

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,<br/>Bygrave<br/>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,<br/>Ron Austin,</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>84 Marsa Way,<br/>Bridgwater,<br/>Somerset.<br/>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<br/>Ashwell<br/>Herts<br/>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<br/>17 Woodforde Close<br/>Ashwell<br/>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"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>3. The associated anti-social behaviour would have a detrimental effect on residents.</li> <li>4. The lack of resident liaison.</li> <li>5. The frequency and timing of events is of great concern.</li> </ol> <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<br/>34 Brooke Road<br/>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><b>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):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>timings and frequency of events - far too many, for too long, involving late night and overnight events,</b></li> <li>• <b>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?</b></li> <li>• <b>potential antisocial behaviour,</b></li> <li>• <b>lack of resident liaison and</b></li> <li>• <b>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.</b></li> </ul> <p>[REDACTED]<br/>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>  |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  | 10<br>Woodforde<br>Close<br>Ashwell<br>Herts<br>SG7 5QE      | <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>   |
|  | Next Odsey<br>Station<br>Road<br>Ashwell<br>Herts<br>SG7 5RW | <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<br/>Ian</p>  |
|  | Ruby<br>Muskett<br>Chansett<br>Lostwithiel<br>PL220JA        | <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, <b>has destructive and compound effects on the wildlife and biodiversity in the area</b></p> <p>"Bygrave Parish Council have applied for the festival license to be REVIEWED. The stated grounds for review are that events are already <b>“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”</b> .</p> <p>Please take my views on this application to review.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Ruby Muskett</p> |
|  | 90 High<br>Street<br>Ashwell                                 | <p>I would like to raise my concerns regarding the licensing of Bygrave Woods for music festivals up to 14,999 people.</p>  |

|            |   |   |
|------------|---|---|
|            | 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<br/>Claire Grimmer</p>   |
| [REDACTED] | Joe Brace<br>53 Ashwell<br>Road<br>Bygrave<br>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 &amp; 5 year old daughter) &amp; 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"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- There were people, clearly intoxicated, walking past our house and in several cases through our garden in the early hours of the morning.</li> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- There were smashed bottles and discarded waste all along the public footpath.</li> </ul> |



|                             |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
|                             |  | <p>██. The events held at Bygrave woods cause such great distress for me and my family that we would have to go and stay in a hotel or with family if there are similar events again. I find that to be totally unacceptable and hope you can agree to limit the license for this.</p> <p>I am happy to make this representation in person at any meeting if so required.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>Joe Brace</p>   |
| <p>████████████████████</p> | <p>76, Ashwell Road,<br/>Bygrave,<br/>SG 7 5EA</p> | <p>We are writing in support of the Bygrave Parish Councils application to review the current premises licence for the festivals in Bygrave Woods.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;</p> <p>&gt;&gt; As local residents, Steve and Grietje Brenner, 76, Ashwell Road, Bygrave, SG 7 5EA, we have lived in this village for more than twenty years and therefore have been here since before the festivals started.</p> <p>&gt;&gt; Over the years more events have been arranged which make life uncomfortable over the summer months when it is possible to have more than one event every month.</p> <p>&gt;&gt; We have observed a number of serious issues that have affected our quality of life and the safety of our community.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;</p> <p>&gt;&gt; We would like to bring these issues to your attention as they highlight that the current situation is totally unacceptable and that the licensing objectives are NOT being met.</p> <p>- The prevention of public nuisance:</p> |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>&gt;&gt; -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!</p> <p>&gt;&gt;&gt; - 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.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;</p> <p>&gt;&gt; - 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.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;</p> <p>- Public safety:</p> <p>&gt;&gt;</p> <p>&gt;&gt; TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY: the increase in traffic for these events is massive.</p>  |
|--|--|---|

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  |   | <p> <span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span> The congestion leads to unsafe driving conditions and a greater risk of accidents. Also it is quite common to see people who are going to or leaving the festival walk along the road in the dark. There is no footpath and they are at risk of being hit by traffic. </p> <p> &gt;&gt; </p> <p> &gt;&gt; Given the nature of all the problems mentioned we consider that the current license in place is not fit for purpose. Eventhough it may meet the needs of the festival organisers the local residents of Bygrave and other surrounding villages are having their summers ruined by noise, heavy traffic and anti social behaviour. </p> <p> &gt;&gt; We would urge the North Herts District Council licensing authority to consider the needs of the local communities when altering the current licence. The extended festivals are a particular problem due to the duration of the noise and public nuisance. In our view it is important to impose stricter conditions on events such as proper noise restrictions, traffic management plans, enhanced security and clearer and timely communication with local residents so they fall within the legal framework for such events. </p> <p> &gt;&gt; IT SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN THAT THE FESTIVALS TAKE PLACE ON A SITE WHICH IS ONLY A VERY SHORT DISTANCE AWAY FROM THE VILLAGE OF BYGRAVE! </p> <p> &gt;&gt; From Steve &amp; Grietje Brenner - Bygrave Residents </p> |
| <span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span> | Paddy and Ursula Byrne<br>John Sale<br>Close<br>Ashwell | We should like to state our objection to the increase in licensing of festivals at Bygrave Woods.  |
|  |   | 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.   |



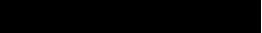
|            |   |   |
|------------|---|---|
|            |   | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Such a small community cannot sustain thousands of people at one concert let alone extra concerts a year.</p> <p>We all support people enjoying themselves but granting an extension to the licence is counter productive 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> |
| [REDACTED] | <p>Nick and Susan Welch<br/>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<br>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>   |
|  | 51 Ashwell<br>Road,<br>Bygrave,<br>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. </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>  |
| <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>69 Ashwell Road<br/>Bygrave SG 7 5DZ</p> | <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> |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | <p>to heavy traffic delivering huge amounts of festival gear. [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]. We feel uncomfortable walking, riding or cycling the public rights of way due to patrolling security guards looking for gatecrashers.</p> <p>I find it alarming that the extensive drug taking and consumption of alcohol by young people presents a danger to life, [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]. Making crime prevention impossible. The overall effect to local residents is of malevolence due to greed and avarice.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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> |
|--|--|--|


|            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
|            |   | <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>  |
| [REDACTED] | <p>16<br/>Woodforde<br/>Close<br/>Ashwell</p>                                       | <p>We object strongly to the above licence application for the following reasons:-</p> <p>Unacceptable noise levels for the surrounding villages.</p> <p>Unacceptable and disgusting anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>[REDACTED].</p> <p>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.</p> <p>[REDACTED].</p> <p>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> |
| [REDACTED] | <p>Granary<br/>house<br/>Westbury<br/>farm<br/>West end<br/>Ashwell<br/>SG7 5PJ</p> | <p>I would have concerns about the existing licence conditions due to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unsuitability of Roads</li> <li>Traffic disruption</li> <li>Noise impacts on local communities</li> <li>Little relevance of events to local communities</li> <li>Lack of notification of events</li> <li>Poor sanitation arrangements and resulting impacts</li> </ul> <p>Please consider these comments in your considerations</p>   |


|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   |  | <p>Regards<br/>Sharon Watson</p>   |
|  | <p>77 Ashwell Road<br/>Bygrave<br/>Hertfordshire<br/>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><b>Traffic and Environmental Impact</b></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><b>Antisocial Behaviour and Community Disruption</b></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><b>Proposed Recommendations:</b></p> <p>To address these issues, I recommend the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A reduction in the number of large events allowed per year.</li> <li>Stricter noise control measures, including earlier end times for licensable activities.</li> <li>Extended timelines for EMP preparation and mandatory community consultation.</li> <li>Improved traffic management and waste disposal plans tied to licence conditions.</li> <li>Enhanced security measures to mitigate antisocial behaviour.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conclusion</b></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,<br/>Katie Kelly</p> |
|--|--|--|

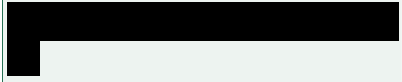
|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|  | <p><b>The Moat House Church Street Bygrave Hertfordshire sg75ef</b></p> | <p>I support the review of the licence proposed by Bygrave Parish Council. I have been a resident of Bygrave since 2003. I moved to Bygrave as it was a quiet rural hamlet and for a number of years enjoyed the tranquillity of village life.</p> <p>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. </p> <p></p> <p>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.</p> <p>As this noise nuisance or harm to the children of Bygrave and beyond from foul &amp; abusive language cannot be mitigated, it is clear that the site is not acceptable for ANY festival and the licence should be revoked forthwith. </p> <p> 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> |
|---|---|---|

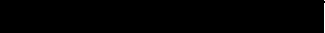
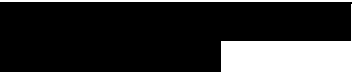



|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   |   | <p>sincerely</p> <p>mark goddard</p>  |
|  | <p><b>77 Ashwell Road<br/>Bygrave Baldock<br/>Hertfordshire<br/>SG7 5EB</b></p> | <p>I am writing to formally oppose the licence conditions for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Frequency 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> </li> <li>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> </li> <li>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> </li> <li>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> </li> </ol> |


|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   |  | <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,</p> <p>Mrs Julia Sowden</p>  |
|  | <p><b>38 Wedon Way<br/>Bygrave<br/>Baldock<br/>Hertfordshire<br/>SG7 5DX</b></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><b>43 Ashwell Road<br/>Bygrave<br/>Baldock<br/>SG7 5DT</b></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><b>Noise Nuisance</b></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><b>Traffic Problems</b></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><b>Antisocial Behaviour</b></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><b>Event Timings and Frequency</b></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><b>Lack of Resident Liaison</b></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><b>Proposed Conditions</b></p> <p>If renewal is considered, I urge the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stricter Noise Limits: Regular monitoring and penalties for breaches.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|--|

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced Hours: Limit events to no later than 12 PM and remove the ridiculous current licence that allows unlimited events.</li> <li>• Traffic Management: A robust plan to minimize congestion and ensure safe access.</li> <li>• Resident Liaison: Appoint a liaison officer and implement a formal complaints process.</li> <li>• Code of Conduct: Enforce measures to prevent antisocial behaviour with clear penalties.</li> </ul> <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><b>75 Ashwell Road<br/>Bygrave<br/>Baldock<br/>Herts<br/>SG7 5EB</b></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><b>The Coach Barn</b><br/> <b>Hinxworth Road</b><br/> <b>Ashwell</b><br/> <b>Baldock</b><br/> <b>Hertfordshire</b><br/> <b>SG7 5HY</b></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><b>57 Ashwell Road</b><br/> <b>Bygrave</b><br/> <b>Bygrave</b><br/> <b>Herts</b><br/> <b>SG7 5DY</b></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>   |

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|   |   | request that this licensing amendment request is seriously reconsidered and not extended in the manner set out here.   |
|  | 32 Wedon Way<br>Bygrave<br>Baldock<br>SG7 5DX | <p><b>I wish to object to the above noted licence for the following reasons.</b></p> <p><b>Public safety.</b></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><b>Public Nuisance.</b></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,<br/>Bygrave,<br/>Baldock,<br/>Hertfordshire,<br/>SG7 5EA</p> | <p><b>Request to review the Premises Licence (no 2701) for Bygrave Plantation (application no 18730)</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></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"> <li><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.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No music (live or recorded) after 10 pm (Monday to Thursday and Sunday) and 11 pm (Friday and Saturday).</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

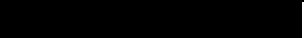


|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   |  | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Only one event each year of up to 15,000 people and one event of up to 7,500 people. Such events should last for no more than three days – Friday to Sunday). I have no issue with the much smaller weddings (perhaps up to 150 people) that seem 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> |
|  | 25 Wedon Way, Bygrave, Baldock SG7 5DX | Application No: 18730 to Review Premises License 2701<br>Support for Proposed License Review for Festivals in Bygrave Woods  |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p><b>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.</b></p> <p><b>However, I would like to highlight a few paragraphs from BPC’s document that provide powerful evidence of what is going wrong:</b></p> <p><b>“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.</b></p> <p><b>“This is not only unacceptable from a moral and human rights perspective but is also a</b></p> |
|--|--|---|

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <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> |
|--|---|

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>out across the village of Bygrave . . . we have a large number of young families who shouldn't have to put up with this.”</p> <p>“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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The type of festivals that can't get licenses elsewhere (the worst of the worst) will end up in Bygrave.</li> <li>• The frequency and number of festivals will increase making living in Bygrave hell, from the extra traffic to the cacophonous noise, night after night.“</li> </ul> <p>Appendix 5, p14</p> <p>“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> |
|--|--|

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   |   | <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 &amp; 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"> <li>• Less than the required notice being given by the organisers of impending events</li> <li>• Too many events in terms of nuisance to the communities</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

Page 2 of 2

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.

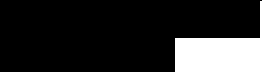
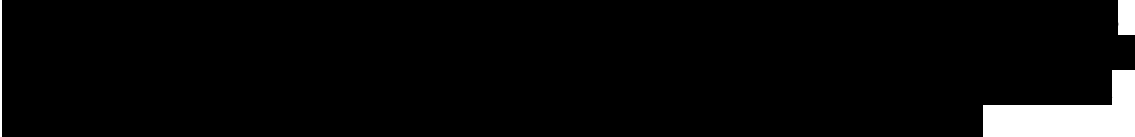
Recently, AE & WA Farr Ltd have applied to extend their current license to permit 4 events

per year for 7,500 - 24,999 people, extending the scope of the licensor to extend events to incur even more nuisance.

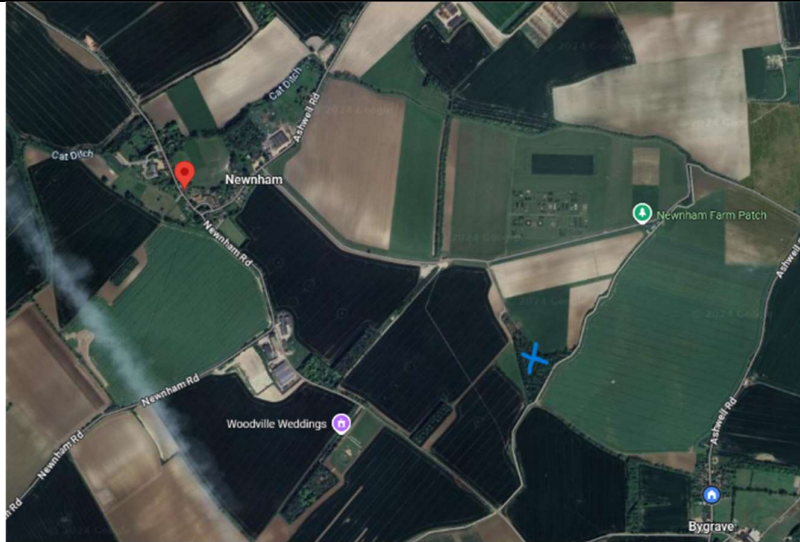
The 'open-ended' nature of the current licence could result in a situation of 'permanent' events which materially represent a change of use from farming. If the

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> |
|  | <p>61<br/>Ashwell<br/>Road,<br/>Bygrave<br/>SG7<br/>5DZ</p> | <p>Notes in support of the review of licence 2701 "Bygrave Plantation"</p> <p><b>1. Where is the site?</b></p>   |





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]

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><b>4. Breaches of conditions</b><br/>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]. 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> |
|--|--|---|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <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> |
|--|--|---|

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

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>6. Noise nuisance</b></p> <p>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 [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]. 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> |
|--|--|--|

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]

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  |  |
|--|--|---|



[REDACTED]

**8. Ecology and environment**

[REDACTED]

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]

[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]   |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> |
|--|--|---|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> |
|--|--|---|

|  |  |                    |
|--|--|--------------------|
|  |  | [Redacted content] |
|--|--|--------------------|

|  |  |                              |
|--|--|------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|--|--|------------------------------|

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block 1: Multiple lines of text obscured by black bars]</p> <p>[Redacted text block 2: A few lines of text obscured by black bars]</p> <p>[Redacted text block 3: Multiple lines of text obscured by black bars]</p> <p>[Redacted text block 4: Multiple lines of text obscured by black bars]</p> |
|--|--|--|



|  |  |                   |
|--|--|-------------------|
|  |  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> |
|--|--|-------------------|

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> <p>[Redacted text block]</p> <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|--|--|--|

|  |  |            |
|--|--|------------|
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |

|  |  |                              |
|--|--|------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|--|--|------------------------------|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | A large block of text is completely redacted with black bars. It consists of approximately six lines of text, with some lines being significantly longer than others. |
|--|--|---|

|  |  |                              |
|--|--|------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|--|--|------------------------------|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>   |
|  |  | <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>   |
|  |  | <p>[Redacted]</p>   |
|  |  | <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> |
|  |  | <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>   |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> |
|--|--|---|



|  |  |                              |
|--|--|------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |

|  |  |                              |
|--|--|------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|--|--|------------------------------|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> |
|--|--|---|



|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block containing multiple lines of obscured content]</p> |
|--|--|--|



|  |  |                              |
|--|--|------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|--|--|------------------------------|

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> <p>[Redacted text block]</p> <p>[Redacted text block]</p> <p>[Redacted text block]</p> <p>[Redacted text block]</p> <p>[Redacted text block]</p> <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|--|--|--|



|  |  |                              |
|--|--|------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|--|--|------------------------------|

|  |  |            |
|--|--|------------|
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|  |  | [REDACTED] |

|  |  |                              |
|--|--|------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text block]</p> |
|--|--|------------------------------|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>[Redacted text]</p> <p>[Redacted text]</p> <p>[Redacted text]</p> <p>[Redacted text]</p> |
|--|--|---|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> |
|--|--|---|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> |
|--|--|---|

|  |  |            |
|--|--|------------|
|  |  | [REDACTED] |
|--|--|------------|


|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  |  The table contains a single row with three columns. The left and middle columns are empty. The right column contains multiple lines of text that have been completely redacted with black bars. The redaction consists of several thick horizontal black bars of varying lengths and positions, covering all text in that column. |
|--|--|---|



|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>[REDACTED]</li></ul> <p>[REDACTED]</p> |
|--|--|--|

|                   |   |  |
|-------------------|---|--|
|                   |   | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>  |
| <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Philip Hills /<br/>Jacqueline<br/>Sorrell</p> <p>60 Ashwell<br/>Road</p> <p>Bygrave</p> <p>Hertfordshir<br/>e</p> <p>SG4 9NP</p> | <p>Application (number 18669) by AE &amp; WA Farr Ltd to vary their premises licence for Bygrave Plantation (Licence Number 2701).</p> <p>I wish to object to the varying of the above licence by AE &amp; WA Farr Ltd.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>I understand that the criteria are</p> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The prevention of crime and disorder.</li> <li>• public safety.</li> <li>• the prevention of public nuisance.</li> <li>• the protection of children from harm.</li> </ul> <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> |
|--|--|

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  |  <p>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.</p> <p>3 Prevention of Public Nuisance</p> <p>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.</p> |
|--|--|---|

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | <p>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</p> <p>Limited notice is given that festivals are to take place</p> <p><b>[REDACTED]</b></p> <p>4 Protection of children from harm</p> <p>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</p> <p>I fully support the stance taken by Bygrave Parish Council in their submission.</p> |
|--|--|--|