

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL



31 January 2025

Our Ref Licensing Sub-Committee 17 February
2025
Contact. Committee Services
Direct Dial. (01462) 474655
Email. committee.services@north-herts.gov.uk

To: Members of the Committee: Councillors Amy Allen, Tim Johnson, Bryony May and Stewart Willoughby

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A
MEETING OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE**

to be held in the

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, GERON
ROAD, LETCHWORTH, HERTS, SG6 3JF**

On

MONDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY, 2025 AT 10.00 AM

Yours sincerely,

Jeanette Thompson
Service Director – Legal and Community

****MEMBERS PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU DOWNLOAD ALL AGENDAS AND REPORTS VIA THE MOD.GOV APPLICATION ON YOUR TABLET BEFORE ATTENDING THE MEETING****

Agenda
Part I

Item		Page
1.	ELECTION OF A CHAIR The Sub-Committee Members will elect a Chair for the hearing.	
2.	ELECTION OF A RESERVE MEMBER The Sub-Committee Members will elect the reserve Member for the hearing.	
3.	HEARING PROCEDURE The procedure to be followed by the Chair when conducting the Sub-Committee hearing.	(Pages 3 - 4)
4.	REVIEW OF A PREMISES LICENCE IN RESPECT OF BYGRAVE PLANTATION The Sub-Committee to determine the application by Bygrave Parish Council for a review of the existing premises licence for Bygrave Plantation.	(Pages 5 - 184)

BYGRAVE PLANTATION – PREMISES LICENCE REVIEW HEARING PROCEDURE

Introduction

1. Chair's welcome
2. Introduction of:
 - Councillors sitting on the sub-committee
 - Legal advisor
 - Licensing officer
 - Other Persons instigating the review (Bygrave Parish Council)
 - Other Persons (supporting the review)
 - Other Persons (opposing the review)
 - Premises licence holder (including any representatives)
3. The Chair will outline the procedure for the hearing
4. The Chair will ask the legal advisor to outline the matters for consideration during the course of the hearing

Licensing officer's report

5. The Chair will ask the licensing officer if they have anything to add to their report to the Sub-Committee; if there have been any amendments to the hearing bundle, and if so, if all Other Persons and the premises licence holder have been made aware of the amendments.
6. The Chair will ask if there are any questions of fact of the licensing officer from:
 - Other Persons instigating the review (Bygrave Parish Council)
 - Other Persons (supporting the review)
 - Other Persons (opposing the review)
 - Premises licence holder (including any representatives)
7. The sub-committee may ask questions of the licensing officer

The Other Person requesting the review's case (Bygrave Parish Council)

8. The Chair will ask Bygrave Parish Council to present its submission to the sub-committee
9. The Chair will ask if there are any questions of fact of Bygrave Parish Council from:
 - Other Persons (supporting the review)
 - Other Persons (opposing the review)
 - Premises licence holder (including any representatives)
10. The sub-committee may ask questions of Bygrave Parish Council

The Other Person supporting the review submit their case

11. The Chair will ask the Other Persons (in turn) to present their submissions to the sub-committee
12. The Chair will ask if there are any questions of fact of the Other Persons from:
 - Bygrave Parish Council

- Other Persons (opposing the review)
- Premises licence holder (including any representatives)

13. The sub-committee may ask questions of the Other Persons

The Other Person opposing the review submit their case

14. The Chair will ask the Other Persons (in turn) to present their submissions to the sub-committee

15. The Chair will ask if there are any questions of fact of the Other Persons from:

- Bygrave Parish Council
- Other Persons (supporting the review)
- Premises licence holder (including any representatives)

16. The sub-committee may ask questions of the Other Persons

The premises licence holder submits its case

17. The Chair will ask the premises licence holder (and/or representatives) to present their submissions to the sub-committee

18. The Chair will ask if there are any questions of fact of the premises licence holder from:

- Bygrave Parish Council
- Other Persons (supporting the review)
- Other Persons (opposing the review)

19. The sub-committee may ask questions of the premises licence holder

Closing statements

20. The licensing officer may make final submissions to the sub-committee

21. The Other Persons (supporting the review) may make final submissions to the sub-committee

22. Bygrave Parish Council may make its final submission to the sub-committee

23. The Other Persons (opposing the review) may make final submissions to the sub-committee

24. The premises licence holder (and/or representatives) may make final submissions to the sub-committee

Conclusion of the evidence session

25. The legal advisor will summarise any legal points that have arisen during the hearing and will answer any legal questions from the sub-committee

26. The Chair will adjourn the hearing and retire into private session to consider its determination

Decision

27. The Chair will announce the sub-committee's decision in open session and give reasoning for the decision

28. The Chair will close the hearing

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

17 February 2025

LICENSING ACT 2003

Application by Bygrave Parish Council for the review of a premises licence in respect of Bygrave Plantation, Land Adjacent to 1 Caldecote Road, Newnham, SG7 5JZ

REPORT OF THE LICENSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY MANAGER

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The existing premises licence was granted by the licensing authority on 28 April 2017
- 1.2 The current premises licence, conditions and plan are attached as **Appendix A**.

2. REVIEW APPLICATION

- 2.1 This application is for a review of a premises licence following a request from an Other Person under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act").
- 2.2 An application from Bygrave Parish Council (BPC) for a review was received on the 17 December 2024 and is attached as **Appendix B**. This application was accompanied by supporting information attached as **Appendix C**.
- 2.3 Multiple representations were received regarding the premises covering all four licensing objectives:
 - The prevention of public nuisance
 - Public safety
 - The prevention of crime and disorder
 - The Protection of Children from harm.
- 2.4 As required by the Act, on the 23 December 2024 the licensing authority displayed notices of the review at the premises in accordance with the prescribed regulations. The application was also published on the Council's website on the Licensing Register.

3. CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 3.1 On 17 December 2024, the licensing authority received an application for a review of the premises licence from an Other Person, namely Bygrave Parish Council.
- 3.2 As the application was served electronically, the licensing authority served notice of the application to the premises licence holder and the responsible authorities.
- 3.3 Public notices were displayed on the premises for a period of twenty-eight (28) consecutive days between 23 December 2024 and 20 January 2025 in accordance with the requirements of the Act. Officers visited the premises periodically to ensure that the

notices were continually displayed.

3.4 A newspaper advertisement is not required by the Act for an application for a review.

4. REPRESENTATIONS

4.1 No formal representations were received from any responsible authority.

4.2 Despite not making a formal representation either in support of or against the application, Hertfordshire Constabulary submitted some comments that may assist the sub-committee in understanding the police's position. These comments are attached as **Appendix D**. It is for the sub-committee to determine what weight, if any, to attach to these comments.

4.3 Thirty-two (32) representations were received from Other Persons supporting the review application and are attached as **Appendix E**.

4.4 Thirty-seven (37) representations were received from Other Persons opposing the review application and are attached as **Appendix F**.

4.5 A further (20) representations were received, however these were deemed not relevant as the Other Persons failed to supply a home address. The absence of an address fails to give the licence holder the opportunity to reasonably address the concerns raised. Equally, it would be difficult for the sub-committee to apportion weight without knowing where the Other Persons lived in relation to the premises.

4.6 The Council's Scheme of Delegation requires the licensing officer to determine whether a representation is relevant as specified within the Act.

4.7 Where representations include comments that are not relevant to the Act, these comments have been clearly redacted by the licensing officer and should not be considered as part of the determination process. **Other Persons must not refer to these paragraphs in any oral presentation at the hearing.**

4.8 Where the licensing officer has determined that the representations are relevant, it is for the sub-committee to determine what weight to apportion to each representation.

4.9 The premises licence holder has been served with a copy of all representations by way of this report.

4.10 The applicant for the review, the premises licence holder, the Other Persons making relevant representations have been invited to attend the hearing to present their cases respectively. They have been advised that they may be legally represented and of the hearing procedure.

4.11 This report and all appendices have been published on the Council's website and all hearing invitations required to satisfy paragraph 4.10 above have included a link to the relevant web page.

5. OBSERVATIONS

- 5.1 In determining this application, the sub-committee must have regard to the representations and take such steps as it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
- 5.2 In making its decision, the sub-committee must act with a view to promoting the licensing objectives. It must also have regard to the licensing authority's Statement of Licensing Policy and National Guidance.
- 5.3 The sub-committee has the following options when issuing the Decision Notice:
- i) to take no action;
 - ii) to modify the conditions of the premises licence (modify includes adding new conditions, altering or omitting existing conditions, removing live and recorded music deregulation, or altering permitted timings of licensable activities);
 - iii) to exclude a licensable activity from the premises licence;
 - iv) to remove the designated premises supervisor from the premises licence;
 - v) to suspend the premises licence for a period not exceeding three months; or
 - vi) to revoke the premises licence.

- 5.4 National Guidance Section 11.20 states:

"In deciding which of these powers to invoke, it is expected that licensing authorities should so far as possible seek to establish the cause or causes of the concerns that the representations identify. The remedial action taken should generally be directed at these causes and should always be no more than an appropriate and proportionate response to address the causes of concern that instigated the review."

6. LICENSING POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 The following paragraphs from the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy 2021 – 2026 may be relevant to this application. This section does not prevent the sub-committee from considering other paragraphs of the Statement of Licensing Policy where they deem it appropriate:

B6

Our vision is:

"To ensure that North Hertfordshire continues to offer a diverse range of well managed licensed venues and community and cultural activities within a safe and enjoyable environment, in both the daytime and night-time economy."

B8

The Council encourages greater live music, dance, theatre and other forms of entertainment for the benefit of the community. Where activities require a licence, the Council will seek to balance the potential for disturbance of local residents and businesses against the wider community and cultural benefits.

B10

The Council is aware that those living in the rural communities of the district often do so to enjoy

the quiet of a rural location. **In making a balanced decision, the Council accepts that the level of disturbance that is reasonable in a rural location will be less than in a town centre location.** This could be addressed by reduced licensable activity timings, particularly in the evenings and early mornings, and the frequency of activities. **Whilst a 1-off event may cause some reasonable disturbance, it would be more tolerable than an event lasting multiple days or occurring numerous times throughout the year.** That said, rural public houses and community buildings are often a key part of village life and should not be precluded from being able to offer appropriate activities for the benefit of the rural location.

D2.1

Each licence application will be decided by reference to this policy, the National Guidance issued by the Secretary of State, relevant legislation and to the individual circumstances of the particular application. The Council may depart from the policy where the individual circumstances of any application merit such a decision in the interests of the promotion of the Licensing Objectives. Full reasons will be given for decisions taken by the Council when undertaking its licensing functions.

D2.4

In determining applications, the Council will focus primarily on the direct impact of the proposed activities on persons that may be adversely affected in relation to the licensing objectives. The scope of those persons that may be affected will be determined on a case by case basis taking into account all relevant factors.

D2.5

The Council acknowledges that the licensing process can only seek to impose conditions that are within the direct control of the licence holder. The Council does not consider that the term 'direct control' can be generically defined and will consider its definition relative to the specific circumstances of each application. For example, licensed premises at the end of road leading to a car park may be able to control its patrons leaving the premises and using the car park. In general terms, to be considered to be under the 'direct control' of a licence holder, there will need to be a direct causal link between the problems or likely problems and the specific premises.

D2.6

Where problems with a direct causal link to premises exist in relation to the promotion of the licensing objectives but they cannot be mitigated by the imposition of appropriate conditions, a licensing sub-committee will seriously consider refusal of the application. For example, patrons from a licensed premise that are causing disorder in a town centre after leaving the premises cannot be controlled by conditions, however the problem may be resolved by the refusal of the application or revocation of the licence.

D2.8

The Council recognises that the exercise of its licensing function is only one of a number of means of securing the promotion of the licensing objectives. **The exercise, by the Council, of its licensing function should not be seen as a panacea for all problems within the community.** The Council will encourage co-operation between its licensing function, planning function and environmental health functions to ensure that any problems are addressed using the most appropriate means and that its licensing function does not duplicate any other statutory responsibilities.

D2.9

The Council will carry out its licensing functions in the promotion of the licensing objectives and, in addition, will support the stated aims of the Act which are as follows:

- (i) **protecting the public and local residents from crime, anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance caused by irresponsible licensed premises;**

- (ii) *giving the police and licensing authorities the powers they need to effectively manage and police the night-time economy and take action against those premises that are causing problems;*
- (iii) ***recognising the important role which pubs and other licensed premises play in our local communities by minimising the regulatory burden on business, encouraging innovation and supporting responsible premises;***
- (iv) *providing a regulatory framework for alcohol which reflects the needs of local communities and empowers local authorities to make and enforce decisions about the most appropriate licensing strategies for their local area; and*
- (v) ***encouraging greater community involvement in licensing decisions and giving local residents the opportunity to have their say regarding licensing decisions that may affect them.***

D6.2

The Council recognises that each application must be considered on its own merits and any conditions attached to licences and certificates must be tailored to the individual style and characteristics of the premises and activities concerned. This is essential to avoid the imposition of disproportionate and overly burdensome conditions on premises. A standardised approach to imposing conditions must be avoided and conditions will only be lawful where they are deemed appropriate to promote the licensing objectives in response to relevant representations.

D6.3

Conditions will only be imposed when they are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and will focus upon matters within the control of the individual licensee such as the premises, places or events being used for licensable activities or the surrounding areas of the premises, places or events. Conditions are likely to be focused towards the direct impact of those activities on persons living in, working in or visiting areas affected by, or likely to be affected by, those activities.

D6.8

It is the Council's view that the imposition of conditions should be restricted to those that are proportionate in addressing any concerns in relation to the promotion of the licensing objectives. Conditions should not be used as a tool to attempt to mitigate every possible scenario; this will serve only to place undue burden on applicants and is not consistent with the general principles of the Guidance.

D8.1

The Council recognises the need to encourage and promote live music, dancing and theatre for the wider cultural benefit of the community.

D8.2

Only appropriate, proportionate and reasonable licensing conditions will be imposed on licences so as not to discourage the promotion of entertainment. Conditions will relate to the minimum needed to ensure the promotion of the licensing objectives.

D11.1

Any responsible authority or other person has the right to ask the Council for a review of a premises licence or club premises certificate, using a Government prescribed application form, if they believe that one or more of the four licensing objectives are not being met. At a review hearing, the options available to the licensing sub-committee are:

- (i) *to take no action;*
- (ii) *to modify the conditions of the licence;*
- (iii) *to exclude one or more licensable activities from the scope of the licence;*
- (iv) *to remove the designated premises supervisor;*
- (v) *to suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months; or*

(vi) to revoke the licence

D11.9

NHDC's Environmental Protection & Housing Team, the designated responsible authority leading on public nuisance, may request a review in order to address the licensing objective of prevention of public nuisance when other control measures are unsuccessful or inappropriate, or in situations where a premises is continually causing issues, for example following the serving of a noise abatement notice.

D14.1

Whilst the Council acknowledges that protection of the environment is not a licensing objective **therefore not a relevant consideration in the decision-making process**, it has declared a climate emergency and expects applicants to make every effort to protect the environment.

E1.2.3

The Council expects responsible licence holders at premises where problems with controlled substances exist, or where there is a high risk of such issues, to have a written controlled substance policy with appropriate training given to all employees.

E2.1

The Council recognises that the public safety objective is concerned with the physical safety of the people using the relevant premises and not with public health, which is dealt with in other legislation. Physical safety includes the prevention of accidents and injuries and other immediate harms that can result from alcohol consumption such as unconsciousness or alcohol poisoning.

E3.1.1

Licensed premises may have significant potential to impact adversely on communities through public nuisances that arise from their operation. The Council interprets 'public nuisance' in its widest sense and takes it to include such things as noise, light, odour, litter and anti-social behaviour, where matters arising at licensed premises impact on those living, working or otherwise engaged in activities in the locality. Ordinarily, the Council's Environmental Protection & Housing Team, in their role as a responsible authority, would take the lead in respect of nuisance issues.

E3.1.2

Despite the wide interpretation of public nuisance, the Council does not consider this objective to apply to matters where there is other suitable legislative provision for example, but not limited to:

- **welfare of animals**
- **conservation areas**
- **flora and fauna**

E3.8.1

Measures to prevent a public nuisance may include:

- entering into a waste contract agreement (including appropriate recycling provision);
- provision of external litter bins for customers;
- regular litter picks in the immediate surrounding area of the premises.

E3.8.2

The Council is aware that it would be unreasonable and disproportionate to require licence holders to be responsible for littering associated with their products when patrons have gone beyond their control. The Council will, however, expect licence holders to take responsibility for ensuring that the immediate surrounding area is regularly cleared of litter associated with their business operation.

E3.8.3

Whilst accepting that littering beyond the control of a licence holder cannot be controlled by licence conditions, litter constituting a public nuisance under the Licensing Act 2003 may still require the licensing authority to restrict opening times or ultimately suspend or revoke a licence where the nuisance directly attributable to that premises cannot be appropriately mitigated.

E3.9.1

The Council is fully aware of the nuisance that can be caused by poorly managed or inappropriately located premises, however, will seek to strike an appropriate balance with its vision of promoting a diverse and vibrant daytime and night-time economy.

E3.9.3

Should disturbance from licensed premises become unreasonable, **any review proceedings will seek to impose suitable control measures in the first instance**. Should control measures prove ineffective or are deemed inappropriate then the restriction of licensable activity timings, removal of licensable activities, suspension or revocation of the licence will be seriously considered.

E4.1

The Council recognises that the protection of children from harm objective relates primarily to children accessing or using licensed premises, or being exposed to activities taking place without having to access the premises (for example, underage alcohol sales, exposure to performances or advertising of an adult nature whether within or outside a premises).

F2.1

There are many references throughout this policy to the term 'appropriate'. The Act states at section 18(3)(b) that when relevant representations are received the licensing sub-committee has to consider what steps "it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives".

F2.2

There is no current legal definition of the term appropriate, however the Guidance states:

9.43

The authority's determination should be evidence-based, justified as being appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and proportionate to what it is intended to achieve.

9.44

Determination of whether an action or step is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives requires an assessment of what action or step would be suitable to achieve that end. Whilst this does not therefore require a licensing authority to decide that no lesser step will achieve the aim, the authority should aim to consider the potential burden that the condition would impose on the premises licence holder (such as the financial burden due to restrictions on licensable activities) as well as the potential benefit in terms of the promotion of the licensing objectives. However, it is imperative that the authority ensures that the factors which form the basis of its determination are limited to consideration of the promotion of the objectives and nothing outside those parameters. As with the consideration of licence variations, the licensing authority should consider wider issues such as other conditions already in place to mitigate potential negative impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives and the track record of the business. Further advice on determining what is appropriate when imposing conditions on a licence or certificate is provided in Chapter 10. The licensing authority is expected to come to its determination based on an assessment of the evidence on both the risks and benefits either for or against making the determination.

F2.3

The Council anticipates that, in due course, case law will provide clarity on the meaning of 'appropriate'. Until such time that the courts make a judgement the Council will give 'appropriate'

its ordinary meaning as expanded on by paragraphs 9.39 and 9.40 of the Guidance, subject to the over-arching requirement that determinations should be reasonable and proportionate.

F2.4

Case law has defined 'proportionate' as generally requiring a four-step test, namely:

- *there must be a legitimate aim for a measure;*
- *the measure must be suitable to achieve the aim;*
- *the measure must be necessary to achieve the aim (that there cannot be any less onerous way of achieving it); and*
- *the measure must be reasonable, considering competing interests.*

The Council is aware that their determinations must be proportionate to the evidence received in respect of an application and will have regard to this definition. F2.5 The Council acknowledges that proportionality is a key factor in assisting with the definition of 'appropriate'.

F4.1

In order to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes the Council will not, as far as reasonably possible, attach conditions to licences unless they are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and inadequately covered by other legislation. Ordinarily, conditions will be considered unnecessary if they are already adequately covered by other legislation.

F4.3

Notwithstanding the above, it is the responsibility of the applicants to ensure that they have all necessary consents, whether statutory or otherwise, and it should not be assumed that an authorisation under the Licensing Act 2003 removes this responsibility.

F4.4

The decision of one statutory authority (for example, the licensing authority or the planning authority) is no indication of the likely decision of the other. Indeed, statutory authorities may make representations to each other under each authority's legislation.

F5.1

Planning and licensing are two entirely separate processes and neither authority is bound by a decision of the other. *Planning is predominately a decision about what the premises can be used for in relation to local amenity, whilst licensing is predominately a decision about what activities can be provided and how that premises is managed.*

F5.5

The planning authority is a responsible authority under the Act and can make representations on applications, however it can only make representations in respect of the licensing objectives. Nuisance and crime and disorder are shared concerns of both regimes and may attract representations under both processes. Concerns that relate to the character of an area and local amenity but fall short of being a public nuisance are outside the scope of the licensing objectives and are matters solely for the planning authority.

F5.6

The absence of lawful planning use is not a matter for the licensing function. *Although the planning status may be brought to the attention of officers and the licensing sub-committee, the absence of lawful planning use is a matter for the planning authority.*

F8.1

The Council acknowledges that conditions cannot be imposed on an authorisation where it would be either impracticable or impossible for the licence holder to comply with such conditions when customers have left the premises and are beyond the control of the licence holder.

F8.2

That said, if behaviour of customers beyond the control of the licence holder can be causally linked to a specific premises and it is causing crime and disorder or a nuisance it is wrong to assume that the Act cannot address this; section 4 of the Act gives the Council a positive duty to deal with it proportionately. Whilst conditions would be inappropriate in these scenarios, the Council is strongly of the view that activities and/or operating times of an authorisation should be restricted, or an authorisation refused or revoked, where appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

Examples of behaviour falling within this paragraph include, but are not limited to:

- noise associated with customers once they have left the premises*
- anti-social behaviour of customers such as unlawful parking, criminal damage, intimidatory behaviour, or any alcohol-related criminality*

G2.1

Occasional and/or large scale events can be authorised by a one-off, a time-specific, or a permanent licence/certificate. Applicants are encouraged to seek advice on the most appropriate type of application from the Council's licensing team.

G2.2

These events have significant potential to considerably undermine the promotion of the licensing objectives, due to their sheer size, complexity and the potential implications for the planning of a safe event. The Council strongly believes that this risk can only be adequately mitigated by the early submission of an up to date and detailed operating schedule that is specific to the proposed event on each separate occasion.

G2.3

The Council acknowledges that it is inherent in the Act that responsible authorities and other persons should be given the opportunity to make representations related to the nature of the individual event which is planned. The potential for adverse effects on the promotion of the licensing objectives can vary significantly between events, even when similar events are held on a regular basis. In order to support the promotion of the licensing objectives, the Council believes that responsible authorities have a role in ensuring the safety of every large-scale event, in particular when annual or multiple events are held under a single permanent premises licence.

G2.4

Additionally, the Council's Enforcement Policy may be less effective because of the short duration and occasional nature of these events. The Council's incremental and proportionate response to problems arising may not be as effective in resolving issues on an occasional and irregular basis, particularly with changing event personnel. This paragraph should not be construed as meaning that the Enforcement Policy does not apply, or will not be applied, to large scale events.

G2.5

Whilst the Council acknowledges the applicant's right to submit a one-off or time specific licence/certificate application, it encourages applicants to submit an application for a permanent licence/certificate. This provides the applicant with the flexibility of a licence that would allow the submission of an up to date and detailed operating schedule on each occasion the event is to be held, but safeguards the rights of responsible authorities and other persons to hold the licence/certificate holder to account by way of an application for a review.

G5.1

In addition to encouraging applicants for occasional/annual events to apply for a permanent premises licence, the Council actively encourages applicants to build flexibility into their operating schedules. This allows for the event to evolve and incorporate best practice without undo restrictions on the management of the event and the site layout.

G5.2

The Council recommends an operating schedule that contains basic management control conditions that would apply from event to event but with the majority of event management details to be incorporated into an Event Management Plan (EMP). One of the basic management control conditions can then link the final EMP to the operating schedule making it an enforceable operating schedule condition.

G5.3

The content of the EMP can be defined by an operating schedule condition, ordinarily under generic headings, with any specific requirement of a responsible authority included as subheadings. Varying timescales for each responsible authority and the provision of specified information can be incorporated within the EMP ensuring flexibility for the licence holder to develop the event and react to evolving issues such as ground/weather conditions or the availability of products/service providers.

G5.4

The Council encourages an applicant to include an operating schedule condition stating required timescales for the issue of a draft EMP and the final EMP, ideally a specified number of days prior to the commencement of event build-up on site or the opening of the event to the public. This condition should also include any consequence of the failure to meet this requirement, for example, certain licensable activities are not permitted until compliance has been achieved or the event will not be permitted without the express approval of the licensing authority.

G5.5

This type of EMP operating schedule condition (in effect a 'promise to provide' licence) allows the applicant flexibility to amend the details and layout for each event without the need to vary the premises licence whilst maintaining suitable control measures for the responsible authorities and the Council to ensure the promotion of the licensing objectives. As the EMP would be attached as a licence condition, failure to comply with its content would render the licence holder liable for operating otherwise than under an authorisation (section 136 of the Act).

G5.6

The Council has encouraged this type of event premises licence for a number of years leading to successful annual events at venues such as Knebworth Park and recommends applicants to enter into pre-application discussions at the earliest opportunity to explore the suitability of this option.

G6.6.1

Large numbers of event attendees give rise to pressures on local transport networks, particularly main and local roads, railway stations and taxi provision. The Council expects applicants to liaise with local transport providers, having assessed their target audience profile, and address any transport concerns within the operating schedule or EMP.

G6.6.2

For events that will have a significant impact on the local road/railway network, applicants should give serious consideration to including a Transport Management Plan (TMP) as part of their operating schedule or EMP. Where appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives, the Council may consider imposing a condition requiring a TMP to be agreed with the police in advance of the event.

G6.6.3

Where large numbers are expected to use local transport venues, such as railway stations, the Council considers these venues as areas that are causally linked to the event and within the licence holder's control. Where appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives, the

Council may consider imposing conditions in relation to the provision of security at local transport venues to control event patrons.

G6.6.6

Additionally, due to the causal link between the venue and the large number of pedestrians attending, the Council may consider imposing conditions relating to the stewarding of pedestrian routes where appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

G7.6.1

The Council expects premises licence holders and applicants to undertake a public safety risk assessment to ensure the safety of persons using their premises. The assessment should consider issues such as, but not limited to:

- (i) safe capacities in identifiable areas of the event site, including camping and car parking, that can be evacuated quickly in the case of emergency;*
- (ii) policies in relation to ingress, re-admission and egress, particularly control of capacities, queuing and safe dispersal from the locality;*
- (iii) policies in relation to securing the safety of patrons whilst at the event, including camping and car parking; and*
- (iv) sufficient on-site medical provision, including procedures for contacting the emergency services.*

G8.2.1

Large scale outdoor events have significant potential to impact adversely on communities through public nuisance that may arise from their operation, in particular in relation to noise from live or recorded music. The Council expects applicants to seek early engagement with NHDC's Environmental Protection & Housing Team when preparing an operating schedule.

G8.2.2

Where the applicant's operating schedule does not fully address concerns in relation to the prevention of public nuisance objective, NHDC's Environmental Protection & Housing Team will initially request the applicant to volunteer additional conditions to avoid the need for a representation. Example conditions specific to large scale outdoor events are included in the attached appendix of model conditions to assist applicants with the wording of suitable conditions. The applicant is under no obligation to agree to the suggested conditions if they believe they are not appropriate or proportionate to the application. If the applicant does not wish to volunteer the suggested conditions then a representation is likely and the matter will be referred to a licensing sub-committee for determination.

G8.3.1

This may include noise from live or recorded music, human voices (both amplified and unamplified) and other forms of entertainment (i.e. playing of films). Measures to prevent a public nuisance may include:

- restrictions on the number of days that entertainment is held during an event;*
- restrictions on the timings and types of entertainment, including sound propagation testing and pre-event sound checks;*
- limiting the overall front of house sound levels including, where appropriate, limiting specific frequencies;*
- suitably located and orientated stages to minimise the potential for noise nuisance;*
- limiting the number of stages and/or sound sources that can be used for the provision of entertainment at any one time;*
- use of noise control measures, for example directional sound systems, noise limiting devices and acoustic barriers or enclosures;*
- employing a competent noise consultant to plan and implement noise control measures before and during the event.*

G8.3.2

The Council is aware that the potential for noise nuisance must be proportionately balanced against the benefits to the community and each application must be determined on its individual merits. That said, the Council will give additional weight to concerns where an event has the potential to affect a large number of the public (for example, multiple communities such as neighbouring towns and/or villages).

G8.7.1

The Council believes that an applicant's responsibility for litter directly associated with an event is not confined to the event site itself. Where an event has a clearly identifiable pedestrian access (for example, a direct route between the event site and a railway station) or utilises an identifiable transport venue (for example, a railway station or car parking site), the Council expects the applicant to identify in the operating schedule or EMP what measures they will use to ensure the prevention of public nuisance for those routes and/or venues.

G8.7.2

Measures to prevent a public nuisance may include:

- *entering into waste contract agreements with appropriate recycling provision;*
- *provision of litter bins adequate for the size and nature of the event;*
- *provision of rubbish bags for non-day ticket holders (i.e. campers);*
- *regular litter picks in the identified vicinity, on access routes and on associated transport venues*

G8.8.2

A NMP gives maximum flexibility for an applicant to adapt the measures required for managing any potential noise nuisance from an event by reacting to amended site plans, differing artist profiles, weather conditions, etc.. It removes the need for inflexible fixed noise levels on a premises licence and allows the applicant to work with environmental protection officers to ensure the most appropriate controls are applied proportionately for each event.

G11.1

*North Hertfordshire contains many conservation areas and has diverse flora and fauna, particularly in its rural areas. Whilst the Council wishes to protect flora and fauna, **it is not a matter to be considered as part of the licensing process.***

G11.2

*The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 ("the 1981 Act") is the primary legislation that protects flora, fauna and habitats and the Licensing Act 2003 **should not seek to replicate existing legislative provisions.***

G11.3

The applicant/licence holder has a duty to comply with the requirements of the 1981 Act in addition to any licence granted under the Licensing Act 2003.

H2.1

Whilst the Council accepts that NH SAG has no statutory role within the licensing regime and the responsibility for organising and managing a safe event lies with the event organiser, it strongly believes that NH SAG can provide invaluable experience and advice to applicants.

H2.2

This policy encourages early discussions between applicants and the responsible authorities prior to the submission of an application and the NH SAG offers applicants access to a wide range of experience and knowledge. This facility is of particular assistance to applicants where an EMP is

required as a licence condition. **NH SAG can meet regularly with the applicant to review an EMP throughout its development, offering further advice and support where appropriate.**

O1.1

The Council accepts that it can only consider matters in relation to the four licensing objectives when determining licensing applications, however as a public body it also has a statutory duty to consider the following legislative requirements:

- (i) Crime and Disorder Act 1998
Local authorities are required to have due regard to the crime and disorder implications of any decision it makes.
- (ii) Human Rights Act 1998
Local authorities are required to implement the Act in a manner consistent with the Human Rights Act 1998 by giving due consideration to the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.
- (iii) Equality Act 2010
Local authorities are required to implement the Act in a manner consistent with its responsibilities to consider the equality implications of any decision it makes.

O2.2

Any licence/certificate is issued without prejudice to any other consent, licence, approval or other authorisation required by other functions or responsibilities of the Council or any other statutory body. The possession of a licence/certificate under the Act does not supersede or replace any other statutory provision.

O3.2

Affected persons may choose to be represented at a licensing hearing by their local councillor who can speak on their behalf, providing the affected person has made a representation. Equally, a local councillor can make a representation on behalf of the community that they represent.

O3.4

Any representation from a local councillor, whether in his/her own right or on behalf of the community, will be considered and apportioned weight in exactly the same way as any other representation. Additional weight will not be given for the sole reason of being a local councillor or a member of the licensing committee

O4.2.5

Representations that do not contain a genuine name and postal address will not be considered as relevant representations by the Council.

O4.5.2

Representations, including names and addresses, are included in the reports considered by licensing sub-committees which are publicly available documents.

7. RELEVANT EXTRACTS OF STATUTORY GUIDANCE

- 7.1 The following paragraphs from the Guidance issued by the Home Office under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (December 2023 version) may be relevant to this application. This section does not prevent the sub-committee from considering other paragraphs of the Guidance where they deem it appropriate, and the determination should be based upon consideration of the full document:

1.3

The licensing objectives are:

- *The prevention of crime and disorder;*
- *Public safety;*
- *The prevention of public nuisance; and*
- *The protection of children from harm.*

1.4

Each objective is of equal importance. There are no other statutory licensing objectives, so that the promotion of the four objectives is always a paramount consideration.

1.5

However, the legislation also supports a number of other key aims and purposes. These are vitally important and should be principal aims for everyone involved in licensing work. They include:

- ***protecting the public and local residents from crime, anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance caused by irresponsible licensed premises;***
- *giving the police and licensing authorities the powers they need to effectively manage and police the night-time economy and take action against those premises that are causing problems;*
- ***recognising the important role which pubs and other licensed premises play in our local communities by minimising the regulatory burden on business, encouraging innovation and supporting responsible premises;***
- *providing a regulatory framework for alcohol which reflects the needs of local communities and empowers local authorities to make and enforce decisions about the most appropriate licensing strategies for their local area; and*
- ***encouraging greater community involvement in licensing decisions and giving local residents the opportunity to have their say regarding licensing decisions that may affect them.***

1.17

Each application must be considered on its own merits and in accordance with the licensing authority's statement of licensing policy; for example, if the application falls within the scope of a cumulative impact policy. Conditions attached to licences and certificates must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. This is essential to avoid the imposition of disproportionate and overly burdensome conditions on premises where there is no need for such conditions. Standardised conditions should be avoided and indeed may be unlawful where they cannot be shown to be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in an individual case.

1.19

While licence conditions should not duplicate other statutory provisions, licensing authorities and licensees should be mindful of requirements and responsibilities placed on them by other legislation. Legislation which may be relevant includes:

- *The Gambling Act 2005*
- *The Environmental Protection Act 1990*
- *The Noise Act 1996*
- *The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environmental Act 2005*
- *The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005*
- *The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974*
- *The Equality Act 2010*
- *The Immigration Act 2016*
- *Regulators' Code under the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006*

2.1

Licensing authorities should look to the police as the main source of advice on crime and disorder. They should also seek to involve the local Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

2.9

A number of matters should be considered in relation to public safety. These may include:

- *Fire safety;*
- *Ensuring appropriate access for emergency services such as ambulances;*
- *Good communication with local authorities and emergency services, for example communications networks with the police and signing up for local incident alerts*
- *Ensuring the presence of trained first aiders on the premises and appropriate first aid kits;*
- ***Ensuring the safety of people when leaving the premises (for example, through the provision of information on late-night transportation);***
- *Ensuring appropriate and frequent waste disposal, particularly of glass bottles;*
- *Ensuring appropriate limits on the maximum capacity of the premises; and*
- *Considering the use of CCTV in and around the premises*

2.16

Licence holders should make provision to ensure that premises users safely leave their premises.

Measures that may assist include:

- *Providing information on the premises of local taxi companies who can provide safe transportation home; and*
- *Ensuring adequate lighting outside the premises, particularly on paths leading to and from the premises and in car parks*

2.21

The 2003 Act enables licensing authorities and responsible authorities, through representations, to consider what constitutes public nuisance and what is appropriate to prevent it in terms of conditions attached to specific premises licences and club premises certificates. It is therefore important that in considering the promotion of this licensing objective, licensing authorities and responsible authorities focus on the effect of the licensable activities at the specific premises on persons living and working (including those carrying on business) in the area around the premises which may be disproportionate and unreasonable. The issues will mainly concern noise nuisance, light pollution, noxious smells and litter.

2.22

Public nuisance is given a statutory meaning in many pieces of legislation. It is however not narrowly defined in the 2003 Act and retains its broad common law meaning. It may include in appropriate circumstances the reduction of the living and working amenity and environment of other persons living and working in the area of the licensed premises. Public nuisance may also arise as a result of the adverse effects of artificial light, dust, odour and insects or where its effect is prejudicial to health.

2.23

Conditions relating to noise nuisance will usually concern steps appropriate to control the levels of noise emanating from premises. This might be achieved by a simple measure such as ensuring that doors and windows are kept closed after a particular time, or persons are not permitted in garden areas of the premises after a certain time. More sophisticated measures like the installation of acoustic curtains or rubber speaker mounts to mitigate sound escape from the premises may be appropriate. However, conditions in relation to live or recorded music may not be enforceable in circumstances where the entertainment activity itself is not licensable (see chapter 16). Any conditions appropriate to promote the prevention of public nuisance should be tailored to the type, nature and characteristics of the specific premises and its licensable activities. Licensing authorities should avoid inappropriate or disproportionate measures that could deter events that are valuable to the community, such as live music. Noise limiters, for example, are expensive to purchase and install and are likely to be a considerable burden for smaller venues.

2.24

As with all conditions, those relating to noise nuisance may not be appropriate in certain circumstances where provisions in other legislation adequately protect those living in the area of the premises. But as stated earlier in this Guidance, the approach of licensing authorities and responsible authorities should be one of prevention and when their powers are engaged, licensing authorities should be aware of the fact that other legislation may not adequately cover concerns raised in relevant representations and additional conditions may be appropriate.

2.25

Where applications have given rise to representations, any appropriate conditions should normally focus on the most sensitive periods. For example, the most sensitive period for people being disturbed by unreasonably loud music is at night and into the early morning when residents in adjacent properties may be attempting to go to sleep or are sleeping. This is why there is still a need for a licence for performances of live music between 11 pm and 8 am. In certain circumstances, conditions relating to noise emanating from the premises may also be appropriate to address any disturbance anticipated as customers enter and leave.

2.26

Measures to control light pollution will also require careful thought. Bright lighting outside premises which is considered appropriate to prevent crime and disorder may itself give rise to light pollution for some neighbours. Applicants, licensing authorities and responsible authorities will need to balance these issues.

2.27

Beyond the immediate area surrounding the premises, these are matters for the personal responsibility of individuals under the law. An individual who engages in anti-social behaviour is accountable in their own right. However, it would be perfectly reasonable for a licensing authority to impose a condition, following relevant representations, that requires the licence holder or club to place signs at the exits from the building encouraging patrons to be quiet until they leave the area, or that, if they wish to smoke, to do so at designated places on the premises instead of outside, and to respect the rights of people living nearby to a peaceful night.

2.28

The protection of children from harm includes the protection of children from moral, psychological and physical harm. This includes not only protecting children from the harms associated directly with alcohol consumption but also wider harms such as exposure to strong language and sexual expletives (for example, in the context of exposure to certain films or adult entertainment). Licensing authorities must also consider the need to protect children from sexual exploitation when undertaking licensing functions.

8.13

As well as responsible authorities, any other person can play a role in a number of licensing processes under the 2003 Act. This includes any individual, body or business entitled to make representations to licensing authorities in relation to applications for the grant, variation, minor variation or review of premises licences and club premises certificates, regardless of their geographic proximity to the premises. In addition, these persons may themselves seek a review of a premises licence. Any representations made by these persons must be 'relevant', in that the representation relates to one or more of the licensing objectives. It must also not be considered by the licensing authority to be frivolous or vexatious. In the case of applications for reviews, there is an additional requirement that the grounds for the review should not be considered by the licensing authority to be repetitious.

8.14

While any of these persons may act in their own right, they may also request that a representative makes the representation to the licensing authority on their behalf. A representative may include a legal representative, a friend, a Member of Parliament, a Member of the Welsh Government, or a local ward or parish councillor who can all act in such a capacity.

9.12

Each responsible authority will be an expert in their respective field, and in some cases it is likely that a particular responsible authority will be the licensing authority's main source of advice in relation to a particular licensing objective. For example, the police have a key role in managing the night-time economy and should have good working relationships with those operating in their local area. The police should usually therefore be the licensing authority's main source of advice on matters relating to the promotion of the crime and disorder licensing objective. However, any responsible authority under the 2003 Act may make representations with regard to any of the licensing objectives if they have evidence to support such representations. Licensing authorities must therefore consider all relevant representations from responsible authorities carefully, even where the reason for a particular responsible authority's interest or expertise in the promotion of a particular objective may not be immediately apparent. However, it remains incumbent on all responsible authorities to ensure that their representations can withstand the scrutiny to which they would be subject at a hearing.

9.30

The licensing authority may also decide to withhold some or all of the person's personal details from the applicant, giving only minimal details (such as street name or general location within a street). However, withholding such details should only be considered where the circumstances justify such action.

9.42

Licensing authorities are best placed to determine what actions are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in their areas. All licensing determinations should be considered on a case-by-case basis. They should take into account any representations or objections that have been received from responsible authorities or other persons, and representations made by the applicant or premises user as the case may be.

9.43

The authority's determination should be evidence-based, justified as being appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and proportionate to what it is intended to achieve.

9.44

*Determination of whether an action or step is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives requires an assessment of what action or step would be suitable to achieve that end. While this does not therefore require a licensing authority to decide that no lesser step will achieve the aim, **the authority should aim to consider the potential burden that the condition would impose on the premises licence holder (such as the financial burden due to restrictions on licensable activities) as well as the potential benefit in terms of the promotion of the licensing objectives. However, it is imperative that the authority ensures that the factors which form the basis of its determination are limited to consideration of the promotion of the objectives and nothing outside those parameters.** As with the consideration of licence variations, the licensing authority should consider wider issues such as other conditions already in place to mitigate potential negative impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives and the track record of the business. Further advice on determining what is appropriate when imposing conditions on a licence or certificate is provided in Chapter 10. **The licensing authority is expected to come to its determination based on an assessment of the evidence on both the risks and benefits either for or against making the determination.***

10.8

The licensing authority may not impose any conditions unless its discretion has been exercised following receipt of relevant representations and it is satisfied as a result of a hearing (unless all parties agree a hearing is not necessary) that it is appropriate to impose conditions to promote one or more of the four licensing objectives. In order to promote the crime prevention licensing objective conditions may be included that are aimed at preventing illegal working in licensed premises. This provision also applies to minor variations.

10.9

It is possible that in some cases no additional conditions will be appropriate to promote the licensing objectives.

10.10

The 2003 Act requires that licensing conditions should be tailored to the size, type, location and characteristics and activities taking place at the premises concerned.

*Conditions should be determined on a case-by-case basis and standardised conditions which ignore these individual aspects should be avoided. For example, conditions should not be used to implement a general policy in a given area such as the use of CCTV, polycarbonate drinking vessels or identity scanners where they would not be appropriate to the specific premises. Conditions that are considered appropriate for the prevention of illegal working in premises licensed to sell alcohol or late night refreshment might include requiring a premises licence holder to undertake right to work checks on all staff employed at the licensed premises or requiring that evidence of a right to work check, either physical or digital (e.g. copy of any document checked or a clear copy of the online right to work check) is retained at the licensed premises. Licensing authorities may also wish to consider placing additional conditions on licences to safeguard patrons against spiking, if deemed appropriate and proportionate for a specific venue where there is evidence to justify such action (a definition of spiking can be found in para 2.7). Licensing authorities and other responsible authorities should be alive to the indirect costs that can arise because of conditions. These could be a deterrent to holding events that are valuable to the community or for the funding of good and important causes. **Licensing authorities should therefore ensure that any conditions they impose are only those which are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.***

10.18

Licensing authorities should publicise the need for the organisers of major festivals and carnivals to approach them at the earliest opportunity to discuss arrangements for licensing activities falling under the 2003 Act. For some events, the organisers may seek a single premises licence to cover a wide range of activities at varied locations within the premises. This would involve the preparation of a substantial operating schedule, and licensing authorities should offer advice and assistance about its preparation.

11.10

Where authorised persons and responsible authorities have concerns about problems identified at premises, it is good practice for them to give licence holders early warning of their concerns and the need for improvement, and where possible they should advise the licence or certificate holder of the steps they need to take to address those concerns. A failure by the holder to respond to such warnings is expected to lead to a decision to apply for a review. Co-operation at a local level in promoting the licensing objectives should be encouraged and reviews should not be used to undermine this co-operation.

11.17

The licensing authority may decide that the review does not require it to take any further steps appropriate to promoting the licensing objectives. In addition, there is nothing to prevent a licensing authority issuing an informal warning to the licence holder and/or to recommend improvement within a particular period of time. It is expected that licensing authorities will regard

such informal warnings as an important mechanism for ensuring that the licensing objectives are effectively promoted and that warnings should be issued in writing to the licence holder.

11.19

Where the licensing authority considers that action under its statutory powers is appropriate, it may take any of the following steps:

- modify the conditions of the premises licence (which includes adding new conditions or any alteration or omission of an existing condition), for example, by reducing the hours of opening or by requiring door supervisors at particular times;*
- exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence, for example, to exclude the performance of live music or playing of recorded music (where it is not within the incidental live and recorded music exemption);*
- remove the designated premises supervisor, for example, because they consider that the problems are the result of poor management;*
- suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;*
- revoke the licence.*

11.20

In deciding which of these powers to invoke, it is expected that licensing authorities should so far as possible seek to establish the cause or causes of the concerns that the representations identify. The remedial action taken should generally be directed at these causes and should always be no more than an appropriate and proportionate response to address the causes of concern that instigated the review.

11.23

*Licensing authorities should also note that modifications of conditions and exclusions of licensable activities may be imposed either permanently or for a temporary period of up to three months. Temporary changes or suspension of the licence for up to three months could impact on the business holding the licence financially and would only be expected to be pursued as an appropriate means of promoting the licensing objectives or preventing illegal working. So, for instance, a licence could be suspended for a weekend as a means of deterring the holder from allowing the problems that gave rise to the review to happen again. However, it will always be important that any detrimental financial impact that may result from a licensing authority's decision is appropriate and proportionate to the promotion of the licensing objectives and for the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises. **But where premises are found to be trading irresponsibly, the licensing authority should not hesitate, where appropriate to do so, to take tough action to tackle the problems at the premises and, where other measures are deemed insufficient, to revoke the licence.***

13.10

It is important that a licensing authority gives comprehensive reasons for its decisions in anticipation of any appeals. Failure to give adequate reasons could itself give rise to grounds for an appeal. It is particularly important that reasons should also address the extent to which the decision has been made with regard to the licensing authority's statement of policy and this Guidance. Reasons should be promulgated to all the parties of any process which might give rise to an appeal under the terms of the 2003 Act.

8. LICENSING OFFICER COMMENTS

- 8.1 The comments within this section of the report are provided by the licensing officer to assist the sub-committee with the interpretation of the Act, the Guidance and existing case law. It is for the sub-committee to determine what weight they attach to this advice.

Case law

- 8.2 As the Guidance confirms, public nuisance under the Licensing Act 2003 has a wide interpretation and it is for the Sub-Committee to determine, based on the evidence, whether they consider these issues to be a public nuisance.
- 8.3 The Guidance states at paragraph 2.20 that conditions relating to public nuisance beyond the vicinity of the premises are not appropriate and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy supports that view. Conditions that it would be either impracticable or impossible for the licence holder to control would clearly be inappropriate.
- 8.4 That said, if behaviour beyond the premises can be clearly linked to a premises and it is causing a public nuisance, it is wrong to say that the Licensing Act 2003 cannot address this. Whilst conditions may well be inappropriate, if the evidence deems it necessary, times and/or activities under the licence could be restricted or, indeed, the application could be refused, suspended or revoked.
- 8.5 The magistrates court case of *Kouttis v London Borough of Enfield*, 9th September 2011 considered this issue.
- 8.6 In a summary of the case provided by the Institute of Licensing it is reported that District Judge Daber considered an appeal against a decision of the local authority to restrict the hours of musical entertainment of a public house to mitigate the noise from patrons as they left the premises in response to representations from local residents. The appellant relied on the sections of the Guidance that state that "beyond the vicinity of the premises, these are matters for personal responsibility of individuals under the law. An individual who engages in anti-social behaviour is accountable in their own right" (para 2.24). It was also suggested that, given that certain residents were not disturbed, this did not amount to public nuisance within the meaning of para 2.19 of the Guidance as approved by Burton J in the Hope and Glory case.
- 8.7 The District Judge held that there was ample evidence of public nuisance relating to the specific premises, and that section 4 of the Act gave the licensing authority a positive duty to deal with it proportionately. In this case, no less interventionist way of dealing with the nuisance had been suggested. He held that not only was the authority not wrong, but that it was in fact right to reduce the hours as it had. The appeal was therefore dismissed.
- 8.8 Whilst this was a magistrates court case and not binding on other courts, the District Judge's ruling is a persuasive argument of how the higher courts could view this matter.

Evidence not to consider

- 8.9 Where officers have decided that parts of a representation are not relevant within the narrow confines of the Act, those sections have been redacted and cannot be read. These sections must not be referred to during the hearing and the sub-committee do not have the delegation to change the officer's decision on this matter.
- 8.10 The following sections explain why the main redactions have been made for transparency.

- 8.11 National Statutory Guidance makes it clear that planning and licensing are two independent regulatory regimes that consider different remits. For that reason, lack of planning permission or planning permission breaches are not a matter that can be considered as part of the determination of this application.
- 8.12 The determination of a licensing application is restricted to the narrow remit of the four licensing objectives and cannot consider anything that falls outside of these. Equally, National Statutory Guidance states that licensing sub-committees shouldn't seek to duplicate other existing statutory requirements.
- 8.13 For that reason, matters relating to flora and fauna are not relevant as they are controlled by the Countryside and Wildlife Act 1981 and the licence holder has a duty to ensure that Act is complied with.
- 8.14 Additionally, the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 protects rights of way such as bridleways and footpaths which the licence holder must comply with. These matters are not relevant to the determination of a licensing application. The legislation does allow for the temporary closure of rights of way under certain circumstances which the licence holder may seek to explore.
- 8.15 References were made to the Cereals event last year however this was an agricultural show not a licensed event and is not relevant to this application.

Evidence where the sub-committee have discretion on the weight they attach

- 8.16 The sub-committee should be aware of the Council's vision for licensing and seek to balance any reasonable disturbance against the benefits to the district, especially the local community.
- 8.17 Allegations have been made in respect of antisocial and criminal behaviour by persons assumed to have been attending events at the site. In the absence of these incidents being reported to the police for investigation and corroboration, the sub-committee must decide what weight to place on this evidence. It is likely that many of these allegations did happen however the lack of incident reports to the police limit the assessment of the frequency and seriousness of these incidents.
- 8.18 Allegations of noise nuisance have been made in respect of events at the site however the environmental protection officer has chosen not to make a representation as they believe the noise management plan and post event reports demonstrate that licence conditions have been complied with, including noise levels. In light of this, the sub-committee must decide how much weight to attach to the noise complaints having regard to whether they believe the noise levels amount to a reasonable or unreasonable intrusion on local residents.

New evidence

- 8.19 Other Persons must restrict their oral submissions to the relevant issues raised within their representations although they may expand on their written submission by way of examples or further linked information. They cannot raise new issues not mentioned within the written representation, for example if they have only raised issues of crime and disorder, they cannot introduce issues of public safety orally at the hearing.

Unlike the Other Persons, the premises licence holder is not restricted to advanced written representations and may raise any relevant issues orally at the hearing.

- 8.20 Any new documentation not circulated in advance of the hearing to all parties within the hearing paperwork cannot be introduced during the hearing or presented to the sub-committee without all party consent.
- 8.21 New documentation received in advance of the start of the hearing may be accepted at the discretion of the licensing manager provided:
- (i) it is circulated to all parties present prior to the start of the hearing
 - (ii) adequate time is given prior to the start of the hearing for parties to consider the documentation
 - (iv) the late admission or refused admission of the documentation does not unduly prejudice any party to the hearing

Complaints received by the licensing authority

- 8.22 Prior to the application for a licence review, the licensing authority had received two complaints regarding event noise. These were referred to the environmental protection team who requested a copy of the noise survey carried out at the time. They found that the noise level was within the agreed licence conditions for the premises.
- 8.23 The number, if any, of noise complaints received directly by the environmental protection team is not known however they have chosen not to make a representation.

Event management plan (EMP)

- 8.24 The sub-committee are reminded that the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy specifically encourages a single premises licence with event-specific EMPs as the most effective way of controlling multiple events on a site.
- 8.25 Licence conditions detail the content of the EMP which is circulated to all responsible authorities for comment, as well as the Safety Advisory Group. The licence conditions have a safety clause in them that prevents an event from proceeding if any responsible authority is not satisfied with the EMP.
- 8.26 The EMP is a live document and flexibility is allowed in specified dates for compliance to cover matters such as, but not limited to, adverse weather, changing ground conditions, infrastructure availability, etc.
- 8.27 The EMP contains business sensitive information, personal data and sensitive security information. For example, information such as site plans, exit widths, emergency routes, security deployment, and many other details would be invaluable to any person seeking to disrupt the event or undertake a terrorist attack. For this reason, the EMP is not made publicly available however a summary of non-sensitive information is supplied to the Ward Member for dissemination and reassurance.
- 8.28 Some Other Persons have suggested that there has been insufficient time on occasions for an EMP to be properly considered by the responsible authorities. The sub-committee

are reminded that any responsible authority can inform the licensing authority if they are not content with the EMP which would then prevent the event from going ahead unless the concerns can be mitigated.

Allegations of condition breaches

- 8.29 Several representations refer to allegations of condition breaches, particularly in relation to events being held with less than the notice period required on the licence.
- 8.30 The licence conditions allow for an event to proceed with less than the required notice period at the licensing authority's discretion. When the licensing authority was approached about the possibility of holding an event at short notice, the EMP was circulated to the responsible authorities with the option of using the veto (see paragraph 8.28 above). No responsible authority used their veto, and the event proceeded in accordance with the EMP supplied.

Public notification

- 8.31 Many of the representations raise the issue of public notification. Currently there is no licence condition requiring the public to be notified of events within prescribed timelines.
- 8.32 Environmental protection have a condition requiring the licence holder to advise them of public notification requirements and it is for them to decide whether the proposals are acceptable.
- 8.33 This notification process ordinarily takes place a few weeks prior to the event when the notification letter can include more specific details following the finalisation of the EMP, including a complaint telephone number for the event.

Status of Appendix D

- 8.34 Appendix D contains all responses received from responsible authorities. The responses are provided to satisfy the sub-committee that they do not wish to make representations, either because they are satisfied with the existing licence conditions, or they have no comments they wish to submit.
- 8.35 The response from Hertfordshire Constabulary is in relation to this application for a review, and a separate application to vary the existing licence. It is important to note that it is not a formal representation, it is a commentary designed to assist the sub-committee in understanding the police's position. For that reason, the sub-committee should be cautious in applying weight to its content.

Highways

- 8.36 As the Act states that conditions cannot be placed on a licence relating to matters outside the control of the licence holder, road usage is a difficult issue to consider.
- 8.37 The current licence conditions require the licence holder to produce a traffic management plan (TMP) as part of the EMP. This would then be subject to scrutiny by responsible authorities, and the police play an important role in this process liaising with their traffic management officers.

- 8.38 Whilst Hertfordshire Highways are not a responsible authority, they are consulted through the SAG process and can feed into the process via a responsible authority such as the police.
- 8.39 It is for the sub-committee to consider whether it believes the impact on the local road network is acceptable for the number of event days held at the site, having regard to the requirement for a TMP that is subject to a veto.
- 8.40 If the sub-committee believe there is an unacceptable impact on the local road network it should initially consider whether this could be mitigated through conditions, for example restricting the number of event days per annum.
- 8.41 Should licence conditions be insufficient to mitigate concerns and the sub-committee believes that the local road network is insufficient to cope with event traffic, consideration should be given to revoking the licence.

9. APPENDICES

- 9.1 Appendix A Current premises licence, conditions and plan.
- 9.2 Appendix B Bygrave Parish Council application for the review
- 9.3 Appendix C Bygrave Parish Council supporting evidence
- 9.4 Appendix D Representations from Responsible Authorities
- 9.5 Appendix E Representations from Other Persons in support of the review
- 9.6 Appendix F Representations from Other Persons opposed to the review

10. CASE OFFICER

- 10.1 James Vaughan
Senior Licensing Officer
james.vaughan@north-herts.gov.uk

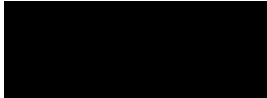
Licensing Act 2003

Part A

Format of premises licence

**North Hertfordshire District Council
Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire, SG6 3JF**

**Original grant date: 28 April 2017
Current issue date: 02 November 2018**



.....
Authorised signatory

Premises licence number: 2701

Part 1 – premises details

**Bygrave Plantation
Land Adjacent To 1 Caldecote Road, Newnham, Hertfordshire, SG7 5JZ**

This licence is granted in perpetuity

Licensable activities authorised by the licence

Section H: Anything of a similar description to that falling within (E), (F) or (G):(Indoors and Outdoors)

Section F: Recorded Music:(Indoors and Outdoors)

Section E: Live Music:(Indoors and Outdoors)

Section B: Exhibition of a Film:(Indoors and Outdoors)

Section A: Performance of a Play:(Outdoors)

Section I: Provision of Late Night Refreshments:(Both Indoor and Outdoor)

Section J: Sale or Supply of Alcohol:(On the premises)

The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

Section H: Anything of a similar description to that falling within (E), (F) or (G):(Indoors and Outdoors)

Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	10:00	midnight
Tuesday	12:00	midnight
Wednesday	12:00	midnight
Thursday	12:00	04:00
Friday	11:00	06:00
Saturday	11:00	06:00
Sunday	11:00	02:00

Section F: Recorded Music:(Indoors and Outdoors)

Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	10:00	midnight
Tuesday	12:00	midnight
Wednesday	12:00	midnight
Thursday	12:00	04:00
Friday	11:00	09:00
Saturday	11:00	09:00
Sunday	11:00	02:00

Section E: Live Music:(Indoors and Outdoors)

Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	10:00	23:00
Tuesday	12:00	23:00
Wednesday	12:00	23:00
Thursday	12:00	midnight
Friday	00:00	midnight
Saturday	00:00	midnight
Sunday	00:00	midnight

Section B: Exhibition of a Film:(Indoors and Outdoors)

Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	10:00	04:00
Tuesday	10:00	04:00
Wednesday	10:00	04:00
Thursday	10:00	midnight
Friday	00:00	midnight
Saturday	00:00	midnight
Sunday	00:00	midnight

Section A: Performance of a Play:(Outdoors)

Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	10:00	23:00
Tuesday	10:00	23:00
Wednesday	10:00	23:00
Thursday	10:00	23:00
Friday	10:00	23:00
Saturday	10:00	23:00
Sunday	10:00	23:00

Section I: Provision of Late Night Refreshments:(Both Indoor and Outdoor)

Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	23:00	midnight
Tuesday	23:00	midnight
Wednesday	23:00	midnight
Thursday	23:00	05:00
Friday	23:00	05:00
Saturday	23:00	05:00
Sunday	23:00	02:00

Section J: Sale or Supply of Alcohol:(For consumption on the premises)

Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	12:00	midnight
Tuesday	12:00	midnight
Wednesday	12:00	midnight
Thursday	11:00	04:00
Friday	11:00	06:00
Saturday	11:00	06:00
Sunday	11:00	midnight

The opening hours of the premises

Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	00:00	midnight
Tuesday	00:00	midnight
Wednesday	00:00	midnight
Thursday	00:00	midnight
Friday	00:00	midnight
Saturday	00:00	midnight
Sunday	00:00	midnight

For consumption on the premises

Part 2

Name, (registered) address, telephone number and email of holder of the premises licence

**AE & WA Farr Limited
Newnham Manor Farm, Caldecote Road, Newnham, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 5LA
01462 742637
Accounts@aewafarr.co.uk**

Registered number of holder, for example company number, charity number (where applicable)

n/a

Name, address and telephone number of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises the supply of alcohol

Gareth Gwynne-Smith


Personal licence number and issuing authority of personal licence held by designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises the supply of alcohol

**Licence Number: 2013/01186/LAPER
Issuing authority: Brighton & Hove Council**

Annex 1 – Mandatory conditions

No supply of alcohol may be made under this licence:

- (a) at a time when there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of the premises licence; or
- (b) at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or his personal licence is suspended.

Every supply of alcohol under the premises licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.

The admission of children, that is persons under eighteen (18) years of age, to the exhibition of any film shall be restricted in accordance with any recommendation made by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) or by the Licensing Authority.

Any one or more individuals at the premises for the purposes of carrying out a security activity (an activity to which paragraph 2(1)(a) of Schedule 2 of the Private Security Industry Act 2001 applies and which is licensable conduct for the purposes of that Act) must:

- (a) be authorised to carry out that activity by a licence granted under the Private Security Industry Act 2001; or
- (b) be entitled to carry out that activity by virtue of section 4 of that Act.

Responsible person means the holder of the premises licence, the designated premises supervisor, or any other person over the age of eighteen(18) years who has been authorised to sell alcohol at the licensed premises.

The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange, or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises. In this condition, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises:

- (a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to:
 - (i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or
 - (ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise).
- (b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted price to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective
- (c) provision of free or discounted alcohol, or any other thing, as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of twenty-four (24) hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective.
- (d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner.

The responsible person shall ensure that no alcohol is dispensed directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than when that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of a disability).

The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.

The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy applies to the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.

The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy. The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under eighteen (18) years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth, and either:

- (i) a holographic mark; or
- (ii) an ultraviolet feature.

The responsible person must ensure that:

(a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks are sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcohol drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in securely closed containers) it is available to customers in the following measures:

- (i) beer or cider: half pint;
- (ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25ml or 35ml; and
- (iii) still wine in a glass: 125ml;

(b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises; and

(c) where a customer does not, in relation to a sale of alcohol, specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold, the customer is made aware that these measures are available.

A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price. In this condition:

(a) permitted price is the price found by applying the formula $P = D + (D \times V)$ where:

- (i) P is the permitted price;
- (ii) D is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol; and
- (iii) V is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol.

(b) duty is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979;

(c) relevant person means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence:

- (i) the holder of the premises licence;
- (ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence; or
- (iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence;

(d) relevant person means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in capacity which enable the member or officer to prevent the supply in question; and

(e) value added tax means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994. Where the permitted price would not be a whole number of pennies, the permitted price shall be taken to be the price rounded up to the nearest penny. Where the permitted price on a day (the first day) would be different from the permitted price on the next day (the second day) as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax, the permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of fourteen (14) days beginning on the second day.

Annex 2 – Conditions consistent with the operating schedule

General

This licence may only be used for one (1) event per calendar year that has an intended capacity of over seven thousand five hundred (7,500) persons, with a maximum capacity of fourteen thousand nine hundred and ninety nine (14,999) persons.

Definitions

For the purpose of the operating schedule licence conditions, **event build-up on site** is defined as the first point that event staff/contractors arrive on site for the purpose of commencing event build (i.e. the construction of any temporary demountable structures or the arrival of any infrastructure).

For the purpose of the operating schedule licence conditions, **the event** is defined as the period of time each year commencing at the point the licensed area first opens to the public until the point when the licensed area finally closes after all members of the public have left the licensed area.

For the purpose of the operating schedule licence conditions, **sign-off** is defined as written documentation that states that a structure is safe and fit for the proposed purpose and identifies any limitations to its usage.

Operating Schedule Condition 1

a) For the one (1) event per calendar year with an intended capacity of between seven thousand five hundred (7,500) persons and fourteen thousand nine hundred and ninety nine (14,999) persons

i) The premises licence holder will provide notification of such events no later than six (6) months prior to the commencement of the event. This notification will provide the name of the event, the event type (including licensable activities and relevant zones to be used within the site), the date of the event (including start and finish times) and the anticipated capacity of the event.

ii) The premises licence holder will provide a draft Event Management Plan (EMP) to all responsible authorities no later than six (6) months prior to the commencement of the event. The EMP will be regularly updated in accordance with the requirements of the operating schedule conditions and a final version will be agreed in writing with all responsible authorities no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the commencement of event build-up on site. The final agreed EMP will be attached to the premises licence as part of the operating schedule and its requirements will form licence conditions.

b) For all other events

i) The premises licence holder will provide notification of such events no later than three (3) months prior to the commencement of the event. This notification will provide the name of the event, the event type (including licensable activities and relevant zones to be used within the site), the date of the event (including start and finish times) and the anticipated capacity of the event.

ii) The premises licence holder will provide a draft Event Management Plan (EMP) to all responsible authorities no later than three (3) months prior to the commencement of the event. The EMP will be regularly updated in accordance with the requirements of the operating schedule conditions and a final version will be agreed in writing with all responsible authorities no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the commencement of event build-up on site. The final agreed EMP will be attached to the premises licence as part of the operating schedule and its requirements will form licence conditions.

Operating Schedule Condition 2

The Event Management Plan will include, but will not be limited to:

- a) an evacuation plan (including zones of relative safety);
- b) a stewarding plan (including details of training and deployment of all staff, communication details and any public address system);
- c) medical and first aid provisions;
- d) insurance provisions (including all temporary demountable structures);
- e) details of all temporary demountable structures (including certification, onsite monitoring and sign-off process);
- f) event control location, staffing and meeting plan;
- g) roles and responsibilities of all key event personnel (including a nominated safety officer, contact telephone numbers and back-up contact details in the event of non-availability);
- h) capacity calculations for all temporary demountable structures and all outdoor areas of the site (including car parks);
- i) a traffic management plan (including on and off site traffic, details of any traffic management company utilised for the event, and arrangements for controlling and managing vehicle movement on the site during the event and during site build-up and breakdown);
- j) lost and found personnel/property policies;
- k) welfare service provision (including details of all welfare service providers, first aid provisions, infrastructure, drinking water, etc.);
- l) closed circuit television provisions (including monitoring arrangements);
- m) a security plan (including site security provision, search policies, staffing deployment, staffing accreditation, staffing training, and data sharing protocols);
- n) site ingress/egress procedures (including management arrangements);
- o) site lighting (including the provision of artificial lighting and emergency lighting);
- p) sanitary provisions (including toilets, washing facilities, washing-up facilities, waste water disposal, and on-site management arrangements);
- q) external and internal site fencing (including front of house barriers);
- r) a site layout plan (including zonal grid markings);
- s) a scaled site layout plan (including details of how each part of the site will be utilised, identification of all structures, access routes and ingress/egress points);
- t) a major incident plan;
- u) a safeguarding plan (including children, vulnerable persons, alcohol, drugs, crime, etc.);
- v) resident liaison arrangements;
- w) a waste management plan (including on and off site provision, and management arrangements);
- x) a noise management plan;
- y) risk assessments for all activities relating to the event;
- z) details of proposed special effects (including fireworks, lasers, dry ice, special lighting effects) and proposed safety arrangements associated with their use;
- aa) layout of and facilities in any campsites (including management arrangements, and policies relating to camp-fires and barbecues);
- bb) a smoking policy for the event site;
- cc) details of electrical installations for the event (including generators, avoidance of cable hazards, and management arrangements preventing the public from accessing and/or interfering with electrical installations).

Operating Schedule Condition 3

In the event of any of the responsible authorities advising the licensing authority that the final version of the Event Management Plan (EMP) does not fully satisfy their reasonable requirements, the event will not proceed until such time as the reasonable requirements are met and approval of the final EMP is confirmed in writing by the licensing authority.

Operating Schedule Condition 4

The premises licence holder will ensure that a schedule of multi-agency meetings are held on site before and during the event, and that a full multi-agency debrief is held as soon as practicable, but no later than three (3) calendar months after the event taking place.

Operating Schedule Condition 5

The above conditions 1 - 4 will apply to all events held under this premises licence unless advised otherwise by the licensing authority in writing.

Environmental Protection Condition 1

The premises licence holder shall appoint a suitably qualified and experienced noise consultant who is a member of the Institute of Acoustics and/or the Association of Noise Consultants to produce and fully implement a noise management plan for events with any of the following criteria, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Council Noise Control Officer:

(a) Events taking place with live and/or recorded music constituting regulated entertainment with 1000 persons or more between 08:00hrs - 23:00hrs.

(b) Events taking place with live and/or recorded music constituting regulated entertainment with 500 persons or more between 23:00hrs - 08:00hrs.

(c) Events taking place with live and/or recorded music constituting regulated entertainment with two (2) or more stages between 23:00hrs - 08:00hrs.

The Licensing Authority and Council Noise Control Officer shall be advised of the name and contact details of this person/company no later than three (3) months prior to the commencement of any event. This timescale shall remain in place unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Council Noise Control Officer.

Environmental Protection Condition 2

(a) Where an event requires a noise management plan, it shall be submitted to, and approved in writing by the Council Noise Control Officer no later than six (6) weeks prior to the commencement of any event. The plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Council Noise Control Officer:

(i) details of all music sources and other significant noise sources within the licensed area including a site plan of their location and orientation;

(ii) a background noise survey, if requested by the Council Noise Control Officer;

(iii) comprehensive sound level predictions at noise sensitive locations based on the type of event proposed within the licensed area;

(iv) a scheme designed to minimise the impact of noise from the event to noise sensitive premises;

(v) specification of appropriate noise criteria that shall be achieved during the event which shall at least be in line with the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts;

(vi) details of the how noise levels will be monitored, communicated and managed at the event and by whom, including on-site and off-site noise monitoring schedules and locations and the procedure for reducing noise levels if the noise criteria are exceeded;

(vii) details of proposed sound tests, rehearsals and noise propagation tests, the dates and timings of which are to be agreed in writing by the Council Noise Control Officer;

(viii) details of a dedicated telephone complaint line and the procedure for dealing with noise complaints received about the event;

(ix) a scheme designed to notify occupiers of nearby noise sensitive premises, including information on the nature, date and timings of the event (including sound testing) and the dedicated telephone complaint line number.

Only in exceptional circumstances will the premises licence holder request a reduction in the timescale for compliance with this condition and it shall only be granted if the Council Noise Control Officer confirms the revised timescale in writing.

(b) Where the requirements of condition(a) have been met, if there are any subsequent proposed changes to the event which may impact on noise following the approval of the noise management plan, the premises licence holder shall ensure their noise consultant liaises with the Council Noise Control Officer to ascertain if any additional measures, noise predictions or noise criteria are required. If the Council's Noise Control Officer or the premises licence holder's noise consultant determines that additional measures are required they will form part of the revised noise management plan.

(c) In addition, no changes to the noise management plan will be permitted in the period commencing seven (7) days prior to the commencement of the event.
(d) If the noise management plan is not approved in writing by the Council Noise Control Officer, their requirements will form part of the noise management plan.

Environmental Protection Condition 3

The premises licence holder shall ensure the Licensing Authority and the Council Noise Control Officer shall have access to the results of any noise monitoring at all times.

Environmental Protection Condition 4

The premises licence holder shall ensure that a post event report is provided to the Licensing Authority and the Council Noise Control Officer no later than thirty-one (31) days after an event which required a noise management plan. This timescale shall remain in place unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Council Noise Control Officer. The report shall include the results of all noise monitoring carried out during the event indicating whether or not compliance to all the noise criteria was achieved, details of all noise complaints received and any remedial action taken to minimise noise disturbance off site.

Annex 3 – Conditions attached after a hearing by the licensing authority

None

Annex 4 – Plans

See attached



KEY
Licensable Area ———
Individual Areas ———

APPENDIX A1

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NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Application for the review of a premises licence or club premises certificate under the
Licensing Act 2003**

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form.
If you are completing this form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary. You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

I Bygrave Parish Council

(Insert name of applicant)

apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51

Part 1 – Premises or club premises details

Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description	
Bygrave Plantation Land adjacent to 1 Caldecote Road Newnham	
Post town Baldock	Post code (if known) SG7 5JZ

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known) AE & WA Farr Limited Newnham Manor, Caldecote Road, Newnham, Baldock, Hertfordshire SG7 5LA

Number of premises licence or club premises certificate (if known) 2701

Part 2 - Applicant details

I am

Please tick ✓ yes

1) an individual, body or business which is not a responsible authority (please read guidance note 1, and complete (A) ✓ or (B) below)

2) a responsible authority (please complete (C) below)

3) a member of the club to which this application relates (please complete (A) below)

(A) DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT (fill in as applicable)

Please tick ✓ yes

Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other title
(for example, Rev)

Surname

First names

I am 18 years old or over

Please tick ✓ yes

**Current postal
address if
different from
premises
address**

Post town

Post Code

Daytime contact telephone number

**E-mail address
(optional)**

(B) DETAILS OF OTHER APPLICANT

Bygrave Parish Council
Parish Clerk



Telephone number (if any)

E-mail address (optional)

clerk@bygraveparishcouncil.org.uk

(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

Name and address
Telephone number (if any)
E-mail address (optional)

This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s)

- 1) the prevention of crime and disorder
- 2) public safety
- 3) the prevention of public nuisance
- 4) the protection of children from harm

Please tick one or more boxes ✓

- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- ✓

Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 2)

Please see attached note and appendices.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application (please read guidance note 3)

Please see attached note and appendices.

Please tick ✓ yes

Have you made an application for review relating to the premises before

If yes please state the date of that application

Day	Month	Year
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

If you have made representations before relating to the premises please state what they were and when you made them

30th May 2024
5th June 2024
9th June 2024 traffic

Please tick ✓


yes

- I have sent copies of this form and enclosures to the responsible authorities and the premises licence holder or club holding the club premises certificate, as appropriate ✓
- I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected ✓
-

IT IS AN OFFENCE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. THOSE WHO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT MAY BE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF ANY AMOUNT.

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 4)

Signature of applicant or applicant’s solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 5). **If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.**

Signature 

Date **17/12/2024**

Capacity **Parish Clerk**

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6)	
Post town	Post Code
Telephone number (if any)	
If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address your e-mail address (optional)	

Notes for Guidance

1. A responsible authority includes the local police, fire and rescue authority and other statutory bodies which exercise specific functions in the local area.
2. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
3. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.
4. The application form must be signed.
5. An applicant's agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
6. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.

Application for review of Premises Licence 2701 for Bygrave Plantation

Introduction

In 2017, NHC granted a Premises Licence for Bygrave Plantation (Bygrave Woods) which permits the Licence Holder to hold unlimited events on a rural site just over 0.5km from Bygrave village. The events which are being held under this licence are blighting the lives of Bygrave villagers whilst delivering little, if any, benefit to the local community.

We have tried to resolve the issues directly with the Licence Holder but without success. Consequently, Bygrave Parish Council is now seeking a review of the licence.

Impact on residents

Bygrave village is a tranquil settlement in the North Baldock Chalk Uplands, surrounded by agricultural fields. Villagers have chosen this area as their home, as they value the peace and quiet this rural setting affords. The festivals are entirely out of keeping with the nature of the area and are causing the villagers much stress, concern and upheaval.

The impact on villagers includes: being kept awake by festival music until the early hours of the morning (on consecutive nights); being unable to relax or socialise in their own homes and gardens due to the festival noise; fearing for their own safety, the safety of others and the safety of their property; and being unable to go about their business unhindered. The impact is so great that some villagers make the difficult decision to vacate their properties during the festivals. Others do not want to be at home but do so either because they have no alternative but to be there or they consider that it is not safe to leave their property unoccupied at this time. This is wholly unacceptable and has a significant detrimental impact on villagers' wellbeing.

Key issues

Set out below is a summary of the key issues with the events being held under the licence:

1. The noise from the events (music and comperes) is far too loud
2. The festivals go on until far too late into the night / early morning (for the camping festivals the music continues until 4 am at weekends)
3. There are too many events
4. The events are too long - many of the events are multi day which increases the adverse impact on villagers
5. Too little notice is given to villagers of forthcoming events
6. Traffic volumes are too great for the narrow, winding country lane between Ashwell and Baldock which is used for event traffic
7. The events have resulted in anti-social behaviour around the site (including public bridleways) and in the village
8. Insufficient consideration is given by the Licence Holder to the villagers

In the appendices, we provide more detail on each of these issues.

Evolution of events held at the site

The Licence Holder first began holding festivals at the site in 2012 (under a previous licence). These early festivals were once a year, ran from Friday afternoon until Sunday morning, had a capacity of 3,000 and were largely attended by local youngsters. Over the next few years, the length of the festival was extended to start on a Thursday afternoon (rather than Friday) and capacity increased but the target audience was still local people.

In 2017, the Licence Holder applied for, and was granted, a wide-ranging licence to hold one event per year for between 7,500 and 15,000 people and unlimited events for up to 7,500 people. We were unaware of the

application for this licence; had we been aware, we would have objected. Under this new licence, there has been a significant increase in the number and size of events held at the site each year and a change in the types of events being held, generally appealing to people from outside the area.

In 2021, there were two large scale events; the first time that there had been two large events at the site in one year. There were two events the following year (more had been planned but were cancelled at short notice) but no events in 2023.

This year (2024) there have been three large events held at the site:

- [REDACTED]
- Brockwood – a weekend festival of dance music, with multiple stages and music until 4 am each morning. This festival was originally planned to be held near Winchester, Hampshire but the Council refused to issue a licence over concerns that the festival noise would harm the tranquil site. The venue was changed to Bygrave just a few weeks before the event.
- AMA Fest – a one-day festival of amapiano music (a subgenre of kwaito and house music). This festival was originally planned to be held near Hounslow but the Council revoked the licence just days before the event.

Another festival had been planned for 2024 but this was postponed to 2025. [REDACTED]

We are aware (from internet searches) that a large number of festivals and other events are already being arranged for 2025:

- Vegan camp-out – 4 days (29 August – 1 September; attendee numbers in previous years: 12,000 – 13,000; multiple stages; live music and afterparties.
- Paradisium (postponed from 2024) – 3 days (5 – 7 September, ie just 4 days after the Vegan camp-out festival) - festival of harmonies and psychedelic art.
- Menhirs Fate – 12 days - four separate 3-day events (April, May, August and September – just days after the Paradisium festival) each running from 8am on a Friday morning to 5pm on the Sunday. High fantasy festival LARP (live-action role-planning).

We are also aware, from our ward Councillor, Tom Tyson, that three other events are already in planning for 2025 but we have no details at this stage on dates or capacity:

- Balloon Festival
- Monster Trucks Family Day
- AMA Fest 2025

So we are aware of over 20 festival days already planned for 2025.

The increase in event days, the numbers attending and the change in target audience (now largely travelling from outside the area) have significantly increased the adverse impact on residents of Bygrave.

Liaison with the Licence Holder

The Parish Council has been in regular liaison with the Licence Holder (the Farr family) for a number of years to try to resolve the issues caused by the festivals. This was stepped up in 2022, following the problems encountered with the 2021 festivals: Warm-up Festival and Electric Woodlands Festival. This

liaison (which involved exchanges of emails, telephone calls and face-to-face meetings) was between Bygrave Parish Council, our NHC Councillor (Tom Tyson), some of the residents of Bygrave village who have been significantly impacted by the festivals, representatives of the Licence Holder, the Designated Premises Supervisor and the appointed Sound Engineer. Details of the liaison (such as meeting notes) can be provided if that would be helpful.

Although we appreciated the opportunity to explain the problems encountered and the concerns of the villagers, we were (and are) entirely reliant on the Licence Holder to take the necessary action to ensure that the recognised problems are resolved and to anticipate and deal with new problems as and when they arise. Whilst 2022 saw limited improvement in terms of littering, there was no improvement in other problem areas (eg noise). In fact, there was actually a worsening in some areas (eg drugs and anti-social behaviour). Consequently, Bygrave Parish Council agreed after the 2022 events to seek a review of the Premises Licence.

However, we put the request for a review on hold when we learned that there would be no festivals in 2023. We hoped, at this stage, that the Licence Holder had recognised that the location was not suitable for large scale events and was, instead, focusing on using the site to host weddings. Unfortunately, this was not the case, as this year (2024), there have been three large events held on the site [REDACTED]. With significant problems still being encountered with events at the site and a large number of events already being arranged for 2025, we are now urgently seeking a review of the licence. We are anxious to ensure that the villagers of Bygrave Parish do not have to endure next year the unacceptable impacts on their lives (caused by the festivals and other large scale events) that they have experienced in the last few years.

NHC Licensing Policy for rural areas

Bygrave is a tranquil village set in a rural landscape and most people living here have chosen to make it their home as they value the peace and quiet that it usually affords. NHC recognises the need to take this into consideration when determining suitable licensing arrangements for rural areas. Section B10 of NHC's Statement of Licensing Policy states "The Council is aware that those living in the rural communities of the district often do so to enjoy the quiet of a rural location. In making a balanced decision, the Council accepts that the level of disturbance that is reasonable in a rural location will be less than in a town centre location. This could be addressed by reduced licensable activity timings, particularly in the evenings and early mornings, and the frequency of activities. Whilst a 1-off event may cause some reasonable disturbance, it would be more tolerable than an event lasting multiple days or occurring numerous times throughout the year."

We consider that the current wide-ranging licence which provides for unlimited events at the site and for music noise to continue until very late into the night / the next morning (6 am at weekends!) is at odds with Council policy.

Grounds for review

We consider that there are grounds for review of the Premises Licence under each of the licensing objectives, namely:

1. The prevention of crime and disorder
2. Public safety
3. The prevention of public nuisance
4. The protection of children from harm

In Appendix 2, we set out for each of the key issues which of the licensing objectives these represent a breach of.

We have included in the appendices some first-hand accounts of experiences of Bygrave villagers. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We have included in the appendices reference to events in 2021 and 2022. One might consider that historical events should be disregarded but we believe that they are of direct relevance to a review of the licence. The impact of any one event depends on a number of factors including: hours of operation; location of the stages; number of attendees; traffic route; target audience (eg some genres of music are more closely associated with drug use); and wind direction (clearly not something that can be changed but the impact can be considered when agreeing suitable soundproofing measures). Without a change to the licence and event management requirements, should these events (or similar ones) be held again at the site, it would be expected that the problems would be encountered again. Therefore, we are firmly of the view that problems encountered with historical events are directly relevant to this review.

Next steps

We believe that we have demonstrated the need for an urgent review of the Premises Licence for Bygrave Plantation (Woods) but please let us know if you require any further information or any matter requires clarification. We would be happy to discuss the matter with you if that would be helpful.

I trust that you will keep us informed of progress. In particular, if you do agree to the review, we politely request that as soon as the notice is issued, you send a copy to us or at least make us aware that it has been issued.

Bygrave Parish Council
10 December 2024

Appendices

1. Key Issues
2. Breaches of the Licensing Principles
3. Villager A's account of noise nuisance caused by the 2022 and 2024 festivals Julie Colegrave
4. Villager B's & Villager C's account of noise and other nuisance caused by the 2024 festivals Katy and David Kelly
5. Villager D's account of noise nuisance caused by Brockwood 2024 festival Mark Goddard

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
8. Villager G's complaint to Bygrave Parish Council regarding the Electric Woodlands 2022 festival Grietje Brenner
 9. Email to the Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor on 30 May 2022 regarding security concerns of a Bygrave villager Sent by Julie Colegrave and referred to Jade Simon-Brown
 10. Email from the Chair of Bygrave Parish Council to the Licence Holder setting out issues relating to the Electric Woodlands Festival 2021

Appendix 1: Key Issues

1. The events (music and comperes) are too loud

Music noise - daytime

The music noise emanating from the festivals causes a severe nuisance not just to the Bygrave villagers but also, depending on wind direction, to Ashwell villagers. This has a serious impact on villagers with reports of people being unable to enjoy their gardens, entertain friends and family (indoors and outdoors) and relax in their homes. This is having a serious detrimental impact on villagers' quality of life and wellbeing.

Music noise – night-time

It is normally very quiet in the village in the evenings and during the night. Music from the festivals is heard throughout the village and further afield until the cut-off time which is generally not until 4 am at weekends! The noise levels are such as to prevent the residents (including young children) from being able to sleep.

This is not only unacceptable from a moral and human rights perspective but it is also a breach of the terms of the licence. Under the licence, the Licence Holder is required to comply with the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts (the "COP") which states that "For events continuing or held between the hours of 23.00 and 09.00 the music noise should not be audible within noise sensitive premises with the windows open in a typical manner for ventilation.". This requirement is clearly being breached.

Compere noise

The comperes can be heard clearly in the village. This is intrusive and unacceptable.

On the evening of 13 July 2024, during the Brockwood Festival, a comperer was using offensive language and this could be heard very clearly in homes in Bygrave. The Chair of Bygrave Parish Council complained to the Licence Holder and event organiser and the comperer was removed from the stage. This should not have happened in the first place and should not have required a complaint for the matter to be addressed.

Comments

We understand that for each event, a Noise Management Plan is agreed between the Licence Holder and NHC which sets out the maximum permitted noise levels for day-time and night-time operation. We also understand that compliance is tested by taking sound readings at pre-agreed locations. This approach is not accurately assessing the noise levels at homes in Bygrave (borne out by villagers' experiences of noise nuisance). We set out below what we believe are some of the reasons for this:

- The test location closest to Bygrave village is in a dip relative to the festival site. Consequently, the noise levels at nearby homes (both inside and outside the properties) are much higher than at the test site.
- The noise levels outside (and inside) homes are amplified by the sound waves bouncing off the buildings. There are no buildings at the test location. Consequently, noise levels are much higher at villagers' homes than at the test site.
- The sound comes in waves and the noise levels experienced at some homes are much higher than at the test locations. Indeed, noise from the festivals can often be clearly heard much further away than the test locations. [The technical explanation is that sound waves move faster in warm air and slower in cold air. So as sound moves through the atmosphere, some parts of the wave will be moving faster than the rest. For example, if the air at the surface is cooler than air higher in the atmosphere, (which would be expected at nighttime) the top of a sound wave will be moving faster

than the bottom; the wave will tilt and refract back toward the ground. In this case, sound would go up into the atmosphere and then be bent back down to the surface toward the cooler air. This means the sound would be louder and you could hear the noise from farther away.]

Comment / action

Noise nuisance is significant and needs to be urgently addressed. To illustrate this, we set out in the appendices details of some villagers' experiences of noise nuisance from the 2021, 2022 and 2024 festivals (there were no festivals on 2023).

We believe that changes are required to the procedures for monitoring of noise levels to ensure that the actual noise levels experienced at nearby homes are within the levels set out in the licence. We also note that for the AMA Fest festival this year, the music stages were located at the edge of the field furthest away from Bygrave village. This (and the Easterly wind that day) helped enormously with reducing the impact of noise on Bygrave villagers. Usually, for festivals, the music stages are located at the edge of the site closest to Bygrave village which we consider to be unacceptable.

As regards night-time noise, we understand that compliance with the requirement under the licence for music noise "... not be audible within noise sensitive premises with the windows open in a typical manner for ventilation ... " is enforced by setting a maximum permitted noise level. This approach does not work, as music noise is not only audible in nearby homes and but is at such a level as to prevent people from sleeping. We believe that the permitted noise levels are too high and the procedures for monitoring of noise levels need to be revised to accurately record noise levels at villagers' homes.

2. The events go on until far too late into the night / early morning

Music and compere noise

As stated above, the noise levels are such that people in nearby houses are unable to sleep. At weekends, the music continues until 4 am! This is not acceptable.

Traffic noise

Many festival goers do not stay onsite for the duration of the festival. As the music continues until 4 am at the weekend, this results in traffic flowing through the village (often speeding) throughout the night. The road is usually very quiet at night, so villagers are not used to the traffic noise which disturbs their sleep with some villagers reporting being kept awake all night.

Comment / action

Taking into consideration the rural location, the proximity to homes and the number of events which are held under this licence, we believe that there should be a strict cut-off point of 10 pm for music noise (11 pm on Saturdays). We believe that this would be consistent with licences issued for other events both within North Hertfordshire and in the UK more generally.

3. There are too many events

There were three large scale events in 2024 with a further event planned but postponed to 2025. This was in addition to the weddings hosted at the site which generally do not cause problems but have done on occasion.

We are aware that there are already over 20 days of events planned for 2025. In addition, there will be weddings plus events which have not yet been publicised/arranged.

Comment / action

We believe that there should be a limit on the number of events permitted each year and this limit should be set in conjunction with the length of the events. [REDACTED]

Bygrave is a tranquil village set in a rural landscape and most people living here have chosen to make it their home as they value the peace and quiet that it usually affords. A limit on the number of events (and event days) in any one year should be imposed and this should be consistent with the requirements of Section B10 of NHC's Statement of Licensing Policy (referred to previously).

4. The events are too long

Most of the events are multi day which significantly increases the impact on the villagers. It also increases the likelihood of anti-social behaviour in and around the village (see below), as festival goers do not stay on site for the whole duration of a multi-day event.

5. Too little notice is given to residents of forthcoming events

We do not receive adequate notice of events.

For one large scale event this year, we received just 10 days' notice and for the other two large scale events we received just one month's notice, despite, we believe, one of them being planned for at least a year. This lack of notice is not just discourteous but also prohibits the villagers reflecting the festivals in their own plans, for example, ensuring that they are at home or they are away (whichever they deem appropriate) and not planning their own events (such as family barbecues) for those dates.

Comment / action

We believe that the year's events should be agreed between the Licensing Authority and the Licence Holder at the beginning of the calendar year and promptly communicated to the villagers. Thereafter, no further events should be arranged and any cancellations of any events should be promptly communicated.

6. Traffic volumes are too great for the narrow, winding country lane through Bygrave

There is a constant flow of festival traffic (including lorries, camper vans, caravans and cars) down what is usually a quiet, largely single track, country lane with a number of blind bends. The road is not suitable for high volumes of traffic, especially large vehicles.

Furthermore, usually the arrangement is for all traffic exiting the festival site to do so by using a bridleway; we consider this to be extremely dangerous.

In the appendices, we set out details of some villagers' experiences with traffic problems.

Comment / action

For the AMA Fest festival, the official traffic route to the festival site was through Newnham and this vastly reduced the impact on Bygrave. We consider that this should apply for any and all future events at the festival site.

7. The festivals have resulted in anti-social behaviour around the site and in the village

The village has suffered numerous incidents of anti-social behaviour over the last few years which are directly related to the festivals.

Public urination

Villagers have witnessed festival goers urinating in Bygrave village.

Illegal Drugs

Evidence of illegal drug use has been found after the festivals. Nitrous oxide canisters and drugs have been found scattered around Bygrave village and the fields, footpaths and verges surrounding the festival site. Hypodermic syringes have been found on the footpaths surrounding the festival site, posing a danger to children, dogs and wildlife.

Villagers have witnessed what they believe to be drugs deals being carried out in Bygrave and Ashwell villages during the festivals.

There are reports online of festival goers' concerns about the prevalence of drugs and lack of appropriate policing and welfare provision at the Electric Woodlands Festival 2022.

Fights

There have been fights in Bygrave village during the festivals. Bygrave village is a very small hamlet and usually extremely peaceful and tranquil. Behaviour such as this is frightening for the villagers, many of whose houses are situated very close to the narrow pavement.

Trespassing

Villagers have reported festival goers being in their gardens. One villager reported this on the evening of Electric Woodlands 2021 to the festival helpline. They had young children at home and were very scared and concerned for their safety. They were assured that somebody would be sent to their property but this did not happen. More detail on this is included in the appendices.

Human defecation

During the Warm-up Festival 2022, there was evidence of human defecation at the side of the public right of way that runs along the Eastern side of the festival site. It was reported to the helpline who arranged for it to be cleared away only for it to happen again the next day and the following day. There was evidence of human defecation following the Brockwood and AMA Fest festivals this year.

This is not only disgusting but is also a health hazard.

Litter

There is a significant amount of littering from the festivals.

Comment / action

These issues could be resolved, or at least reduced, by deployment of security teams in and around the village for the duration of the events.

8. Insufficient consideration given by the Licence Holder to the villagers

The Licence Holder gives insufficient (if any) consideration to the impact of their events on the villagers. This is evident in numerous ways, including the lack of notice of events, the scaled back (from earlier years) and inadequate security arrangements, the ineffectual festival helpline, the scheduling of events (for 2025, events are already planned for three (long) weekends in four in August/September) and their willingness to host events that other authorities have rejected on the grounds of having an unacceptable adverse impact on local communities.

The poor level of consideration of the villagers is also evident in a lack of foresight, planning, responsibility and accountability by the Licence Holder. A prime example was the Electric Woodlands Festival in 2021 which was, from the perspective of Bygrave villagers, absolutely shambolic (details are included in the appendices). The Licence Holder will likely argue that the issues stemmed from the fuel shortages at the time of the festival. Whilst we accept that the fuel shortages undoubtedly caused some of the problems, others were entirely unrelated. We also contend that the potential for the fuel shortages to impact the festival could, and should, have been anticipated and contingency plans put in place. When the village (of less than a hundred residents) was mobbed by thousands of festival goers making their way home, there was no sign of any of the people who were supposed to be responsible for the running of the festival. Villagers felt utterly abandoned and extremely vulnerable.

Appendix 2: Breaches of the licensing objectives

Below, we set out for each of the key issues which of the licensing objectives these represent a breach of.

Issue	Prevention of crime and disorder	Public safety	Prevention of public nuisance	Prevention of protection of children from harm
Noise levels are too high			X	X
Festival noise goes on too late	X		X	X
There are too many events			X	
Festivals are too long	X		X	
Too little notice is given			X	
Traffic volumes, speed, noise	X	X	X	X
Anti-social behaviour	X	X	X	X
Insufficient consideration by Licence Holder	X	X	X	X

Appendix 3: Villager A's account of noise nuisance caused by the 2022 and 2024 festivals

The noise from the festivals has a significant detrimental impact on my life. The noise levels are such that it is impossible to enjoy use of my garden on the festival days whether that be to tend to the garden, read a book or enjoy the company of friends. We are unable to use the bedroom at the front of the house (it is simply too noisy, even with the window closed) and it is difficult to sleep in the rooms at the back of the house.

Music Noise Complaint – 19/20 August 2022

I had cause to complain about the music noise emanating from the Warm-Up Festival in Bygrave Woods on the night of 19/20 August 2022.

I (along with some of my neighbours) have had a number of meetings with the Licence Holder (the Farr family), the Designated Premises Supervisor and the Sound Consultant in the run up to this year's festivals to address the significant issues arising in previous years. I had hoped that this would result in the noise disturbance caused by previous years' festivals not being repeated this year. Unfortunately, this was not the case.

I am aware that the Premises Licence requires that the Licence Holder complies with the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts (the "Code") which includes the requirement that between the hours of 11 pm and 9 am, music noise emanating from a festival "... **should not be audible within noise sensitive premises with the windows open in a typical manner for ventilation**". This condition was not complied with on the night of 19/20 August 2022. The noise in our house was clearly audible with the windows **closed** and prevented me from sleeping. Please note that I was trying to sleep in a bedroom at the back of our house, facing away from the festival site. The noise was even louder in the bedroom at the front of the house which was, fortunately, unoccupied that night.

At 12.10 pm, I rang the festival helpline to register my complaint. At 12.50 pm, having had no response to my earlier complaint and the music noise being unchanged, I rang the helpline a second time to complain. I was told that the noise consultant had been asked to take noise measurements but had not reported back. I expressed my frustration and pointed out that they were not complying with the Code. I was told that they would call me back when they had spoken with the noise consultant but they did not do so.

I understand that the conditions regarding nighttime noise are imposed by way of setting noise level limits which must be complied with. I also understand that compliance is tested by taking sound readings at pre-agreed locations. The noise levels experienced at my home are significantly higher than at the test location.

The requirement under the licence that music noise emanating from a festival is not "audible within noise sensitive premises with the windows open in a typical manner for ventilation" was not met on the night of 19/20 August. For information, I was not at my home on the previous night, so unable to comment on the noise levels then. On the following night (20/21 August) the wind direction had changed and the festival noise levels at my home were much lower. I understand, however, that people living in other local areas were affected by noise nuisance that night.

Please also note that I was not at home for the previous festival in 2022 (Electric Woodlands) but understand from neighbours that the noise levels were unacceptable.

Music Noise Complaint – 13 July 2024

I had cause to complain about the music noise emanating from the Brockwood Festival in Bygrave Woods on the night of 13 July 2024 (I was away on the previous night so am unable to comment on noise levels). The noise was clearly audible throughout the house with the windows closed. I called the helpline number

shortly after 11 pm and spoke with the sound engineer who explained that he was already taking sound readings across the road from me (I believe that a neighbour had complained). I was assured that action would be taken to reduce the noise impact.

Summary

The music noise levels from the festivals held in Bygrave Woods are far too high and have a significant detrimental impact on my wellbeing.

Appendix 4: Villager B's and villager C's account of noise and other nuisance caused by the 2024 festivals

We live in Bygrave village in one of the houses closest to the festival site and are significantly impacted by events held there.

Noise levels

The music noise levels from the festivals can be unbearable. The multi-day festivals cause the most significant issues for us and the problem is acute at night-time. There is nowhere in our house where the noise levels are low enough to enable our family (including our young children) to sleep. With the music noise continuing until the early hours, this has a serious detrimental impact on our lives.

Over the years, we have made numerous calls to the festival helplines regarding noise levels. Many of the calls have gone unanswered and those that have been answered have failed to sort the problem. I am sure you can imagine how frustrating and stressful this is; especially in the middle of the night.

For AMA FEST 2024, we were pleasantly surprised that we did not get the full brunt of what we heard other villages have had to endure from this festival. The time scale and music noise were reasonable compared to other festivals that have taken place here. However, traffic was still an unbearable problem for friends in Newnham, who had to put up with long noisy queues of traffic sounding their horns as they passed going in and out of the festival. We too experienced some disruption coming in and out of the village. Perhaps the much smaller crowds than anticipated worked in the village's favour this time.

Anti-social and criminal behaviour

An unpleasant outcome of several festivals that have been placed here, is the rubbish and human excrement found in the surrounding fields. AMA FEST 2024 was unfortunately no exception to this, as both were found on our family dog walk the Sunday following the festival.

We have witnessed drugs deals in the village.

Suitability of the site for festivals

These festivals need careful planning and great thought before being granted permission. A small village like ours can cope with a large agricultural festival like Cereals or a one day festival like AMA FEST, but when they run for several days and into the early hours of the morning, inviting drug taking and heavy drinking crowds to this semi remote area, it just calls for trouble and generally delivers it!

I hope that you take our thoughts into consideration when granting permission to the next request.

Appendix 5: Villager D's account of noise nuisance caused by Brockwood 2024 festival

I am a resident of Bygrave and the noise from the Brockwood Festival held in July 2024 was so loud it was as if I was actually in the festival myself.

On the Friday night, I had my bedroom window open as it was a warm muggy evening but the noise from the festival was too loud for me to be able to sleep. I sent an email of complaint at 23.30 on Friday 12th July to the environmental health department using the following words. "It is 23.30. I have double glazing, which is closed. I live in the far side of Upper Bygrave & can still hear the thumping music from the festival on the Farr's land. I really would like to open my window as it's very warm but it would be impossible to sleep with the noise. This is unacceptable."

It was even worse on Saturday evening. As well as music noise, at 9pm an act came on that consistently used the word 'F**k' or a derivative of it for over an hour. This was blasted out across the village of Bygrave and I'm sure Newnham, Ashwell and northern Baldock too. In Bygrave we have a large number of young families who shouldn't have to put up with this.

The location of the site for these festivals means that sound cannot be shielded and Bygrave will always be affected.

I believe that this weekend festival could not get a licence in its preferred location (because the noise would affect local residents in that area) so came to Bygrave Woods where it seems that anything goes. When it spreads throughout the festival community that NHDC are an easy touch, having made getting the go ahead for all events just a tick box exercise, then this will encourage 2 things to happen. The type of festivals that can't get licences elsewhere (the worst of the worst) will end up in Bygrave, and the frequency & number of festivals will increase making living in Bygrave hell, from the extra traffic to the cacophonous noise, night after night.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Appendix 8: Villager G's complaint to Bygrave Parish Council regarding the Electric Woodlands 2022 festival

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing as I wish to complain about the festival which was held in Bygrave Woods from 1/7 to 3/7.

When the festival started on Friday afternoon the noise levels were very high and made it virtually impossible to be in the garden. I complained to the sound engineer who was monitoring sound levels in the field across the road and he said he would pass the information on to the festival team but I did not notice any difference at all afterwards.

We decided that we could not stay at home with all the noise so made arrangements to be away from Friday evening. However, from speaking to those who were less fortunate the event continued to blight the village for the whole weekend with evidence of drug dealing and other public nuisance issues as well as the continuous noise!

I am extremely concerned about how these festivals continue to grow and how there were no letters to residents before the festival licence was granted. As you are aware for many of us the festival is literally one field away and we cannot escape at all from the noise!

I understand that there are two more festivals planned with only one weekend in between! The festival in August is a four day one which means that people who have to go to work on the Friday will not be able to get any sleep on the Thursday night.

Bygrave is generally a peaceful village and the festivals in the wood are turning our summers into a nightmare!

I do hope that something can be done to address these issues as we all have to live here and should not have to put up with our lives being spoilt by something we have no control over and definitely did not get clear notification about.

Appendix 9: Excerpt of email (following a liaison meeting) to the Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor on 30 May 2022 regarding security concerns of a Bygrave villager

“I have been speaking with one of the residents of Bygrave Village and agreed to pass on her comments. She told me how distressed she had been after the Electric Woodlands event last year. She said that she had people “doing all sorts of things” in her garden. She called the helpline and was assured that security were on their way. They did not turn up. She is now very worried about this year’s festivals and concerts. She is concerned about her and her family’s personal safety. She is not alone in feeling this way. I am sure that we will all agree that it is wholly unacceptable that people should feel unsafe in their own homes. At our meeting, [] raised the request of the Chair of the Parish Council that there be a marshal in Bygrave Village throughout the duration of these events. This would provide some comfort but is unlikely to be adequate in isolation. As I am sure you are aware, the Electric Woodlands Event was not the first time that Bygrave Woods’ festival goers have caused issues in our village. I would be grateful if you could set out your proposed arrangements for security for the local residents for this year’s events.”

Response from the Designated Premises Supervisor: “Regarding point two, as previously promised, we have a vehicle out with two SIA that will be patrolling over the entities course of these events.”

No response was received from the Licence Holder.

Appendix 10: Content of email from the Chair of Bygrave Parish Council to the Licence Holder setting out issues relating to the Electric Woodlands Festival 2021 and Warm-up Festival 2021

Good morning Alex

When we met you requested that you have feedback to the two festivals.

Yesterday [Electric Woodlands]

Non stop traffic from 11am to 12.30am.

- cars, taxis, buses coming from the event constant stream
 - exacerbated by cars and taxis also going to the event through Bygrave against the flow of traffic both dropping off and picking up
- double decker buses totally inappropriate for Ashwell Road
- The roads both sides lined with cones - these were ignored and parking was still taking place. Also in Church Lane opposite []'s house. I did ring the emergency phone number regarding this but I am not aware of what action was taken
- The traffic lights at Cat Ditch although working were poorly operated.
- Signage as installed confusing
- People who parked cars and others were walking the track opposite Church Lane not through designated entry points
- People who I spoke to had not a clue where they were actually going both going to the event and from
- I witnessed four people urinating in the village!!
- Starting at 10.45pm people were leaving and walking the Ashwell Road in dark clothing with all the traffic going past them on an ostensibly single track road. I pray that all got home unhurt.
- From 11pm -12.30am there were car hooters blaring and people shouting when most residents would be in bed.
- Witnessed on two separate occasions blue lights (ambulance?) coming away from the event
- Noise levels on Friday were high but acceptable Saturday

I believe that the Organisers of this event have let you down completely. They have shown a total disregard and disrespect to Bygrave with no marshalling or understanding of the area
I have already received complaints from upper and lower Bygrave and anticipate more today.

Three day event [Warm Up]

We had our parish council meeting last week and it was reported that

- people were gathering late at night outside homes in Ashwell Road
- silver canisters (sniffing compound) were left littering
- a packet of drugs was found in the village
- some residents on festival side of the village considered that the noise levels were high

I am very happy to meet with you again to discuss further if you wish

Land Adjacent to Bygrave Woods – LC/2701 – Review of current granted Licence
 Representations form Responsible Authorities
 APPENDIX D

Email address	Address	Text
<p>[REDACTED]</p>		<p>Re: The Licensing Act 2003 (as amended) Ref: Bygrave Plantation</p> <p>I write with reference to your notification concerning the review at the premises referenced above, dated 23rd December 2024.</p> <p>As you are aware Trading Standards are designated a responsible authority under the Licensing Act 2003. As such I can confirm on behalf of this department that our records show no reason for Trading Standards to make any representations in relation to this Variation.</p> <p>As a responsible authority I would take this opportunity to thank you for drawing this to our attention. If you have any queries or would like any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Sarah King</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Farnham House, Six Hills Way, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 2FQ Postal Point CHO331</p>	<p>Thank you for sending through the documents for this licensing review request.</p> <p>In terms of firefighter access to the site, you'll have to forgive me here as I am not familiar with the site, but I note there are some concerns for access for larger vehicles given in the licence review including;</p> <p><i>'6. Traffic volumes are too great for the narrow, winding country lane through Bygrave' 'There is a constant flow of festival traffic (including lorries, camper vans, caravans and cars) down what is usually a quiet, largely single track, country lane with a number of blind bends. The road is not suitable for high volumes of traffic, especially large vehicles.'</i></p> <p>Presumably emergency vehicle access has been a topic of discussion perhaps at previous SAGs? Again I have not been involved thus far for this site so apologies. Has there been any concerns raised by members of the SAG for emergency vehicle access?</p>

Chris Adshead (CSU North Herts)	PS Chris Adshead 2386 Community Safety Unit Sergeant North Herts	<p>Subject: Variation to Premises Licence- Bygrave Plantation, 1 Caldecote, Newnham-LC/2701- SR/31658</p> <p>Dear Sirs,</p> <p>Please find below the police response to the application notification above – Newnham-LC/2701- SR/31658.</p> <p>The police will not be making formal representations in relation to either the application to amend the current license, or the application to revoke the existing one.</p> <p>We note that the residents and Parrish Council have both made representations, the grounds of which are largely underpinned by noise complaints (which fall under the remit of EH) - and ASB</p> <p>That said, we DO have concerns and would be happy to attend the hearing to outline them if the licensing authority committee, or the residents thought it appropriate.</p> <p>The rationale behind these are as follows.</p> <p>The ASB is largely relating to matters of public nuisance such as vehicle numbers (and the nature of driving) urination, defecation and the discarding of drugs paraphernalia in the surrounding area to the site (namely the village) which appear to have been noted and catalogued by the residents, but not been reported to the police in any great number as I have interrogated command and control systems and cannot find reports to police of such levels of ASB. Effectively, the residents and Parrish Council hold the evidence, not the police.</p> <p>However, it should be noted that had we been party to the level of ASB reportedly suffered by the residents, we may well have been making a representation along the same lines.</p> <p>It must therefore be assumed that these issues were monitored and logged by the residents who have not wanted to trouble / burden the police service at the time which, while commendable in its well-intentioned mind set, now appears to be counterproductive in terms of our ability to comment on them.</p>
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I agree that the uplift in vehicle numbers and the manor of driving are critical factors in determining public safety concerns and note that a comprehensive traffic management plan has not accompanied the application. However a condition exists on the current license for one to be effectively approved at SAG, and as such the police and other Responsible Authorities already hold a 'VETO' in that if they felt the TMP was insufficient they could prevent the event taking place without the need to go to review and therefore it would be inappropriate to raise objection on this basis.

Notwithstanding the above, it is our considered opinion that there would have needed to be a very thorough TMP produced for any license application to be properly considered, and unfortunately insufficient time has been allowed for any meaningful discussion around this given the Christmas break and the timing of the application which is most unfortunate.

It is also only right to point out that obviously should there be any issues regarding any of the above a review of the license could also be held at that point and the police would certainly request a Review at the earliest opportunity should there be a need.

While it is not for the police to comment on the resident's or Parrish council's applications, it should be duly noted that the police not making a representation does not necessarily mean we believe that the amendments should be granted and we do have reservations (as laid out above) about the likely impact of this application being approved.

The numbers proposed will not only cause considerable strain on the local infrastructure and the private and family lives of the residents, but also potentially cause a significant increase in demand on local policing resources, and it is our opinion that any move to allow this application should be very carefully considered indeed in terms of the impact on policing.

I have consulted Inspector Lant, the Police Inspector responsible for Neighbourhood Policing in North Hertfordshire, who also has significant concerns regarding the potential impact of this licence application which in worst case scenario would lead to multiple events take place over a 12 month period with each event held over multiple days.

This creates an additional risk with regards the potential impact on finite police resources in North Hertfordshire and would inevitably result in an increase in calls for service to local police and require a response to reports of crime, ASB and potentially disorder.

		<p>Given that we appear to already not have reports of multiple instances, the uplift on top of this reporting would pose a considerable concern.</p> <p>I am not confident that those police resources will be able to safely cope with this increase without adversely impacting our ability to manage “daily business” demand.</p> <p>In closing, I would like to reiterate my willingness to attend the hearing and would gladly answer any questions the applicant or any other attendees at the hearing would have.</p>
[REDACTED]	<p>William Thompson Graduate Planning Officer</p>	<p>Good morning,</p> <p>Regarding the Bygrave Plantation licensing review request (24/02921/GEN), the planning department has no objections to the proposal.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>
[REDACTED]	<p>James Beeson Senior Environmental Health Officer</p>	<p>From: James Beeson Sent: 24 December 2024 13:17 To: Licensing <Licensing@north-herts.gov.uk> Subject: FW: Re Application for Premises Licence Variation - Bygrave Plantation</p> <p>Hi,</p> <p>With respect to the premises licence variation application, please see email chain below. Therefore, on the grounds of public safety, provided that the conditions to which the applicant has agreed are added to the licence, I have no objections to the licence variation being granted.</p> <p>Regards James</p>

From: Gareth Gwynne-Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 December 2024 16:15
To: James Beeson [REDACTED]
Cc: Alex Farr [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Re Application for Premises Licence Variation - further to this afternoons telephone call.

Thank you James

As discussed they mirror the current conditions and I am happy to confirm acceptance

Gareth Gwynne - Smith

Managing Director

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Office: [REDACTED]

24hr Duty Phone: [REDACTED]

Address: The Old Laboratory, 59 North Street, Portslade, Brighton, BN41 1DH

Email: [REDACTED]

Web: www.securityandeventsolutions.co.uk

Company Registered No: 08436260

VAT Registered No: 158542196

On 20 Dec 2024, at 16:11, James Beeson [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Gareth,

LICENSING ACT 2003

Location : Bygrave Wood, Land adjacent to 1 Caldecote Road, Newnham, Herts
SG7 5JX

Proposal : Variation to Premises license application

Our Environmental Health Commercial Team has been sent a copy of your application to vary a premises licence that was recently submitted to the Council's Licensing Team. I have considered the information you have supplied, in order to assess whether or not your application addresses the requirements of Section 4(2)(b) in respect of public safety, our Commercial Team would like to offer the proposed Conditions as stated below, Schedule 1, PS1 – PS7.

As discussed over the phone this afternoon, please can you email me back to confirm your agreement with these proposed Conditions as set out in Schedule 1 below. I am in the office up until the end of 24th December so please email me before then. The end of the Consultation period is 3rd^h January 2025.

Yours Sincerely
James

Schedule 1 : Proposed Conditions for Public Safety

Location : Bygrave Wood, Land adjacent to 1 Caldecote Road, Newnham, Herts
SG7 5JX

Proposal : Variation to Premises license application

PS1 – Event Management Plan

The premises licence holder shall submit a draft Event Management Plan to the Council's Environmental Health Officer no later than three (3) calendar months prior to the commencement of the event and a final management plan no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the commencement of the event build-up on site. The final EMP will form part of the operating schedule conditions of the licence.

In the event that the final EMP does not appear to adequately identify and mitigate the public safety risks of an event of this nature, the event will not proceed until such time that the EHO notifies the licensing authority in writing that they believe the EMP is adequate. This condition places no liability on the EHO for the safety of the event, it merely confirms that the EMP would be suitable for an event of this nature assuming that the event organisers implemented the content and continued to review the public safety risks throughout the event.

PS2 – Event Management Plan

Demonstrate that suitable arrangements are in place for operating a safe event in accordance to the timescales in PS1, or it shall not go ahead. To demonstrate suitable

arrangements for the management of a safe event, an event management plan shall be prepared that is not limited to, but includes the following:

- a) a scaled site plan, showing how each part of the licensed area will be used, identification of all structures, access routes and ingress/egress points.
 - b) a table listing all areas and the spaces allocated to each;
 - c) roles and responsibilities of all key personnel responsible for managing the event, including names and contact numbers plus back-up contacts in the event of their non-availability.
 - d) risk assessments for all activities relating to the event;
 - e) full details of security and stewarding arrangements, means for giving warning of an emergency, including the initiating and effecting of any evacuation, including from structures;
1. detail of crowd management including capacities and how these will be monitored and evacuation times from each area of the site to allow for safe and quick evacuation in the event of an emergency
 2. details of all proposed safety barriers and fencing to be erected on site, including the positioning;
 3. details of proposed special effects (including fireworks, lasers, dry ice special lighting effects) and proposed safety arrangements associated with their use;
 4. details for managing all traffic and vehicle movements on site, including within parking areas, during the event build-up phase, during the event and during the site breakdown phase.
 5. management arrangements for site access and egress, including specific arrangements for emergency services;
 6. layout and facilities in any campsites and management arrangements for camping areas (including policies on camp-fires and barbecues);

7. smoking policy in the licensed area;
8. medical and first aid provision;
9. Details of electrical installations for the event, including generators. This should include how cable hazards will be avoided and measures to prevent members of the public from interfering with any parts of the electrical installations;
10. Provision of artificial lighting to all parts of the licensed area, including emergency lighting
11. Arrangements for the provision of sanitary accommodation (including toilets, washing facilities and washing-up facilities) plus methods for the disposal of waste water;
12. Arrangements for the management of sanitary accommodation during the event
13. Details of the water supply and network available at the event (BS 8551)


PS3 – Temporary Demountable Structures

The premises license holder shall submit a scaled plan showing the location of all proposed temporary demountable structures within the licensed area no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the commencement of the event build-up on site.

Details of these structures will include:

1. a plan to a suitable scale indicating the location of all such structures;
2. a description and type of each structure, for non-standard structures a detailed design statement should accompany the description;
3. the person(s) responsible is/are identified and their competency proven for the:
 - i) construction of each structure;
 - ii) 'sign-off' of each structure, including the format of the certificate (the term sign off refers to written documentation that states that the structure is safe and fit for the proposed purpose and identifies any limitations);

		<p>iii) for non-standard structures or designs those responsible for third party accreditation with regard to design and sign-off; iv) for monitoring the structure during the licensed period</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. location and availability of the 'sign-off for use' completion certificates; 2. monitoring of structures in line with the risk assessment 3. details of the limitations placed upon the structure other than wind speed; 4. details of limiting wind speeds for each structure, the method of assessing the wind speed during the event and what action is to be taken at relevant speeds; <p><u>PS4 – Water management Plan</u> The premises licence holder is to provide a water management plan for their event to the Commercial Team (Environmental Health) no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the commencement of the event. This plan should contain, but not be limited to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The source of water (mains or private water supply) 2. A schematic of the water distribution network and drainage arrangements 3. Contingency arrangements for failure of supply 4. Drinking water testing arrangements 5. Calculation that the water supply is sufficient for activities onsite during peak demand 6. Assurance that any person responsible for commissioning or working on the water supply network is suitably competent. A suitably competent person is a member of “watersafe” or hold equivalent accreditation details 7. Assurance that any person responsible for commissioning or working on the water supply network provides water in accordance with BS 855, Provision and management of temporary water supplies and distribution networks. <p>Where water provision will be via mains water, the Premises Licence holder must inform the water undertaker at least twenty-eight (28) days prior to the commencement of the event.</p> <p><u>PS5 - High risk food traders</u> The Premises Licence Holder shall provide relevant information to the Commercial Team (Environmental Health) regarding the for high risk, open food</p>
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		<p>traders*. Information provided to North Hertfordshire District Council's Environmental Health Commercial Team shall be provided in the manner detailed below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name of food trader 2. Registered name of food business 3. Registered address of food business (including postcode) 4. Food hygiene rating & Date awarded 5. Type of food sold 6. Inspecting Authority <p>(*High-risk, open food traders; food businesses that sell, prepare foods that are non-ambient stable (must be kept cold or hot for safety) and/or are unwrapped foods directly handled by staff.)</p> <p><u>PS6 – Multi-agency meetings</u> The premises licence holder will ensure that a schedule of multi-agency meetings are held on site before and during the event, and that a full multi-agency debrief is held as soon as possible, but no later than three (3) months after the event taking place each year as requested by the Safety Advisory Group.</p> <p><u>PS7 – Safety Officer</u> A competent (suitably experienced and qualified) safety officer be appointed for assisting in the planning, build and during the event.</p>
	<p>Alan Stone Senior Environmental Protection & Housing Officer</p>	<p>Dear Licensing,</p> <p>Further to the review of the this License, I have nothing to add in terms of noise disturbance. We will seek to ensure that any events held in the future are in accordance with the Code of Practise of Environmental Noise at Concerts as per the condition on the license as occurred in 2024. We seek to do this for all licenses/venues in North Herts Council area for outdoor venues.</p> <p>Regards, Alan Stone</p>

Land Adjacent to Bygrave Woods – LC/2701 – Review of current licence
 Representations for support of Review
 APPENDIX E

Email address	Address	Text
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>7 Ashwell Road, Bygrave SG7 5DT</p>	<p>I am grateful that you are reviewing the current licence via this application.</p> <p>Although I appreciate that festivals need to happen, I do not feel that the current proximity works that well.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>We seem to get very little liaison in the lead up to existing events, I was under the impression that three months notice was a requirement but this seems to have been waived in practice.</p> <p>Similarly when neighbours have complained to event management about noise or times of anti-social behaviour they have had limited or no response.</p> <p>I trust that you can take these concerns into consideration as I would like to see this current licence reviewed, tightened and enforced.</p> <p>Kind Regards, Ron Austin,</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>84 Marsa Way, Bridgwater, Somerset. TA6 5JN</p>	<p>I have family who live in Ashwell who I visit regularly, and they are sick of the impact that events held at bygrave woods has on their lives. I wish to add my objections to the FARRS having the licensing extended any further, indeed I would suggest their license is revoked entirely. They have no regard for local residents [REDACTED].</p> <p>Thank you. Tracey Karran</p>

<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>22 Lucas Lane Ashwell Herts SG7 5LN.</p>	<p>Dear Sirs.</p> <p>I believe this license should be reviewed.</p> <p>It is difficult to understand how the license could have been granted to enable events for nearly every day of the year.</p> <p>The cost to North Herts residents in terms of 'quiet enjoyment' of their lives is in no way offset by benefit.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>David Price</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Nobuoki and Mary Ohtani 17 Woodforde Close Ashwell Herts. SG7</p>	<p>Dear Sirs</p> <p>We wish to support Bygrave Parish Council in their efforts to have this licence for AE and WA Farr reviewed for the following reasons.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The impact of nuisance and noise on Bygrave residents who live very close to Bygrave Woods and also on residents of Newnham and Ashwell who will be affected. 2. The narrow country roads used to access the site are not suitable for the volumes of traffic (including site set up traffic) for large events even up to 7500. Some festival goers arrive by train and have to walk from Baldock. There is no footpath on most of the road, their safety would be compromised as they would have to mount the verge. 3. The associated anti-social behaviour would have a detrimental effect on residents. 4. The lack of resident liaison. 5. The frequency and timing of events is of great concern. <p>We live in Ashwell, the next village, and are also very much affected by the proposed events.</p> <p>Yours faithfully Nobuoki and Mary Ohtani</p>

<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Jenni Goldsmith 34 Brooke Road Royston SG8 7DR</p>	<p>I am a Royston resident who frequently uses back roads around Royston and Baldock for cycling during the summer weather and even for driving to avoid high traffic, fast roads.</p> <p>I am very concerned about the application for licensing by AE Farr and support Bygrave Parish Council's objections as I feel that the size and frequency of events will cause nuisance to nearby residents, including (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • timings and frequency of events - far too many, for too long, involving late night and overnight events, • traffic impact on narrow country roads - these roads are not built for heavy or two-way traffic - residents don't want to be effectively trapped in their homes for hours at a time! Some of these events are intended for overnight campers, so caravans and campervans will be anticipated on roads that they will not safely fit on. What if emergency services need to get through? • potential antisocial behaviour, • lack of resident liaison and • noise nuisance - the proposed events go late into the night and overnight and the area is not isolated enough for it not to cause a nuisance for residents. <p>[REDACTED] It will make the area totally unattractive to those of us who want to use it for leisure purposes for hiking, horseriding or cycling.</p> <p>If I had known about the licence application I would have objected sooner but it has only just now come to my attention.</p> <p>I therefore support Bygrave Parish Council's request for a review.</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Judy Taylor</p>	<p>I wish to support Bygrave Parish Council in their efforts to have this licence for AE and WA Farr reviewed.</p>

	<p>10 Woodforde Close Ashwell Herts SG7 5QE</p>	<p>It is amazing that such massive scale events with all the associated crowds, noise, traffic, disruption and antisocial activity can be allowed to disrupt this quiet and peaceful countryside - for the only purpose of making money for the landowners.</p> <p>Surely the rights of the local residents should be taken into account. I live in the next village and we are very much affected by the noise and traffic, it's overwhelming, inappropriate and just not fair. Please think of the many, many local people rather than just one wealthy farmer.</p> <p>From Judy Taylor</p>
<p>██████████</p>	<p>Next Odsey Station Road Ashwell Herts SG7 5RW</p>	<p>My complaint is the horrendous noise through to 04:00 in the morning from the music festivals. Despite living some distance from the site I can hear and feel every base note even with the windows closed. I believe that the lie of the land funnels the noise in my direction.</p> <p>Best regards Ian</p>
<p>██████████</p>	<p>Ruby Muskett Chansett Lostwithiel PL220JA</p>	<p>I agree with the statement below and would add that the presence of large numbers of people in one place, especially when that activity goes well into the night and early hours, has destructive and compound effects on the wildlife and biodiversity in the area</p> <p>"Bygrave Parish Council have applied for the festival license to be REVIEWED. The stated grounds for review are that events are already “causing nuisance to nearby residents, specifically: timings and frequency of events, traffic impact on narrow country roads, antisocial behaviour, lack of resident liaison and noise nuisance” .</p> <p>Please take my views on this application to review.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Ruby Muskett</p>
<p>██████████</p>	<p>90 High Street Ashwell</p>	<p>I would like to raise my concerns regarding the licensing of Bygrave Woods for music festivals up to 14,999 people.</p>

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	SG7 5NS	<p>Communication: There is no notice given for these events to Ashwell residents even though 2 of the main routes into the village are adversely effected by disruption and high volume of traffic to the event.</p> <p>Value to the local community: There is no value of the events to the local community - no custom brought to local shops or pubs, only negative experiences due to disruption and late night noise. The local community is not benefited by any means of recompense by the organisers after the event.</p> <p>Regards Claire Grimmer</p>
[REDACTED]	Joe Brace 53 Ashwell Road Bygrave SG7 5DY	<p>I would like to lodge my support for the review on the above license for Bygrave Woods.</p> <p>My family (wife & 5 year old daughter) & I have lived in upper Bygrave for several years now and every summer when there have been events at Bygrave woods this has caused huge disruption and inconvenience.</p> <p>An event last summer had the below impacts on us:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The volume from the music was so loud we could not sleep until the early hours when it stopped and even with our back doors closed it vibrated through the house.- There were people, clearly intoxicated, walking past our house and in several cases through our garden in the early hours of the morning.- [REDACTED]- The noise of people shouting/singing on stage was so loud we could make out every word, often these were profane and totally unacceptable for our daughter to be hearing while in her own garden.- There were smashed bottles and discarded waste all along the public footpath.

>> -NOISE POLLUTION: the level of noise generated by the festivals, particularly late into the night and early hours of the morning (currently until 6 AM on Friday and Saturday) is very distressing for local residents. According to licensing regulations the noise after 11 pm should be such that we can sleep with windows open for ventilation. This is definitely not the case and many sleepless nights have been had. Also the noise levels are such that during the day we are unable to relax and enjoy our gardens or meet with friends and family at home as we won't be able to hold a conversation with them due to the NOISE!

>>> - LACK OF SUFFICIENT NOTIFICATION OF EVENTS: the two most recent festivals, Brockwood and Amafest were booked at very short notice because the local authorities for the proposed locations refused permission following concerns raised about their impact on the local communities. Bygrave residents had two weeks notice instead of the three months stated in the licensing regulations. This resulted in local people having to consider cancelling their plans due to noise concerns or making plans to be away from the village.

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>> - ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR: festivals often attract individuals engaged in illegal or anti social behaviour. We have seen evidence of drugs being sold to both festival attendees and local young people. Needles and canisters for helium were found in the gutters in upper Bygrave. Also people try to get to the festival via illegal routes crossing the fields in the dark with torches which is frightening for residents who live immediately next to the site. There have been occurrences where people have wandered into gardens at night. We have witnessed evidence of people defecating on the tracks around the festival site.

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- Public safety:

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>> TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY: the increase in traffic for these events is massive.



		<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Such a small community cannot sustain thousands of people at one concert let alone extra concerts a year.</p> <p>We all support people enjoying themselves but granting an extension to the licence is counter productive for the community. There is no obvious benefit for the local community in pursuing this application.</p> <p>We should like to state our objection to the increase in licensing of festivals at Bygrave Woods.</p> <p>This area is part of a group of villages served by lanes rather than roads thus the infrastructure for such large numbers of people attending the festivals is not feasible and would create a hazard if not a danger.</p> <p>The environmental impact of thousands attending means noise levels would be unacceptable for residents of a rural community. [REDACTED]</p> <p>Such a small community cannot sustain thousands of people at one concert let alone extra concerts a year.</p> <p>We all support people enjoying themselves but granting an extension to the licence is counter productive for the community. There is no obvious benefit for the local community in pursuing this application.</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Nick and Susan Welch 73 Ashwell Road</p>	<p>We would like to support this application for a Licence Review.</p> <p>The site is across a field from our house and when we sit in our garden we can clearly hear the noise from the festival including announcements and people shouting which continues late into the night. The noise can</p>

	Bygrave SG7 5EB	<p>be heard even in our bedroom with the windows closed. The prospect of unlimited events of up to 7,500 people is frightening as life would be made unbearable.</p> <p>The access to this site is via country lanes which are not suited to large volumes of traffic, at previous festivals the road outside our house has been used as a drop off and pick up point which causes chaos, we have also had to clean up rubbish from outside our house.</p> <p>We hope that you consider our comments and revoke this licence.</p>
<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div>	51 Ashwell Road, Bygrave, SG75DY	<p>I am writing to formally review Application No. 18730 regarding the proposed festivals at Bygrave Woods. As a concerned resident, I would like to highlight several issues that I believe need to be carefully considered before any approval is granted.</p> <p>Firstly, the frequency and timing of these events have become a significant nuisance to nearby residents. The festivals cause regular disturbances that extend well beyond acceptable hours, including loud music, amplified noise, and crowd-related activities that disrupt the peace and quiet of the area. This ongoing disruption is negatively affecting the quality of life for many living nearby.</p> <p>Additionally, the impact of increased traffic on the narrow country roads surrounding Bygrave Woods has become a growing concern. The volume of vehicles generated by these events is incompatible with the infrastructure in place, leading to congestion, safety risks, and damage to the local roads. The small rural lanes are ill-equipped to handle the influx of traffic, and this has resulted in traffic delays and potential hazards to both residents and visitors.</p> <p>There have also been reports of antisocial behavior associated with the festivals. In particular, drug paraphernalia has been discovered within the village, raising concerns about public safety and the overall atmosphere created by the events. [REDACTED]</p>

		<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Furthermore, the festivals have demonstrated poor resident liaison, leaving many without sufficient communication about event schedules, potential disruptions, and safety measures. This lack of transparency and consideration has contributed to rising frustration among local residents who feel sidelined in matters that directly affect their homes and livelihoods.</p> <p>In light of these concerns, I strongly urge a thorough review of the application and consideration of the negative impacts these festivals are having on the local community.</p> <p>Tristan Brenner</p>
[REDACTED]	69 Ashwell Road Bygrave SG 7 5DZ	<p>Dear Sir or Madam</p> <p>I am writing to ask that the licence to hold festivals in Bygrave Woods is revoked, as the unbearable sound crossing between stages, keeps Bygrave residents awake all night,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>At present there is no opportunity for crime prevention , public safety, nuisance prevention or the protection of children from harm.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>The present route out through both upper and lower Bygrave, is narrow with sharp bends and where it goes through the residential areas on Ashwell Road, lots of pedestrian's with children, push chairs, disabled neighbours, find the huge amount of extra traffic a severe danger, also dog walkers, horse riders and cyclists, are unable to safely use the ancient right of way past the site either side and during the festival, due</p>

to heavy traffic delivering huge amounts of festival gear. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. We feel uncomfortable walking, riding or cycling the public rights of way due to patrolling security guards looking for gatecrashers.

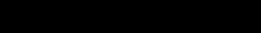
I find it alarming that the extensive drug taking and consumption of alcohol by young people presents a danger to life, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. Making crime prevention impossible. The overall effect to local residents is of malevolence due to greed and avarice.

We would also like to point out that, as we who live on Ashwell Road had no idea how this licence became as extensive as is now, due to the public viewing of the last application being on farm land, not in a public position in our village, Upper and Lower Bygrave, where the vast majority of residents affected live. We missed seeing it, displayed, as well as the opportunity to say no to more or bigger festivals. We would have been happy with small festivals, as they were to start with, no more than a few thousand, family events, they got much too big for public safety years ago.

All the events cause a public nuisance, in that the noise is unbearably insistent for hours, for days, several stages at the same time make listening horrendous, a constant pain in the head, we are unable to sleep on hot nights with the windows open. Children are woken up by the music and the traffic and drunken yelling. The people attending don't live in the country so they chuck their rubbish out of the car windows as they leave for us Bygrave residents to pick up.

Please , please, please consider local residents, bearing in mind that the extra traffic on bridleway and road effects Ashwell residents and beyond, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] as as well as us in Bygrave, plus all the ancient byway users, who may be just passing

		<p>on foot, horse or bike on their journey [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Yours Sincerely Ruth Briercliffe Diggory Briercliffe Luke Briercliffe Anna Jones</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>16 Woodforde Close Ashwell</p>	<p>We object strongly to the above licence application for the following reasons:- Unacceptable noise levels for the surrounding villages. Unacceptable and disgusting anti-social behaviour. [REDACTED]. Unacceptable volumes of traffic on narrow, country roads. The condition of the roads is already poor. Large vehicles, used to service the erection of the site, plus thousands of cars, can only make them worse. [REDACTED]. The original number of events was four, which was, possibly, acceptable. Twenty five or more is definitely not.</p> <p>Is there no limit to the raw greed of A E and W A Farr Ltd?!! With total disregard of the surrounding community. The present licence and proposed application is ludicrous in this rural setting.</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Granary house Westbury farm West end Ashwell SG7 5PJ</p>	<p>I would have concerns about the existing licence conditions due to Unsuitability of Roads Traffic disruption Noise impacts on local communities Little relevance of events to local communities Lack of notification of events Poor sanitation arrangements and resulting impacts Please consider these comments in your considerations</p>

		<p>Regards Sharon Watson</p>
	<p>77 Ashwell Road Bygrave Hertfordshire SG7 5EB</p>	<p>Subject: Objection to Licence Review for Application no. 18730 Premises Licence 2701</p> <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the current licence conditions for The Farr Festival site, as part of the ongoing review process. As a resident of the local area, I have serious concerns about the negative impact this site continues to have on our community and believe the existing licence is inadequate in addressing these issues.</p> <p>Key Issues:</p> <p>Frequency and Scale of Events</p> <p>The current allowance of four large-scale events per year with capacities exceeding 7,500 people is already causing significant disruption. These events place a substantial burden on local infrastructure, including emergency services, road networks, and waste management systems. A reduction in the frequency or scale of events is necessary to mitigate these ongoing issues.</p> <p>Noise and Late-Night Disturbances</p> <p>Events at this site generate unacceptable levels of noise, often continuing late into the night and disrupting the lives of local residents. This is particularly concerning for families, elderly residents, and those with health conditions who require peaceful evenings. Noise management needs to be a higher priority, with stricter conditions to prevent late-night disturbances.</p> <p>Event Management and Safety Concerns</p> <p>The process for finalising and agreeing on Event Management Plans (EMPs) is inadequate. A 28-day deadline for EMP finalisation leaves little time for thorough review and feedback, increasing the risk of safety lapses. Clearer, more robust timelines and stricter enforcement of EMP conditions are essential to ensure public safety.</p>

		<p>Traffic and Environmental Impact</p> <p>Large events lead to significant traffic congestion, making it difficult for residents to navigate local roads and access services. Additionally, the environmental impact of these events, including litter and waste, is poorly managed. The current licence does not adequately address these issues or hold organisers accountable for the aftermath of events.</p> <p>Antisocial Behaviour and Community Disruption</p> <p>Events at this site have been linked to increased antisocial behaviour, including public intoxication, vandalism, and noise from attendees. The current licence conditions fail to provide sufficient safeguards to protect the local community from these disruptions.</p> <p>Proposed Recommendations:</p> <p>To address these issues, I recommend the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A reduction in the number of large events allowed per year. Stricter noise control measures, including earlier end times for licensable activities. Extended timelines for EMP preparation and mandatory community consultation. Improved traffic management and waste disposal plans tied to licence conditions. Enhanced security measures to mitigate antisocial behaviour. <p>Conclusion</p> <p>The current licence for [Festival Site Name] fails to balance the needs of the event organisers with the rights of local residents. I urge the licensing committee to impose stricter conditions or consider reducing the scope of the licence to protect our community's well-being and quality of life.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my concerns during this review process.</p> <p>Kind regards, Katie Kelly</p>
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**The Moat
House
Church
Street
Bygrave
Hertfordshire
sg75ef**


I support the review of the licence proposed by Bygrave Parish Council. I have been a resident of Bygrave since 2003. I moved to Bygrave as it was a quiet rural hamlet and for a number of years enjoyed the tranquillity of village life.


The licence given to the Farr's has meant that during the summer months, this tranquillity has been broken. When this happens is mostly unknown to local residents as communication by the licence holder is nil. This makes, making plans to be away for the festival days impossible. Furthermore, the increasing number of days planned means its impossible to be away for weekend after weekend all summer. Noise Nuisance is a real problem. The late timings for music to stop is much too late. [REDACTED]

Child Safety represents the biggest issue for this licence. Its a licence for festivals, whereby acts on stage use foul and abusive language. This last summer such an act used the word fuck continually for an hour broadcast across our village which has a number of young families residing in it. As much as the licence holder or its agent would like everyone to believe, this cannot be managed. It's a gig, a festival, where bands and acts routinely swear on stage as part of the 'experience'. That's fine, and I've enjoyed many experiences like this myself. But what isn't fine is young children being subjected to foul and abusive language being broadcast across what was once a quiet rural hamlet.

As this noise nuisance or harm to the children of Bygrave and beyond from foul & abusive language cannot be mitigated, it is clear that the site is not acceptable for ANY festival and the licence should be revoked forthwith. [REDACTED]


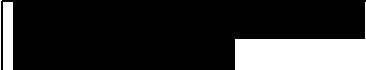
[REDACTED] I wholly support the request for a review of this licence and request it be revoked in its current form, with an immediate stop on any festival. It's time to put the children of North Herts first before corporate greed and I hope that you as the people protecting your residents can see the issues I've put forth cannot be resolved on this site.

		<p>sincerely</p> <p>mark goddard</p>
	<p>77 Ashwell Road Bygrave Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5EB</p>	<p>I am writing to formally oppose the licence conditions for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Frequency and Scale of Events <p>The frequency of large-scale events risks overwhelming local infrastructure and services. The limit of four events per year with capacities not exceeding 7,500 attendees provides some balance between economic benefits and community impact. Allowing changes to this frequency could result in additional strain on emergency services, traffic management, and local amenities.</p> 2. Event Notification Timelines <p>The proposal to allow for shorter notification periods undermines the ability of local authorities and residents to adequately prepare for events. A six-month notification period for large-scale events is crucial for effective coordination between stakeholders. Reducing this timeline or allowing "late notice" events introduces unnecessary risk and increases the likelihood of operational and logistical failures.</p> 3. Noise and Disturbance <p>The current restrictions do little or nothing to help mitigate the noise impact of large-scale events on residents. Variations to increase festival would only make life far worse for the residents. Extending the number of festivals will only exacerbate sleep deprivation and create long-term health and well-being issues.</p> 4. Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness <p>Reducing the time to finalise and agree upon the Event Management Plan (EMP) compromises safety. A robust, finalised EMP ensures thorough risk assessment and preparedness for medical emergencies, crowd control, and other contingencies. The</p>


		<p>28-day deadline is already a tight window; any reduction or leniency in this timeframe could jeopardise public safety.</p> <p>5. Community Impact</p> <p>The festival site has a history of causing disruption, including traffic congestion, littering, noise complaints, and public disorder. Approving this variation would not address these existing issues but instead potentially amplify them. Residents deserve to see improvements in these areas, not increased disturbances.</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>I strongly urge the licensing committee to carefully consider the negative effects these festivals have on our village.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my concerns.</p>
		<p>Yours sincerely, Mrs Julia Sowden</p>
	<p>38 Wedon Way Bygrave Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5DX</p>	<p>I object to the holding of festivals because the extra traffic travelling along Ashwell Road towards Baldock (or vice versa) creates a safety hazard for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. The road is narrow, in some places only wide enough for one vehicle to pass, and entirely unsuitable for large volumes of traffic that are generated during set-up, attendees leaving the site and take-down. The road is the only feasible direct route for pedestrians into Baldock for shops and amenities and has no footpath. It is prone to flooding at the bottom end after prolonged rain which would increase the safety risk. There are no white line markings to guide people in the dark or in foggy conditions. There are no traffic-calming measures in place to ensure that no-one speeds through the village, thereby causing a risk to children and adults who might be walking or cycling.</p>

	<p>43 Ashwell Road Bygrave Baldock SG7 5DT</p>	<p>I object to the licence renewal for the festival site as it causes ongoing disruptions to residents of all the villages in the surrounding area. Below are key concerns demonstrating why this Licence should not be allowed without significant changes:</p> <p>Noise Nuisance</p> <p>Excessive noise from amplified music, late into the night, (indeed their licence allows until 4am) disrupts residents' evenings and sleep. Noise levels frequently exceed acceptable limits, with difficulty monitoring and enforcement</p> <p>Traffic Problems</p> <p>Events cause severe traffic congestion on narrow country roads, disrupting daily life and blocking emergency access. The lack of proper traffic management exacerbates safety risks for both attendees and residents.</p> <p>Antisocial Behaviour</p> <p>Festival attendees often engage in public drunkenness, vandalism, and trespassing. This behaviour negatively impacts the community and raises safety concerns for families, yet little has been done to address it.</p> <p>Event Timings and Frequency</p> <p>Events are too frequent and last too long, running late into the night and early morning until 4am. This is inappropriate for a rural, residential area, causing continuous disruptions</p> <p>Lack of Resident Liaison</p> <p>There is insufficient communication with residents, leaving their concerns ignored. The absence of a formal complaints process and the negativity of the applicants which undermines trust and accountability.</p> <p>Proposed Conditions</p> <p>If renewal is considered, I urge the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stricter Noise Limits: Regular monitoring and penalties for breaches.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced Hours: Limit events to no later than 12 PM and remove the ridiculous current licence that allows unlimited events. • Traffic Management: A robust plan to minimize congestion and ensure safe access. • Resident Liaison: Appoint a liaison officer and implement a formal complaints process. • Code of Conduct: Enforce measures to prevent antisocial behaviour with clear penalties. <p>While cultural events are important, they must not override the rights of residents. The current operations are incompatible with the local area, and I request that the renewal be refused or subjected to stricter conditions. Yours faithfully</p>
<p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>75 Ashwell Road Bygrave Baldock Herts SG7 5EB</p>	<p>We are writing in support of this application for a licence review.</p> <p>The events permitted under the current licence cause considerable disturbance and concern for us as local residents. We've lived in Bygrave for many years but have become increasingly concerned regarding the appropriateness of the current licence for music and other large scale festivals. These events have a significant negative impact on, and cause a public nuisance for, local residents.</p> <p>We are particularly concerned about the excessive noise levels and sleep disturbance caused on consecutive nights. The bass can be easily heard well into the night despite keeping double glazed windows closed in the heat of the summer and noise levels do not appear to be appropriately controlled.</p> <p>We've previously reported antisocial behaviour, such as extensive human fouling and urination along the bridleway and evident drug use in residential areas.</p> <p>Bygrave is normally a quiet village and these large scale events cause significant traffic disruption on the narrow country roads which does not appear to be managed appropriately.</p>

		<p>We've been disturbed at night by attendees trying to access the festival via properties across adjacent fields and this is exacerbated by a lack of secure quality fencing around the premises.</p> <p>We're particularly concerned about the litter left following these events (including syringes, balloons and canisters) strewn across fields and footpaths which pose a risk to children and animals.</p> <p>In the past, on several occasions we have vacated our home and sought alternative accommodation to avoid the disruption of these events but sometimes events have been held at too short notice and/or occur too frequently and pose a potential security risk.</p> <p>We have read the supporting documentation and feel that this is a fair and accurate representation of our concerns. We hope that these serious issues will be taken into account when considering the application for a review of the licence.</p>
	<p>The Coach Barn Hinxworth Road Ashwell Baldock Hertfordshire SG7 5HY</p>	<p>This is a rural location and the roads are unsuitable for high volumes of traffic. The proposal would potentially almost double the permitted capacity which could significantly increase the number of occasions it is used. What started off as a small specialist venues with a couple of events per annum could become a venue for an increased number of larger events. This would create more disruption to the local rural area.</p>
	<p>57 Ashwell Road Bygrave Bygrave Herts SG7 5DY</p>	<p>We already suffer the consequences of these events as they cause a public nuisance, after the events many people walk both at the front and rear of our property heading towards Baldock, and we have had people enter our garden. During such times we feel very uneasy, unsafe and feel the need to be on guard to protect against potential crime and disorder, along with the noise and public nuisance this causes. The thought of more events catering for up to 25,000 people is unthinkable on the small village of Bygrave. I</p>

		<p>request that this licensing amendment request is seriously reconsidered and not extended in the manner set out here.</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>32 Wedon Way Bygrave Baldock SG7 5DX</p>	<p>I wish to object to the above noted licence for the following reasons.</p> <p>Public safety.</p> <p>Bygrave Road leading to Ashwell Road in Lower Bygrave is a very narrow road with limited passing places. The sheer volume of vehicles attending events on the Farr land during 2024, and the unfamiliarity that the persons attending have with the road, made any attempt to cycle up or down the hill extremely dangerous. It is worth noting that the proposed new road layouts to accommodate the new houses in this area are specifically designed to encourage more people to walk or cycle. Major events on the Farr land is in direct conflict with this objective.</p> <p>During the Cereals event in 2024 there was some attempt at traffic management by placing 'No Waiting' cones along Ashwell Road. This proved to be completely ineffective as the locals parked their cars on the road anyway. The result of this when facing a bumper-to-bumper stream of cars coming up the hill, made it impossible to get past when attempting to travel towards Baldock.</p> <p>Those attempting to take children to school or to catch a train ended up being late. These situations lead to a great deal of frustration and an increase in the volume of the traffic will inevitably lead to Road Traffic Collisions.</p> <p>Public Nuisance.</p> <p>The junction at the bottom of Bygrave Road where it joins the A507 is busy almost throughout the day with the normal flow of traffic entering and leaving Baldock. Increasing the volume of traffic to accommodate large events such as those currently taking place on the Farr land should require significant changes to traffic management. Events of this magnitude require their own dedicated access facilities designed to minimise the public nuisance to local users.</p>

		<p>As a resident of Wedon Way, the option to turn right towards Ashwell and Upper Bygrave is all but removed during the opening and closing of large Farr events. The flow of traffic continues for several hours.</p> <p>The alternative to turn left to travel towards Baldock is prevented by cars parked on the side of Ashwell Road and the continual flow of traffic towards Ashwell.</p> <p>Yours faithfully,</p>
	<p>74 Ashwell Road, Bygrave, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 5EA</p>	<p>Request to review the Premises Licence (no 2701) for Bygrave Plantation (application no 18730)</p> <p>I come from a farming family and fully understand the need for landowners to maintain a diversified mix of income sources. For that reason, I am not against landowners seeking alternative (or multiple) uses for their land. However, landowners are custodians of the countryside and must work with their neighbours to ensure that alternative uses do not cause undue public nuisance, result in an increase in crime and disorder, or endanger members of the public.</p> <p>I have lived in Bygrave for 7 years and there is no doubt that the current licence isn't working for the local community. It's too broadly drafted and sadly the landowner doesn't appear to be taking any notice of the various complaints raised and concerns expressed by the villagers in Bygrave. Some of these are documented in Bygrave Parish Council's request for a review of the licence.</p>

	<p>Over the 7 years that I have been in Bygrave, we have endured a variety of issues including very late notification of the festivals (giving us insufficient time to organise not to be in the village or to rearrange our own social events during a festival), loud music playing until the early hours of the morning (keeping us awake), significant numbers of people walking through the village (also early in the morning), very poor security (at the most recent Amafest festival, a security officer aggressively challenged us for walking along the bridleway adjacent to the festival site), drug paraphernalia being left in the village and surrounding areas, human excrement along the bridleway (which many villagers frequently use) and long queues of traffic along the Bygrave Road going into Baldock.</p> <p>I am not requesting for the licence to be revoked altogether but I do ask that NHC introduces considerably more restrictions. For example but not exclusively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> All events being notified in writing to the villagers in Bygrave, Ashwell and Newnham (those most affected) at least 6 months in advance. <input type="checkbox"/> No music (live or recorded) after 10 pm (Monday to Thursday and Sunday) and 11 pm (Friday and Saturday).
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		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Only one event each year of up to 15,000 people and one event of up to 7,500 people. Such events should last for no more than three days – Friday to Sunday). I have no issue with the much smaller weddings (perhaps up to 150 people) that seem to take place adjacent to the festival site and further away from Bygrave.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Traffic into and out of the site should not be permitted along the bridleway parallel to Catditch leading on to Claybush/Ashwell Road. That exit is at an extremely dangerous corner – a serious accident is just a matter of time.</p> <p>Given the concerns expressed by many in Bygrave village, I also ask that NHC arranges (presumably at the licence holder’s expense) for improved security in and around the site, independent noise monitoring and policing (given that the licence holder has been hosting festivals that involve illegal drug taking).</p> <p>I am hoping that a sensible compromise can be reached that eradicates the nuisance to Bygrave and ensures the safety of the local villagers and the festival goers.</p>
	<p>25 Wedon Way, Bygrave, Baldock SG7 5DX</p>	<p>Application No: 18730 to Review Premises License 2701 Support for Proposed License Review for Festivals in Bygrave Woods</p>

The twenty-page document that Bygrave Parish Council (BPC) submitted to support their application for a license review of Premises License 27011 sets out in shocking detail just how much the residents of Bygrave have suffered as a result of festivals held in Bygrave Woods. I do not propose to add any further evidence of intolerable levels of noise, rowdy behaviour or traffic chaos – the evidence already presented speaks for itself.

However, I would like to highlight a few paragraphs from BPC’s document that provide powerful evidence of what is going wrong:

“It is normally very quiet in [Bygrave] in the evenings and during the night. Music from the festivals is heard throughout the village and further afield until the cut-off time which is generally not until 4am at weekends! The noise levels are such as to prevent the residents (including young children) from being able to sleep.

“This is not only unacceptable from a moral and human rights perspective but is also a

	<p>breach of the terms of the license. Under the license, the License Holder is required to comply with the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts (the “COP”) which states that ‘For events continuing or held between the hours of 23:00 and 09:00 the music noise should not be audible within noise sensitive premises with the windows open in a typical manner for ventilation.’ This requirement is clearly being breached.”</p> <p>Appendix 1, p5</p> <p>“The noise from the festivals has a significant detrimental impact on my life. The noise levels are such that it is impossible to enjoy use of my garden on the festival days whether that be to tend to the garden, read a book or enjoy the company of friends. We are unable to use the bedroom at the front of the house (it is simply too noisy, even with the window closed) and it is difficult to sleep in the rooms at the back of the house.”</p> <p>Appendix 3, p11</p> <p>“It was even worse on Saturday evening. As well as the music noise, at 9pm an act came on that consistently used the word ‘F**k’ or a derivative of it for over an hour. This was blasted</p>
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out across the village of Bygrave . . . we have a large number of young families who shouldn't have to put up with this.”

“I believe that this weekend festival could not get a license in its preferred location (because the noise would affect local residents in the area) so came to Bygrave Woods where it seems that anything goes. When it spreads through the festival community that NHDC is an easy touch, having made getting the go-ahead for all events just a tick-box exercise, then this will encourage two things to happen:

- The type of festivals that can't get licenses elsewhere (the worst of the worst) will end up in Bygrave.
- The frequency and number of festivals will increase making living in Bygrave hell, from the extra traffic to the cacophonous noise, night after night.“

Appendix 5, p14

“When the village (of less than a hundred residents) was mobbed by thousands of festival goers making their way home, there was no sign of any of the people who were supposed to be responsible for the running of the festival. Villagers felt utterly abandoned and extremely vulnerable.”

		<p>The document prepared by Bygrave Parish Council sets out in clinical detail how the four Licensing Objectives are clearly not being met by the current licensing arrangements. It also demonstrates that the situation is deteriorating. I therefore strongly support BPC's request for the current license to be reviewed.</p>
	<p>Office at 6A Back Street, Ashwell Baldock, Herts SG7 5PE</p>	<p>We are writing in support of Bygrave Parish Council who have applied for a review of the licence, as events held under the licence are having an unacceptable impact on both Bygrave and Ashwell villagers.</p> <p>The first point we would like to make concerns the level of public consultation prior to awarding the original licence. We believe that a process of consultation was followed which may have met legal requirements, and which may be appropriate for a license application for a building in an urban setting, but in this particular instance it was for a</p>

	<p>field in the middle of the countryside. So a notice on a post in a field, and a classified advertisement in a local regional paper which is not delivered free to all households, simply failed to be noticed by most if not all residents of Bygrave, Ashwell and surrounding villages. We assert that there was inadequate local publicity or engagement about the original licence application.</p> <p>The current licence, held by AE & WA Farr Ltd is wide ranging including permitting unlimited events for up to 7,500 people and one event each year for 7,500-14,999 people. They already have 25 event days in the planning for 2025. The issues experienced to date include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than the required notice being given by the organisers of impending events • Too many events in terms of nuisance to the communities • The events last too long including all-night noise nuisance (up to 4am in the morning) experienced by residents from either excessively loud music or participants • Traffic volumes are too great for the narrow lanes that have to be used to access the site from the nearest public transport. There is a real safety risk to both
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vehicles and any pedestrians on unlit, narrow, lanes with blind-corners that have no footpaths and whose verges have banks that do not allow pedestrians to step off the carriageways. It is a dangerous and hazardous access situation.

- A bridleway (for pedestrian, horse and cycles) is also used unlawfully for event traffic to access the site
- Anti-social behaviour, drug use and drug dealing, trespass, public urination / defecation, and litter occurs directly associated with the events.

Recently, AE & WA Farr Ltd have applied to extend their current license to permit 4 events

per year for 7,500 - 24,999 people, extending the scope of the licensor to extend events to

incur even more nuisance.

The 'open-ended' nature of the current licence could result in a situation of 'permanent' events which materially represent a change of use from farming. If the

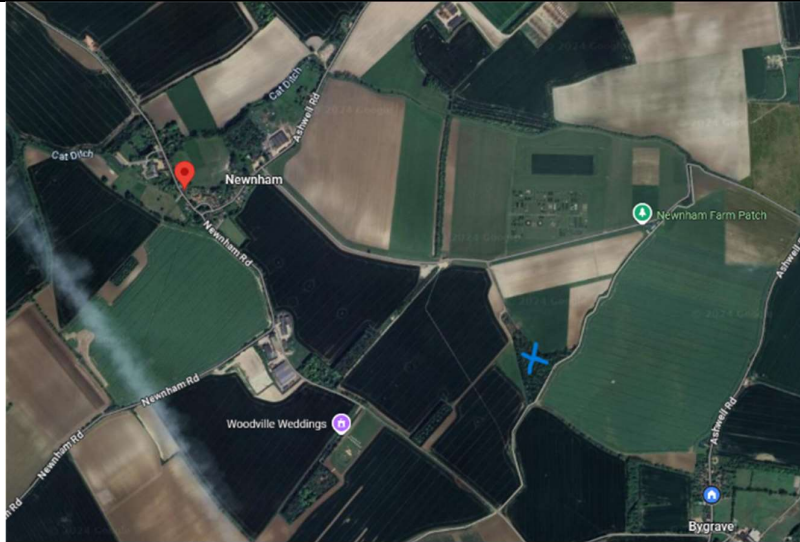
current licence is to remain materially as 'open' in terms of the frequency of events

then we would argue that the applicant should be required to submit a planning application for change of use from agricultural farming to Live Music and Festival Licencing under the 2003 Licensing Act.

		<p>In conclusion we believe that to continue holding music events a new licence structure should be required with more limited event scope. We also believe that prior</p> <p>to giving approval to the new or revised licence it should receive comprehensive resident consultation among communities within a 3 mile radius of the site.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>
[Redacted]	61 Ashwell Road, Bygrave SG7 5DZ	Notes in support of the review of licence 2701 "Bygrave Plantation"

1. Where is the site?

[Redacted]



What cannot be disputed is that the site is in a normally quiet rural location. The villages of Bygrave, Newnham and Ashwell all lie within a short distance of Bygrave Plantation. On the subject of rural event sites, North Herts Council's statement of licensing policies has this to say under policy B10:

"The Council is aware that those living in the rural communities of the district often do so to enjoy the quiet of a rural location. In making a balanced decision, the Council accepts that the level of disturbance that is reasonable in a rural location will be less than in a town centre location. This could be addressed by reduced licensable activity timings, particularly in the evenings and early mornings, and the frequency of

activities. Whilst a 1-off event may cause some reasonable disturbance, it would be more tolerable than an event lasting multiple days or occurring numerous times throughout the year.”

2. What does the licence cover?

The licence predates the above policy. It is open-ended, allowing an unlimited number of events for up to 7499 participants per calendar year. It also allows for one event for up to 14,999 attendees. It does not distinguish between one-day events, multi-day camping events, or events that repeat over multiple days with a different audience coming each day. The licence appears to have been issued without any consideration of the number or scale of events that would be appropriate for a tranquil rural location such as this, nor of the impact on residents of the all-night duration of the licensed activities. There is a stark contrast between the terms of the licence and the very clear message set out in the policy statement B10 above about the levels of disturbance it is reasonable to impose on people in rural areas.

3. Temporary land use

[Redacted content]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4. Breaches of conditions

Operating Schedule Condition 1 of the licence stipulates precise timeframes for the production of Event Management Plans, etc. The deadlines have frequently not been adhered to. In the worst case so far, the Amafest event on 31 August 2024 was arranged at just a matter of days' notice, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A notification letter was received by local residents here on 22 August but was backdated to 1 August, giving the appearance that the event was being properly organised. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Backdating the residents' letter to a date before then was either a deliberately deceitful act or an elementary administrative error. Neither

		<p>possibility generates confidence in the licence holder's willingness or ability to maintain positive relations with the local community.</p> <p>The Bygrave Plantation licence stipulates that for an event of this size, an initial draft EMP needs to be available three months before the event and a final agreed version 28 days prior to it. In this case, no components at all of the EMP were produced until 20 August, just eleven days before the event. At least one of those that was submitted was still marked as a draft. This event was indisputably held in breach of the Council's licensing policy G3.1 on minimum periods of notice and the terms of the operating schedule.</p> <p>The Brockwood Festival held in July 2024 also failed to comply with the terms of the operating schedule and G3.1, being another event opportunistically accepted at short notice by the licence holder and rushed through the application process.</p> <p>As ward member, I have often pointed out to the licensing officers that events are being held despite non-compliance with the operating schedule described above. I have repeatedly been told that I am not allowed sight of the EMP before the event as it is a working document subject to revision right up to the start of the event and even during it. This is frustrating, particularly because the reasoning contradicts the terms of Operating Schedule Condition 1, which states that for both event sizes (7499 and 14,999):</p> <p>"...a final version [of the EMP] will be agreed in writing with all responsible authorities no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the commencement of event build-up on site. The final agreed EMP will be attached to the premises licence as part of the operating schedule and its requirements will form licence conditions."</p> <p>The EMP is essential to the promotion of the licensing objectives. If the Council is unable or unwilling to ensure the EMP is produced in line with the current licence conditions then it needs to explain why those conditions can't be enforced or don't need to be. In other words, to justify ignoring the conditions, the Council will have to</p>
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show that they are not fit for purpose. Then they will need to call for them to be revised or else revoke the licence.

5. Transport

One of the biggest causes of public nuisance is the disruption caused by the event traffic. Realistically, the site is accessible only by private vehicles and each event therefore requires thousands of trips through villages on a rural road infrastructure that is patently not suitable for such heavy use.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a point that applies equally to large vehicles in other situations – for example, the event construction vehicles and any shuttle buses proposed by the applicant to move festival-goers to/from the local train station. This road is just too narrow to support that kind of traffic (it has a 7.5 tonne weight limit after all, which must be there for a reason). Much of the route is single-track with improvised passing points here and there, which are marred by dangerous potholes as the road edges are eroded and subsiding.

On the Newnham side, the road is slightly wider overall but little better. In the village, one side of the road has no footway, with pedestrian access from the houses there being directly onto the road at a point where there is a blind bend. This is quite

dangerous at the best of times and impossible when the village is full of event traffic, which poses a risk to public safety. During recent events, there have been traffic control measures in place to create a one-way flow through Newnham but nothing to support pedestrian safety. Typically, the needs of the event take precedence over the convenience and safety of the residents.

The same goes for vulnerable road users outside the villages. Cyclists, walkers and joggers commonly use the quiet lanes between Ashwell and Baldock, but streams of event traffic represent a serious safety risk to them.

There is no real way to make these routes safer except to restrict the amount of vehicles using them. This can be achieved by limiting the number of events – not by increasing them, as the licence holder appears intent on doing.

6. Noise nuisance

There have always been complaints about the noise nuisance from the music festivals on the site. Some events have had music through to 4 am and beyond which is audible inside residents' properties. This is not acceptable



. Complaints have also been received from Station Road in Ashwell and from Odsey. All these locations are on a perimeter approximately three miles away from the event site.

The licensee encourages residents to use his hotline to communicate any concerns. Feedback from residents suggests that this is not a particularly reliable means of addressing noise problems. There is also a suggestion that the complaints made to the hotline about noise are not being recorded and forwarded to the Council as they should be.

The licensee has made an effort to reduce the noise from events e.g. by moving the stage(s) and implementing better noise monitoring and controls. However, there are still reports by residents of noise intrusion, critically event noise audible indoors after 11 pm.

Again, it is important to consider the compound impact of having several such events during the summer. Noise nuisance generated by an accumulation of events over the summer season is understandably harder for residents to accept than the intrusion from a one-off festival. The licence does not place a limit on the number of loud music events on the site, with music currently allowed through the night at weekends. The licence holder's primary aim is to exploit the site as often as he can. His verbal assurances about the intention to reduce the number of music festivals are welcome but past record suggests that any opportunity to host an event will be accepted, even if this involves breaching the terms of the operating schedule of the licence and the planning regulations governing land use, as seen above.

7. Public rights of way

[REDACTED]



8. Ecology and environment

However, the potential for moving thousands of attendees to and from the local train station is limited by the nature of the road network, as described above. The use of buses is unrealistic on lanes which are not wide enough to allow two cars to pass in many places. Nor would it be safe to expect buses to use the public bridleway to reach/leave the site. The local taxi provision is not sufficient to cater for such large-scale events if the majority of attendees were to come by rail.

[REDACTED]

9. Conclusion

Many local residents are distressed by the degree of nuisance caused by the events held under this licence, primarily the noise and traffic impacts on the rural environment. There are also frequent complaints about anti-social behaviour by event-goers around the site and in the villages, and the occurrence of litter, including drug paraphernalia.

It must be remembered that this licence is for an unrestricted number of events. The compound effect of experiencing multiple events, not knowing how many events to expect and the late notification of events is extremely unsettling for many.

Residents are expected to accept the disruption caused by thousands of vehicle movements through the local villages and noise from loud music festivals with little forewarning, potentially on consecutive weekends throughout the summer.

Residents can never be confident of knowing what events are upcoming over the longer term or even in the next few weeks, so cannot factor them into their own plans. Their villages are normally tranquil: no one there would anticipate having a summer wedding at the local church to the background noise of electronic dance music coming over from the festival site, for example – nor should they, or anyone else

[REDACTED]

The current licence contrives to force local people to manage their lives around unlimited and unpredictable event dates. This should not be the case.

In summary:

The licence holder has demonstrated his willingness to breach conditions intended to protect the public from nuisance, there are risks to the safety of users of the road

		<p>network [REDACTED], reports of noise nuisance made to the licence holder's hotline but not forwarded to the Council, and concerns about the behaviour of festival-goers away from the site.</p> <p>The licence exists to facilitate the use of the site for as many events as possible. It fails to differentiate between event types or take into account the normally tranquil rural setting of the site.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>The licence contains conditions on the timely production of EMPs which the licence holder regularly fails to comply with and which the Council also appears to regard as superfluous or unenforceable.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>All in all, the local community around this site has for years been expected to put up with levels of disturbance that far exceed that which is reasonable in a rural area. In fact, the disruption goes beyond anything that would or should be accepted in any location in the district, rural or otherwise. No other venue has a licence that so fails to protect residents from its effects. Specific failings on behalf of the licence holder compound the situation.</p> <p>This licence is seriously flawed and needs to be revoked. A fully reworked replacement might be acceptable if it emerged from a meticulous consideration of the needs of the local community and fully embraced the spirit of licensing policy B10 as mentioned at the beginning of these notes.</p> <p>Cllr Tom Tyson</p>
[REDACTED]	74 Ashwell Road, Bygrave	[REDACTED]

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<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Philip Hills / Jacqueline Sorrell</p> <p>60 Ashwell Road</p> <p>Bygrave</p> <p>Hertfordshir e</p> <p>SG4 9NP</p>	<p>Application (number 18669) by AE & WA Farr Ltd to vary their premises licence for Bygrave Plantation (Licence Number 2701). I wish to object to the varying of the above licence by AE & WA Farr Ltd. Firstly it is outrageous that a notice of this import to the village of Bygrave is displayed in the middle of a field AND over Christmas/New Year period giving short notice to make comment I understand that the current licence gives the applicant permission for any number of events of up to 7500 attendees. To request four events each year for between 7,500 and 25,000 attendees plus associated stalls and entertainment etc and any number of events up to 7,500 attendees is not acceptable and unreasonable when neighbours are inconvenienced and disturbed. I understand that the criteria are</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The prevention of crime and disorder.• public safety.• the prevention of public nuisance.• the protection of children from harm. <p>Previous festivals have contravened all the above and the increase of size and number will only exacerbate the issues.</p> <p>1 Crime and disorder</p> <p>We are aware that there is drug taking at events as we have seen the silver canisters strewn locally both on public footpaths and Ashwell Road. This is not acceptable for local people with youngsters or pets</p> <p>2 Public Safety.</p> <p>The festivals consistently use the Ashwell Road to take traffic away from site. We keep saying that our road is not suitable for a sudden wave of vehicles and</p> <hr/> <p>— particularly by people who are unaware of the vagaries of this road and cause chaos to local people going about their business.</p>
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The outlet onto Ashwell Road is via a bridalway/footpath which should not be used for vehicles. The outlet onto Ashwell Road is on a blind bend. There has been a Marshall on this bend to control traffic but it is obvious he has had no formal training.

3 Prevention of Public Nuisance

Although the finish times have been reduced from 6am to 4am this will have little impact on Bygrave. Although we are told sound checks take place this is done by a member of the festival team, which is ineffective so in summer with windows open and wind in Bygrave direction and undulating ground sleep is compromised. Sound checks need to be by an independent company arranged by NHC.

The last festival someone was allowed the microphone and proceeded to use foul language totally unacceptable anyway and particularly as we have young families in the Village

Limited notice is given that festivals are to take place



4 Protection of children from harm

There is little in terms of protection of young people when they leave events. Whatever their medical state there is no help or guidance from Marshalls. They have no idea which way to turn on Ashwell Road which is a dangerous road with no footpaths or street lighting and right angle bends until they reach Baldock. We have helped guide them as has our neighbours. Surely the festivals have a duty of care even after people have left site

I fully support the stance taken by Bygrave Parish Council in their submission.

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Land Adjacent to Bygrave Woods – LC/2701 –) Opposing review of current granted Licence
Representations – APPENDIX F

Email address	Address	Text
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Dairy Farm Bygrave Road Baldock, SG7 5DS</p>	<p>Sorry for the two part email.. I hit send too early!!</p> <p>I'd ask you to seriously consider letting the events run and not let a few Karen's spoil what is a great asset to the local area.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>On Fri, 27 Dec 2024 at 09:46, James Oakley [REDACTED] wrote: To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am a resident of Bygrave and am writing this email to extend my support of the site in loom of the licensing review.</p> <p>I am 29 years old, I went to knights Templar school and now farm in bygrave on a neighbouring farm to the site.</p> <p>As a teenager I attended the festivals that the site held with friends and family. Great memories were had year after year.</p> <p>I do feel some bad press has been given to this event. As a neighbour to the site, we have never had any issue with the running of the site.</p> <p>The use of this "unfarmed" land in order to make extra income through diversification has enabled the Farris to not only make their business more viable but through this events site other local businesses to also benefit through the extra traffic it brings to the area during its use.</p>

<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>The old stables Ashwell SG75LU</p>	<p>I am a local resident living in ashwell close to newnham events site. Myself, family and friends of all generations have enjoyed attending events here for years. It brings together local residents of all ages providing entertainment in the local area, something which there is not much of usually.</p> <p>What's more is that it brings visitors to the area providing business for local services- accommodation, eating, transport etc. Which is much needed in the current climate when small business need all the support they can get. These small businesses keep the local economy going and we should be doing all we can to bring customers to them and the local area.</p> <p>In renewing this license it will greatly help for all the above reasons.</p> <p>Best wishes Kate Redfern</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>311 Wedon Way, Bygrave.</p>	<p>We understand that Bygrave Parish Council have made their views known to you in relation to the above license application, and we would ask you to kindly note that the Parish Council do not speak for all residents. The village is a stronghold of Nimbyism, but not all residents feel that way.</p> <p>We have lived in lower Bygrave for 18 years, during which time the Farris have held numerous events. Not one of those events has inconvenienced us or caused us problems.</p> <p>The traffic management system that is always put in place works very well to alleviate pressure on Bygrave/Ashwell Road and aside from a flurry of activity as event goers arrive and depart (in each case, a relatively short window of time) we would hardly know that the events were taking place. We would suggest that no more pressure is placed on our narrow country roads than that produced by day to day farming activities and HGV deliveries to and from Ashwell along Bygrave Road.</p>

Noise levels have always been a very long way from a public nuisance, and we have only ever been aware of a distant beat - no more annoying than the ever- present sound of trimmers, chainsaws, barking dogs and the like.

We have certainly seen no evidence of anti-social behaviour, and there is no risk to public safety. Two members of our family have attended many of the events and have always been hugely impressed by the organisation and security.

We support the Farris in their festival endeavours and see them as a positive for the local area.

Daniel, Helen, Oliver, Laurence and Matilda Rushbrook


Dairy Farm
Bygrave Road
Baldock, SG7 5DS

I'm writing in full support of Bygrave Woods events, Newnham, Baldock.

These events extend to support our local businesses from hotels, pubs & restaurant used by event workers & festival goers... This brings a much needed boost to our local economy.


Win Win!!!


<p>[REDACTED]</p>		<p>just wanted to email you to say that I have always been very impressed with the Events that are put on in Newnham.</p> <p>The site is well off the main roads, there is very little congestion on the surrounding roads and we have not been affected by any noise.</p> <p>The events help with local employment and I will be asking if my teenagers can help or volunteer at future events as it counts towards their DofE - helping in the local community.</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>The Old Vicarage Newnham</p>	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I'm writing to question the premises licensing review of Bygrave Woods. As a family we have been lucky enough to attend some of the events held in Bygrave Woods and support what the land and woods are being used for.</p> <p>Of course as long as traffic is managed and the infrastructure of the roads is not damaged any further [REDACTED], the events are set away from the village and have always been well managed and contained. If all of this was to continue (with the council repairing the roads) then as a family we have to objection to what is being proposed.</p> <p>Kind regards Simon</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>14 George St Oban</p>	<p>Hi there,</p>

	Argyll PA34 5SB	<p>My name is Matt. I live in Hertfordshire and I'm emailing you to say that I strongly oppose the upcoming licence review at Bygrave Woods.</p> <p>Having attended several events there myself over the years and have tickets to 2 upcoming events this year also, it is so important that events are able to go ahead without restrictions (as long as they're done safely and professionally of course, which I've always found their events to be).</p> <p>The licence restrictions of Bygrave Woods make it a perfect venue for events, in a time where events are struggling both to sell tickets and find appropriate venues that can hold them.</p> <p>Camping festivals and events in general were the hardest hit in Covid - they were the first to close and the last to open, and they are still struggling with the damage covid hit, with very few getting any kind of money from the government. Over 100 festivals have already had to cancel this year already with that number still set to rise dramatically.</p> <p>I really hope you'll do the right thing which is to support events and live music.</p> <p>Thanks, Matthew.</p>
	The Chimes High Street Hinworth SG7 5HH	<p>To whom this may concern,</p> <p>I am writing this email to oppose the licence review and support Bygrave Woods as beneficial to our local community.</p> <p>As a local resident who works in the local public house, these events bring a beneficial footfall to our area.</p>

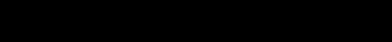
		<p>This is bringing awareness to our small villages and the picturesque surroundings, along with supporting our local economy. Having been to a few of these events, I can see they are always well managed in respect of noise and travelling arrangement's.</p> <p>I hope you take local views into consideration with this licence review and can see how detrimental this could be to our area.</p> <p>Kind Regards, Ashleigh Methven</p>
[REDACTED]	Scotty Brook Crescent, Derbyshire SK13 8UG	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I'm currently travelling in the States but will be returning to Herts in a few weeks. I'm very much looking forward to attend several events at Bygrave Woods this year (and visited an event there last summer - Amafest) and loved the location!</p> <p>The event I went to (Amafest) was held to a high standard and felt very safe in comparison to other festivals I've been to at other venues around the country for the past 15 years (that have been nothing but drugs, antisocial behaviour etc)</p> <p>I'm also very excited that Vegan Camp Out is being held there this year. I've always wanted to go but never been able to but now I can! As the only major vegan festival in the country, it's great that they've picked Hertfordshire to host it. It's such an important festival, [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>This is why I completely oppose the upcoming review and hope you do too!</p>

		Jenny x
████████████████████	Gerry and Julie Methven The Three Horseshoes High Street Hinworth SG7 5HQ	<p>We write with reference to the license review at Bygrave Woods</p> <p>We are a local public house which rely on events in the area to bring in much needed trade to ourselves. We support the events held at Bygrave Woods and would find it extremely detrimental to our small business.</p> <p>Having also attended events held there, we have always found them to be run in a professional manner.</p> <p>We therefore oppose the license review and hope that you will take our views into consideration.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Gerry and Julie Methven</p>
████████████████████	2 Meadow Cottages, Caldecote , Baldock Herts SG7 5LE S	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I would like to register my support for the continuation of events in Bygrave Woods.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, Clare Finnimore</p>
████████████████████	8 South End Bassingbourn SG8 5NG	I would like to communicate my support for the appeal for the renewal of the license for Bygrave Woods and very much oppose the license review, which I was very disappointed to hear was occurring.


		<p>I have been to several events held at Bygrave Woods with my family, musical and others, and have they have always been extremely well managed and organised. They have also been a very useful way to integrate into the local community having moved to the area two years ago, it is great to see everyone come together to enjoy them and the organisers do a phenomenal job ensuring everyone is catered for.</p> <p>We feel they are a benefit to the local community and local businesses and do not fully understand why they are up for review as we have never seen them to have a negative impact. I urge you to allow this venue to continue holding a variety of events, it is a special place and one that needs to be supported and would be greatly missed if they no longer occurred.</p> <p>I hope you will give my comments consideration and I would like to be kept updated on the progress of this issue.</p> <p>Kind regards Tallulah Wilson</p>
	25 Pembroke Road Baldock Herts SG7 6DB	<p>I am writing about the Bygrave Woods events, which are located just outside Baldock in the village of Newnham.</p> <p>I live in Baldock and have done so for over 40 years. I know this location from walks and cycling in the area and while we have not attended any of the events, we have seen this location grow in popularity,. But alongside that we have also seen the facilities and infrastructure management improve to support that growth.</p> <p>The local economy does benefit from the occasional influx of visitors and I am not aware of any issues within the Baldock environment this causes.</p>

		<p>As a local resident, I support this event and that the council should allow it to continue.</p>
	<p>Dairy Bungalow Caldecote Road Newnham Herts SG75LA</p>	<p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>We wish to make it clear that we oppose the latest licence review.</p> <p>We believe the events held at Bygraves Woods should continue.</p> <p>We have lived and worked in Newnham for nearly 15 years and in that time have attended many events run by the Farr family and their professional team of supporters and which are held at Bygrave Woods.</p> <p>At each and every single event that we have attended we have without exception, found the events professionally run, very well organised and safe.</p> <p>Being as we live in the village of Newnham and therefore very close to the events at Bygrave Woods we have the opportunity to see first hand exactly how the events would or could affect the village.</p> <p>From our direct experience, we have found there is very little noise pollution, minimal light pollution and actually, being totally honest, it's quite nice to know the young, and not so young like us, are enjoying themselves.</p> <p>The occasional busy or queued traffic that does pass through the village is only brief and is monitored and controlled well and again, we have always found the organisers professional, efficient and helpful.</p> <p>We strongly oppose the licence review and believe that the events held at Bygrave Woods are more beneficial to the local community than not.</p> <p>We know all of the Farr family well and we have always been kept fully informed and updated of any upcoming events.</p>

		<p>We believe there is absolutely no way they would inflict ANY unnecessary noise, inconvenience, disruption or annoyance to any resident in any village nearby to Bygrave Woods. The Farr family live here too.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Richard and Lyn Stark</p>
	<p>St Bartholomew's The Causeway SG9 9EZ</p>	<p>regularly visit Baldock and the area around Bygrave Woods whilst dog walking and have never experienced any issues because of the site and feel that their license should be renewed.</p> <p>I have friends who live nearby who say that Bygrave Woods events have not caused any issues or inconvenience to them. I feel like it's a very small but vocal number of people who have raised any objections.</p> <p>It's a valuable asset for the local community.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Mandy</p>
	<p>Unit 4, Caldecote Road, Newham, HERTS, SG7 5LE</p>	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am writing to oppose the review of the premise license as my strong support for the continuation of events at Bygrave Woods, a critical component of our local economy and community. As the owner of a business that employs six staff year-round and over one hundred during the summer months, I can confirm the significant positive impact these events have on our operations and sustainability.</p>

		<p>The events at Bygrave Woods are not only a vital source of revenue for local businesses like mine but also provide invaluable work experience and summer income for students. Our business, along with many others in the area, depends heavily on the influx of visitors these events attract. This increased footfall supports a wide range of local establishments including public houses, shops, restaurants, and hotels, significantly boosting our local economy.</p> <p>Furthermore, these events are conducted professionally, adhering strictly to the four pillars of licensing law and the terms of the premises license, ensuring safety and compliance.</p> <p>Eliminating or reducing these events would not only affect our ability to sustain employment for our team but would also detract from the corporation taxes contributed to the government, thereby impacting public services.</p> <p>I urge the council to consider these points carefully and recognise the broader benefits that these events bring to Bygrave and its residents which I am one of.</p> <p>Thank you for considering this matter.</p> <p>Warm regards,</p>
	13 Thirsk Road, London SW11 5SU	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am writing to oppose the review of the premise licence as my strong support for the continuation of events at Bygrave Woods, a critical component of our local economy and community. As an employee of a local business, I can confirm the significant positive impact these events have on our operations and sustainability.</p> <p>The events at Bygrave Woods are not only a vital source of revenue for local businesses like ours but also provide invaluable work experience and summer income for locals. Our business, along with many others in the area, depends heavily on the influx of visitors</p>

		<p>these events attract. This increased footfall supports a wide range of local establishments including public houses, shops, restaurants, and hotels, significantly boosting our local economy.</p> <p>Furthermore, these events are conducted professionally, adhering strictly to the four pillars of licensing law and the terms of the premises license, ensuring safety and compliance.</p> <p>Eliminating or reducing these events would not only affect our ability to sustain employment for our team but would also detract from the corporation taxes contributed to the government, thereby impacting public services.</p> <p>I urge the council to consider these points carefully and recognise the broader benefits that these events bring to Bygrave and its residents which I am one of. Thank you for considering this matter.</p> <p>Warm regards, Clemmie France-hayhurst</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>42 Orchard Way, Royston SG8 5EX</p>	<p>Good afternoon</p> <p>I would like to write to express that I oppose the license review at Bygrave woods in Hertfordshire.</p> <p>Kind regards Caitlin</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>My address is: 2 Meadow cottages</p>	<p>Just to confirm I'm very happy for events to take place in the Bygrave woods area.</p> <p>All the best</p>

	Caldecote Herts SG7 5LE	
	89 coachmans lane, baldock, sg7 5bg	<p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>I am writing to express my full support for Bygrave Woods as it undergoes a review of its Premises Licence by Bygrave Parish Council. This site has become a cornerstone of our local community, bringing people together, promoting local culture, and delivering significant economic benefits to the area.</p> <p>The broad variety of offerings at Bygrave Woods ensures there is something for everyone to enjoy. These events not only bring residents together but also attract visitors from outside the area, who are consistently impressed by the natural beauty of our surroundings and the warm hospitality of our community.</p>

This influx of visitors creates an invaluable boost for local businesses. From public houses and independent shops to restaurants, hotels, and beyond, many local enterprises thrive as a result of the increased footfall generated by events at Bygrave Woods. Moreover, this positive impact is not limited to the event dates alone—many attendees return to the area for future visits, driving continued support for our local economy.


It's also important to acknowledge the professionalism and dedication of the team behind Bygrave Woods. Every event is meticulously planned and managed in accordance with the four pillars of licensing law: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance, and the protection of children from harm. These principles are at the core of their operations, ensuring that the events are safe,

respectful, and well-received by the majority of the community.

Beyond the economic and cultural benefits, Bygrave Woods provides an opportunity to showcase what makes our area so special. It allows visitors to experience the charm and character of our region, creating lasting memories and forging positive impressions that encourage them to return again and again.

In summary, Bygrave Woods is more than just an events venue; it is a vital asset to our community. It connects people, supports local businesses, and celebrates the unique beauty of our area. I strongly urge you to consider the overwhelming benefits that this site brings and to ensure its continued success for the sake of our local economy and community spirit.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

	<p>Resident, Tabbs close, Letchworth</p>	<p>I would like to strongly oppose the proposed license review of Bygrave woods event site, my local event site.</p> <p>As a resident of Letchworth I am well aware of the lack of local facilities for live arts and events. We need somewhere, outdoors, for public enjoyment of all artistic endeavours, if nothing else it contributes towards a sense of community, which is much needed.</p> <p>My background is in live events and circus production. I have worked for over twenty years in corporate, festival and circus events. I am currently a technical manager at large London institution, part of my remit is event production.</p> <p>This experience qualifies me to say that S&ES are exceptionally good at what they do.</p> <p>With regard to Security & Event Solutions, I have every confidence in their ability to produce, operate and feedback on any type of event. I have worked alongside this company and in particular Gareth, as a festival bars build manager on many occasions, an area which demands a high level of disciplined security. Gareth and his team have always demonstrated exceptional professionalism, bars never got broken into, stock never went missing.</p> <p>I can provide many other testament to this effect if necessary.</p> <p>In short, if you care about the arts, the benefits for the local area, and events being run with the utmost professionalism, then you will do the right thing and allow Bygrave Woods to continue without review.</p> <p>Regards,</p>

		<p>Sunni Jolly</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Chairman, Cycle Club Ashwell</p>	<p>I have recently learned that the Premises Licence is being reviewed for Bygrave Woods.</p> <p>I hope that Bygrave Woods is able to retain its licence and continue to operate as a venue for a wide variety of events. Such events bring visitors and business to the area. There are few venues of this type in the locality.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p> <p>Daniel Doncaster Chairman, Cycle Club Ashwell</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Rose Cottage, High Street, Gosmore, Hitchin, Herts. SG4 7QQ</p>	<p>I have been made aware of Bygrave Parish Council's application to review the license application.</p> <p>My submission is to fully support the event operator's application and schedule below simple bullet points that reinforce the reasons for my support, addressing the list of potential objections on the Notice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime & Disorder – Over the last 14-15 years of events held at this site, no complaints have been logged with the Police nor have the Police taken any action whatsoever over all these years. • Public Nuisance – Again over all these years, the single recalled complaint came from Bygrave village with regard to litter which was duly cleared up by the event's litter team. • Public Safety – Noting again that in the 14-15 years there has not been a single record of public safety being compromised by the events, I am therefore unclear as to what this might refer to and as to why after all these years public safety may be jeopardised. • Nuisance to Local Residents – As public nuisance above, but in addition it should be noted that the nearest communities lie some ½ mile away and with Bygrave only hosting 9 dwellings. There are strictly imposed sound levels and hours of operation restrictions which are monitored and enforced 24 hours by a specialist company. All events to date

have been run without any incident, so it seems unreasonable and untenable to suggest that matters would change.

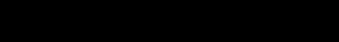
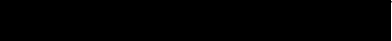
- Timing & Frequency – These matters are already covered by the current license.
- Traffic impact – it is likely that there will be little change in traffic movements which generally and in the majority are locally generated. Also it should be noted that these traffic movements would be spread over a considerable period unlike say a sporting event which starts and finishes at set times. It is also relevant to note that there are no parking issues with acres of on-site parking available.
- Anti-Social Behaviour – Other than the one litter issue three years ago, which was promptly and efficiently dealt with, I understand that there was a single allegation of possible drug dealing but this did not attract any interest from the Police.
- Lack of Liaison with Local Residents – This is wholly untrue as I understand that a public notice is issued to every resident of Bygrave, Newnham and Ashwell for each event.
- Noise – Dealt with above.

It is curious that with no previous objection over all the years, that a review of the current approved license is raised.

The events provide much pleasure for a diverse range of people without any substantiated negative issues or consequences and have been acclaimed by many sources including the local press and it would, in my opinion, be shameful for this speculative objection by a minority to be upheld. I would suggest that speculation is no cause to deny, with any transgression dealt with at the time by timely action or punitive action.

The balance needs to be assessed objectively in a similar way that untenable objections are regularly raised to planning applications for development on the grounds of noise, dust, disturbance, construction traffic etc. Accordingly, it would be both perverse and vexatious to deny people to locally indulge in harmless, friendly enjoyment for the sake of appeasing the few.

In conclusion, I see no reason for a negative review of the license and hence my unreserved support.

	17 iredale view Baldock Sg7 6tr	<p>Hello</p> <p>I live close to the woodland and events site in Sg7 (Baldock town)</p> <p>I formally oppose the licence review or any restrictions on hosting appropriate events at bygrave woods as the ability to host events are beneficial to the local community and assists the local micro economy.</p> <p>Live music and events are at the forefront of a vibrant cultural arts and music scene that the UK has a world renowned reputation for.</p> <p>It is key that such a local amenity such as bygrave woods is available to assist attract good profile events to our area of north Hertfordshire which has included well known artists in their relevant fields or genres.</p> <p>The events are beneficial to improve the cultural offerings for local residents of north Hertfordshire (Baldock Ashwell and bygrave) as well as attract significant new visitors to the area.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>Brendan Flaherty</p>
		<p>Hi</p> <p>I'd like to oppose the licence review for Bygrave Woods as I feel it's detrimental to the events</p>

	24 Higgins Road Derby DE24 8YG	industries, especially in these times we're in. I have attended a couple of events here and thoroughly enjoyed them. Kind regards Jane Goodridge
	Mill House, Ashwell road, Newnham SG7 5JX	I would like to support the events that happen in bygrave wood. I believe it's great for local businesses and local communities in the area. They are all run in a professional manner, and we fully enjoy the events taking place. I fully oppose the license review, it would be a true shame if these events couldn't take place. Thank you Jessica Ricketts
	2, Rose Cottages, Newnham, SG7 5JX	To whom it may concern, Please note, I object to a review of the event site premises licence at Brygrave Woods by the Bygrave Parish Council. The event site is well run, professional and impacts very little on my day to day life in Newnham. I can't understand why anyone would want to take away yet another income stream to farmers within this current climate. Please do not revoke or downscale the licence allowances. Please do reach out if you wish me to clarify anything. Kind Regards Christie O'Doherty-Jennings

<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>2, Rose Cottages, Newnham, SG7 5JX</p>	<p>To Whom it May Concern,</p> <p>Please note that I am in full support of the current licence (and any potential plans to expand capacity in the future). I oppose the licence review that has been called by Bygrave Parish Council of the Bygrave Woods Event Site Premises Licence.</p> <p>The event site is a useful source of income for the owners who then pass this onto the village with their kind heartedness and ability to support a real village community feeling in Newnham.</p> <p>Whilst one event in particular caused a couple of issues, these were dealt with promptly, with professionalism and with a real sense of care for the people of Newnham. I have no doubt that lessons have been learned and will be enacted on to avoid a repeat. Indeed, since then events have been held and else have hardly noticed. A real testament to the team running the events. Many other events have happened without a hitch since living in Newnham [REDACTED]</p> <p>Please know the event site has my full support both now and in the future. Any objection, revoking of the licence or downscaling of current licence allowances is short sighted and will harm the local community.</p> <p>Please do reach out to me if you have any further questions.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p> <p>James O'Doherty-Jennings</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>2 farm cottages caldecote sg75ld</p>	<p>I live in Caldecote (just past Newnham) and have been made aware that there is potentially a review of the suitability of the events being held in the area.</p>

		<p>I wanted it to be noted that as a local resident, I have no issue with the events and actually think they provide several nice things for us to attend.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Jack Forrester</p>
	<p>1 Farm Cottages Caldecote Newnham SG7 5LD</p>	<p>Dear whom this may concern,</p> <p>I am writing you OPPOSE the licence review at Bygrave Woods, and notify you that I SUPPORT Bygrave Woods as a beneficiary to our local community.</p> <p>I strongly believe that Bygrave Woods do NOT cause a nuisance, they BENEFIT our local community in many ways, such as offering wonderful events for the locals, brings visitors to our local area which further supports our public houses, shops, restaurants, and hotels.</p> <p>Kind Regards, Chelsea Kester</p>
	<p>Unit 4, Caldecote Road, Newham, HERTS, SG7 5LE</p>	<p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>I am writing to express my objection to the review of the premises license and to voice my strong support for the continuation of events at Bygrave Woods. These events are an essential part of our local economy and community. As a business owner that employs six staff members throughout the year and over one hundred during the summer, I can confirm the positive contribution these events have on our operations and local economy.</p> <p>The events at Bygrave Woods serve as an essential source of revenue for local businesses like mine and create valuable opportunities for students to gain work experience and earn summer income.</p> <p>Many businesses in the area, including ours, depend on the increase in visitors that these events bring. This boost in footfall supports local pubs, shops, restaurants, and hotels, significantly benefiting our local economy.</p> <p>Furthermore, these events are managed professionally and in full compliance, ensuring safety and adherence to the law.</p>

		<p>If these events were to be reduced or eliminated, it would directly impact our ability to sustain employment for our team and would reduce the taxes we contribute to public services.</p> <p>I urge the council to carefully consider the benefits these events bring to Bygrave Woods and the surrounding community, of which I am a part. Thank you for taking the time to consider this matter</p> <p>Best regards Oli Margo</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Paul Eaglen Lucy Eaglen 3 Rose Cottage, Newnham</p>	<p>We understand that a review is being undertaken of the licensing of Bygrave Wood. We live in Newnham and are surprised by this waste of time and money. We enjoy the events and have never been disadvantaged by the sounds or people enjoying the events.</p> <p>We therefore oppose the licence review as we think it's unnecessary.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Paul Eaglen Lucy Eaglen</p>
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>29 high st, baldock, SG7 6BE</p>	<p>As a local to Bygrave woods events site I would like to voice my frustration at the suggestion of a license review.</p> <p>I'm slightly disappointed to see a small number of my community have taken issue with the happenings on this site, as important as it is to make sure we are all comfortable I feel the bigger picture is being missed. Most people, myself included, understand that although events need to be right for the community the importance of them going ahead without restriction is vital, especially in 2025 when so many festivals are closing down.</p> <p>It's paramount that events venues are protected given the current circumstances and that</p>


we work together to support this industry so that we don't lose it completely. In my experience, the events that have taken place at Bygrave woods are always put on to a high standard and have the necessary precautions in place that so many festivals of a similar nature seem to have lacked over recent years. There's always going to be one or two attendees that break the rules or partake in antisocial behaviour but it would be ridiculous to say events as a whole should be punished as result of this. We don't have this attitude with concerts or clubs, what's important is that the few that let everyone down are handled appropriately instead of a collective punishment on the events industry. I believe it would be far more productive for us to all work together as a community, despite our opposing views, to make this work for everyone. This events site should be recognised for the overwhelmingly net positive effect that it brings to the local area/events industry as a whole, instead of being reduced to the small number of unfavourable circumstances that have occurred. I'm hopeful that the overall perspective will be taken into account and that the right decision will be made. I really feel that the negative consequence of losing Bygrave woods as an events site is far greater than the impact that the festivals held there have on us as residents. Thanks a lot, Evie.

4, The Green, Ashwell Road, Newnham,

[Redacted]

	<p>Baldock, Herts. SG7 5JY</p>	<p>I understand that there has been a request for a review of the Alcohol & Entertainment license That the Farr Estate Newnham Hold for Bygrave Wood I would like to oppose this review I am a resident of Newnham and the site of Bygrave Wood The estate have held many music concerts at this venue and I will say the residents of Newnham had some problems In the early days. But recently music events at this location have been trouble free, the traffic management was a major problem which has completely solved and the noise level has reduced and in general Newnham residents not worried by the occasional music events. I believe that Bygrave residents Are concerned by the noise levels if the wind is in their direction. We all know that farming is not the most profitable Occupation and most of them have to diversify the use of their land. I would rather be disturbed by music for a few evenings a year rather than having our beautiful countryside [REDACTED] [REDACTED] The estate are trying to encourage more family friendly events like the fashion and wedding shows for the future and if you remember the [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>
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<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>were no traffic problems at all . I truly believe that more restrictions on the occasional events held at this location would be detrimental to us as Residents local businesses and the County I did a straw poll of a few residents and they were in favor of objecting to the review but did not agree to write to the Council saying it would not make a difference I do hope they were wrong</p>
<p>3 Pine Court, Frome, Somerset, BA11 2UJ</p> <p>To whomever this may concern, I'm writing to communicate my opposition to the premises license review for Bygrave Woods. The events industry as a whole is struggling to continue with what they do, having lost over 200 festivals over the last five years alone for example. The festivals, concerts, and exhibitions effected by venue closures and revisions are such an integral source of enjoyment and community bonding for so many of us and are such a large part of UK culture that we need to hold onto. It would be a real shame to lose such a brilliant events space, Bygrave has held some of my favourite festivals and excels not only in being such a suitable space but also in being ran by</p>

		<p>such a competent team who seem to really care about the right things when hosting, which is rare to come across.</p> <p>I understand there must be some reason for the suggestion of a license review, but I believe that Bygrave should feel a great sense of pride to have one of the best purpose built venues in the UK and it should be a celebrated part of the community. I hope this decision will be reconsidered and that the space will be able to fulfil its potential and continue to grow into one of the countries most loved venues.</p> <p>Kind regards, Amber</p>
	174 Upper bridge road CM2 0AY	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am writing to express my strong opposition to the review of the premise license and my unwavering support for the continuation of events at Bygrave Woods.</p> <p>As an employee of a local business that relies heavily on the footfall generated by these events, I can attest to their significant positive impact on our local economy and community. The events at Bygrave Woods are a vital source of revenue for local businesses and provide invaluable employment opportunities for many residents, particularly students during the summer months.</p> <p>The elimination or reduction of these events would have a devastating effect on our local economy, leading to job losses and a reduction in corporation taxes that support essential public</p>

services. Furthermore, these events are conducted professionally and responsibly, adhering strictly to all relevant laws and regulations.
I urge the council to carefully consider the broader benefits that these events bring to Bygrave and its residents and to allow them to continue.
Thank you for your time and consideration.
Many Thanks,
Rebecca Keating

Amy Moss
42 Silver Street
Ashwell
Herts
SG8 5qh

I am in support of the Farris holding a licence that caters for larger events.
The events bring enjoyment and employment to the area and they only last a few days at a time.