

clowns, contortionists and even the jugglers have been asked to add the cumbersome item to their costume.

And Goussein Khamdouleav, who

The very essence of circus is risk and excitement. It is a daring and dangerous profession. This is the first time we have been asked to do this

The circus and its insurers were trying to resolve the issue as the Kentish Express went to press.

Open-air dining plan fails

SANDGATE'S 'village green' will remain purely for public use for the time being after a bar restaurant's plans for an open-air dining space were turned down by Shepway Council.

The development control committee made its decision not to allow Gate 28 to put chairs and tables out following considerable opposition from speakers and the public gallery on Tuesday night.

The parcel of land by the fish and chip shop would have been cut in half, with the grass near the road and the benches remaining for the

public. Cllr Susan Carey said: "The space gives the area a real depth and without it you would be perched on the edge of the road."

And Cllr David Callahan added: "I don't see how you can have people eating and not interfere with people sitting on the benches."

Gate 28 has in the past been served with noise abatement notices referred to at the meeting but the plans for the site are limited to closing at 5pm.

It was refused to great applause from the public gallery, packed with Sandgate residents.

Speaking on the day after the meeting, Gate 28's co-owner Justin Terry said he was thinking of appealing.

"I am very, very despondent," he said. "It was my first experience of the process and I thought the clapping and cheering was intimidating - it should be more like a court."

"We had hundreds of people saying what a good idea it would be but when you are for an idea you don't write like you do when you are against one."



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