land and Asset Team within the Housing Department to designate Tynewydd and College Road in Whitchurch as prohibited streets for the purposes of street trading. This request is due to the site being used by mobile catering vans causing a nuisance to residents and causing a potential safety concern to members of the public. A file note detailing the issues at the site, created by the Land and Asset Team is detailed at Appendix A.

- 2.2 The Land and Asset Team received a report on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020, advising that a catering van had set up on the corner of Tynewydd/College Road. As they had previously successfully removed a different owner of a catering van due to objections from local residents, they wrote to them on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The letter stated that they were trading on Housing land and did not have permission. It also stated that they were causing a safety concern with regards to the junction, causing congestion with the road users and pedestrians and that it is also causing damage to the open space. The letter advised that previous requests to site a catering van on this land had been denied due to objections. A photograph of this trader, taken by Google Maps in November 2020, is contained at Appendix B.
- 2.3 The Legal Department of Cardiff Council subsequently wrote to the owner of the van and a hearing was diarised for 19 April 2021. However, the trader vacated the site on 19 March 2021.
- 2.4 The Highways and Housing departments of Cardiff Council subsequently worked together to improve the junction at Tynewydd and College Road, due to the health and safety implications of the junction and works were agreed and started late August 2021. The works were completed beginning of September 2021, to improve the safety of the junction, renew footpaths, install bollards to protect the Housing owned land, and to install a crossover to the rear parking spaces at 241 College Road. They also provided a formal parking bay, where the Highways land had become damaged from residents continually parking on it.
- 2.5 Starting in October 2021, the council received reports of a new catering van, known as 'The Pit Stop', trading from the new parking layby taking up two parking spaces. Complaints were received that the van is causing a nuisance, and is a potential safety risk due to an extension cable running from an adjacent property to the van, across the grass and an adopted footway. Concerns were also been raised that customers that use the van are illegally parking and causing an obstruction on a busy junction that is used by School children who attend the Schools nearby. A photograph of 'The Pit Stop' is detailed in Appendix C.
- 2.6 Following concerns that the power cable running from the nearby property to the van was a trip hazard and could cause electrocution, a visit was made by Officers from the Highways Department of Cardiff Council, 'The Pit Stop' subsequently stopped running an extension cable from a nearby property and started to use a fuel generator for power. This led to noise complaints from nearby residents. A photograph of the van showing the extension cable from the nearby property is detailed at Appendix D.

- 2.7 In order to help ensure that other nearby roads are not used for the purposes of street trading in the event that the roads listed in paragraph 2.1 are designated as prohibited, Members may also wish to consider designating College Close and Tynant as prohibited for the purposes of street trading.
- 2.8 Redacted excerpts of complaints, received by the Licensing Department from local residents, in relation to 'The Pit Stop' are detailed at Appendix E and F.
- 2.9 A map of the area is detailed at Appendix G.

#### 3. Achievability

3.1 This report contains no equality personnel or property implications.

#### 4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 If the Committee are minded to designate the streets mentioned in 2.1 and 2.5 above as prohibited streets it would be necessary to follow the statutory public notice procedure set out in the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982. This requires the Committee to give notice of its intention to designate the street and invite representations. The matter would then come back to the Committee. Any representations received in response would have to be considered by the Committee before proceeding any further.
- 4.2 All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council eg. standing orders and financial regulations; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

# 5. Financial Implications.

5.1 The cost of advertising the designation as required by statute and the cost of enforcing the designation will be met from the existing budget.

# 6. Recommendation

- 6.1 That the Committee indicate its intention to designate the following as prohibited streets for the purpose of street trading:
  - College Road, Whitchurch
  - College Close, Whitchurch
  - Tynewydd, Whitchurch
  - Tynant, Whitchurch
- 6.2 That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to publish legal notice of the Committee's intention and report to the Committee in due course so that it may consider passing the necessary resolution.

# Dave Holland Head of Regulatory Services

# 5 November 2021

This report has been prepared in accordance with procedures approved by Corporate Managers.

Background Papers: Public Protection Committee report 8 September 2015

# **Appendix A**

## **FILE NOTE**

## 6<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021

The Land and Asset Team within the Housing Department received a report on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020, advising that a second catering van had set up on the corner of Tynewydd/College Road. As we had previously successfully removed a different owner of a catering van due to objections from local residents, we wrote to them (dated) 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The letter stated that they were trading on our land and did not have permission. It also stated that they were causing a safety concern with regards to the junction, causing congestion with the road users and pedestrians and that it is also causing damage to the open space. The letter advised that previous requests to site a catering van on this land had been denied due to objections.

The owner of the van rang me on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020 with regards to the letter. The letter requested that he stop parking his catering van on the grass with immediate effect, as he did not have permission to do so. The owner advised that he spoke to Paul Griffiths in the Licencing Section (ext 71748) who advised him where the prohibited streets were.

I then spoke to Paul Griffiths who advised that he would have sent a generic email to the owner, details of which are below:

Please find attached a copy of the Designated Streets List.

The streets listed as prohibited streets are not suitable for street trading, it would be illegal to trade there. You are able to trade in any street that is not prohibited provided you are not within 35m of a prohibited street or causing an obstruction and you do not need a licence to do so. You are also permitted to trade on private land e.g an industrial estate or car park, providing you have obtained permission from the land owner.

The streets listed as consent streets are only available when there are events taking place in the Millennium Stadium and a consent is issued. With regards to event days, consents are issued on a fair basis so that all applicants would get the opportunity to trade at least one of the events applied for. Consents are only issued to traders selling event related merchandise or food.

The streets listed as licence streets are only available to the current historic sites in those streets. The current sites located on licensed streets have been in place for many years, I'm afraid we do not accept any applications for new Licences.

Paul Griffiths also advised that Neil Hotchkiss, Enforcement Officer, had visited the site on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.

The owner then contacted Councillor Dilwar Ali who his local councillor (Llandaff North ward) and as a result of the query, Daniel Cook provided a full update to Councillor Ali on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Councillor Ali then requested whether his constituent could apply for permission to use the land. He was advised by Daniel Cook that the catering

van is causing a safety concern in the area and to contact the Land and Asset team, but no request for information had been received from Councillor Ali at that time. I spoke with Shaun James on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020 who is a Neighbourhood Services Officer from Pollution Control, who was already aware of the case. Shaun stated that all the powers they have are to do with noise or odour, so that he would not be able to help us with asking him to stop trading. He advised that he had a number of complaints regarding the noise, including a local councillor from the Whitchurch ward.

After he visited on the 29<sup>th</sup> October, Shaun James rang to advise that the generator was very loud and it was likely that action could be taken, due to excessive noise.

On 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020, I received a complaint from a resident in Tynewydd advising that he had previously made a complaint about the burger van that had started trading from the land by the junction of College Road and Tynewydd. He was extremely concerned and reported that the van had been moved off the Housing owned land, onto the Highways land which is right on the junction! The complainant was extremely concerned that once the children go back to school on Monday that a child will be run over. This is because the pavements and junction are being blocked by cars parking on the corner, to get close to the catering van. He rang Highways for advice and was advised that it would be an issue for the police, not them. I advised the same – requesting that he call 101 and call me after to advise the outcome of his call.

As requested, the complainant called rang 101 and said that it was not something they usually deal with, however the officer he spoke to advised that as far as he was concerned, it would pose an obstruction and that he was going to try his best – did not promise - to get a team down there on Monday morning (2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020), as there is serious concern for children's safety.

As a follow up, I emailed Highways, requesting that someone call me urgently regarding a potentially dangerous obstruction at the junction of College Road/Tynewydd. They emailed me back, simply stating "If it's a dangerous obstruction it would be a police matter".

I rang Shaun Yemm-James, for an update on 30th October 2020 and to advise that I had received another (more) disturbing complaint from a resident of Tynewydd. Shaun advised that he only observed and visited his complainants without drawing attention to himself and did not engage with the owner of the van. He did notice that the catering van was closer to the pavement, but not on it, but he did confirm that he is still trading from the site.

Richard Crane, OM Principal Solicitor was contacted and provided with an overview of the case, seeking advice on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

Shaun Yemm-James, who is a Neighbourhood Services Officer from Pollution Control (07891 218153) rang on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to provide me with an update regarding the catering van. He advised that they cannot take any further action, or issue a notice, because the owner had removed the generator and is now using electricity from the upstairs flat at 241 College Road!

Shaun advised that he will be closing his case but that if we needed his assistance in the future, he would be happy to assist.

The Legal Department wrote to the owner of the van and a hearing was diaried for 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021. He vacated the site on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Highways and Housing worked together to improve this junction, due to the health and safety implications of the junction and works were agreed and started late August 2021. These works were completed beginning of September 2021, to improve the safety of the junction, renew footpaths, install bollards to protect the Housing owned land, install a crossover to the rear parking spaces at 241 College Road. We also provided a formal parking bay, where the Highways land had become damaged from residents continually parking on it. These works are a great improvement to the site and the residents were pleased that the burger van had vacated and they had more formal parking in this area.

I was contacted on 4<sup>th</sup> October and 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 by two separate residents in College Road and Ty Newydd, advising that there is now a new catering van parked on the newly created parking bays, taking up two spaces. They are using the upstairs flat at 241 College Road as before, but after I spoke with Gareth Jones in Highways (who was already aware that a catering van had moved onto the site) it is understood that it is a different van/owner from the first two who set up in this area. It is believed they are affiliated with the builder's yard across the road (who also own the flats at 241 College Road).

I spoke with Daniel Cook on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 who agreed to meet on site on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021 with myself and Gareth Jones with a view to having the street designated.



Completed works

Toni Murphy Assistant Regeneration Officer







# Appendix E

On 18 Oct 2021, at 12:19, > wrote:

Hi Dan

I just wanted to give you a update as I'm not sure if where I'm ment to report this.

Friday we had a situation on the road where two vans blocked the road whilst buying the burgers the traffic build up for about 7 minutes and as you can imagine we had horns being honked continuously and people getting out of there cars. To which the van owners thought it was funny to film it all and laugh.

Whilst this was going on my client was parked on the road whilst in the studio with me and came out to having a smashed wing screen!

Many thanks

Original Massage	
Original Message From:	
Sent: 12 October 2021 13:20	
To: Cook, Daniel < <u>Daniel.Cook2@cardiff.gov.uk</u> >	
Subject: Burger van	
Hi Dan	
Unfortunately the burger van situated	has now started using a generator that is
consistently running and causing a lot of noise.	
It can be heard in my house	
	Can anything be done about this.

Many thanks

# Appendix F

# From: Sent: 02 November 2021 16:47

I wish to report a takeaway cafe that would appear to be trading as a 'fixed' concern. For the past month, the van shown in Photo 1 has been parked in a newly created residents parking bay near the junction of College Road and Tynewydd in Whitchurch, Cardiff. It has been permanently parked day and night over this period. The van displays signage on the main College Road to attach customers (Photo 2)

Given that 'proper' cafe traders in Whitchurch and Llandaff North have to pay business rates for their premises, on their behalf, I query whether this van has the appropriate licenses or planning permissions to trade as a static business premises.

The van used to have power cable pulled across the pavement and grass running into the window of the adjacent house but, as you will note in one of the photos, it now has its own power supply installed (Photo 3).

It does not display any food hygiene rating certificate that I could see.

In addition, when I have walked past this catering truck, almost daily, I have never seen the proprietor wearing any face covering whilst serving customers nor does she have any perspex shielding in place. You will also note that there is not signing or observation of social distancing, with customers often leaning on the service shelf very close to the food and the proprietor.

In this current time, it is concerning to see someone who appears to be undermining the business efforts of legitimate cafe traders and is creating a possible health and safety hazard to road users and pedestrians by using a residential lay-by to operate a fixed business from.

I would appreciate an update on any action that you take.

Yours sincerely



From: Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 5:19 pm

Dear Mr Cook

Thank you for the prompt and diligent manner in which you have followed up on my concern over this trader creating a nuisance and possible safety hazard to pedestrians, including school children.

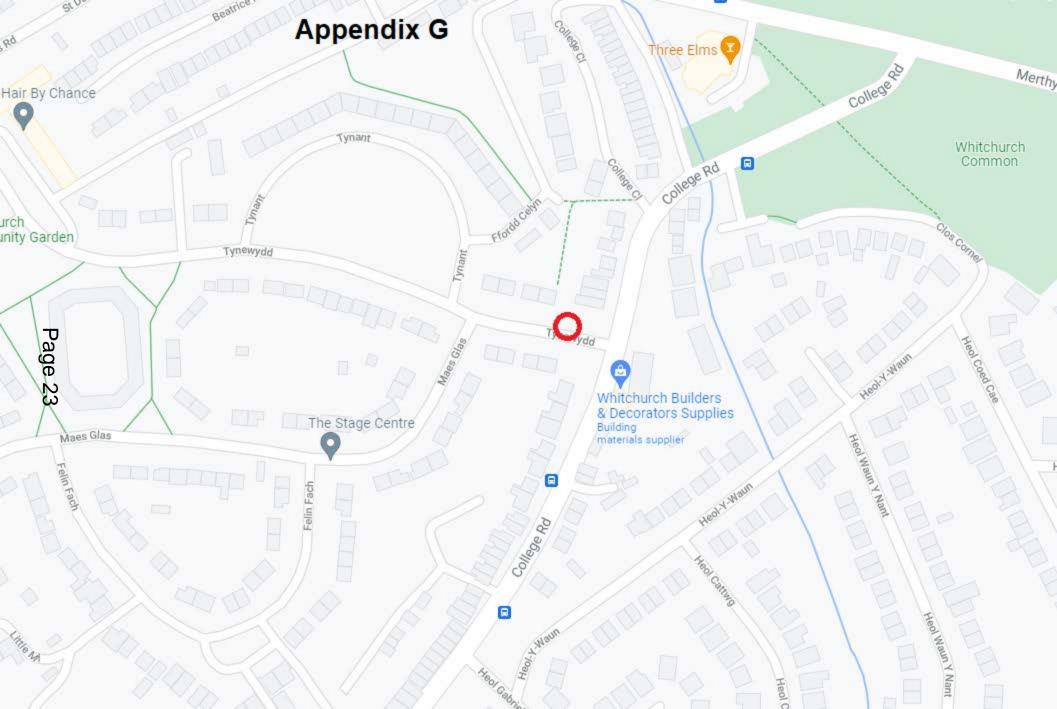
I am glad that you will request that the Public Protection Committee reconsidering their 2015 decision which seems to make no sense at all considering the residential nature of the area concerned nor the siting of this trader:

- a) so close to very busy road junction;
- b) close to pedestrian road crossing (zebra);
- c) creating congestion on a residential road;
- d) potential noise pollution through the use of a generator for nearby houses.

To compound the issue, Cardiff Council have only just built a residential lay-by for local houses so that residents do need to park on the grass verges. The intent of this lay-by is now circumvented by the trader permanently parking their truck in the parking space. All paid for by the ratepayers of Cardiff.

I would suggest that one potential solution is for the highways department to designate this as a residential parking area within the usual hours, as is done for most of the residential areas of Whitchurch. Although the trader might ignore this, at least the traffic wardens could issue parking tickets daily so as to recoup some of the building costs of the lay-by for the Council.

I am very interested in whether the trader is registered as a food business operator and has all the required hygiene certification. Please keep me 'posted' on how this issue is resolved.



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