

Thornboro
Todds Green
Herts. SG1 2JE

January 2019

North Hertfordshire District Council,
Licensing and Enforcement,
PO Box 10613
Nottingham
NG6 6DW

To whom it may concern,

Re: Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd. application for a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Todd in the Hole, Bury Wood, Todds Green, Stevenage, SG1 2JE

We are residents of Todds Green and we are very disappointed that yet again we have to make the time to object to the above application. As you are aware this music festival took place last year for the first time. Therefore residents have the experience of last year to draw upon. We wish to object to this application in the strongest possible terms for the following reasons:

- ❖ The increase in days from two to three.
- ❖ To allow the sale of alcohol until 2am on Friday and Saturday nights.
- ❖ To allow the live playing of music and recorded music until 2am on Friday and Saturday nights.

a

There is no mention of an *impact assessment* on the local residents,

b. The prevention of crime and disorder.

- **There is no public transport in this area:** Many of the participants of this music festival, who are coming from the Stevenage area will either walk or drive through the village of Todds Green as they did last year. This is a rural location set in Green Belt Land. There is no street lighting and no other sources of light. Hundreds if not thousands of people will be walking or driving through our small village road very late at night, on 3 consecutive days.

The applicants state that they will be providing a shuttle bus service from the festival site to Stevenage train station and a fully manned taxi rank on site. This in no way will prevent local people from Symonds Green, Fishers Green and Stevenage Old and New Towns from walking from the bus stop in Fishers Green or driving through our village. The congestion through the village and at the roundabout right by the event location will be considerable. And traffic will back up through Todds Green.

Even if the road were closed to traffic, this would not stop pedestrians from coming through.



- **There is no mention in this application of how the surrounding residential areas will be policed and kept safe:** What assurances do we have that [redacted], that our property will be kept safe from so many people, many of whom will have been drinking alcohol for many hours and late into the night?

There may be a No Drugs Policy and an Alcohol Refusal Policy in place for the event, but who will stop drugs and alcohol being taken on the way in and out of the event?



- This year as with last year we are not told what genre of music is to be performed at this event. That information will often inform the 'genre' and behaviour of the audience.

c. Public safety.

Parking: On the site overview, an area is identified for parking. However, there is no public transport in this area and the nearest bus stop is at least half a mile away. Even with the provision of a shuttle bus service from the festival site to Stevenage train station

and a fully manned taxi rank on site, we must assume the majority of the audience would arrive by car.

Last year the organisers offered free parking. However, we understand that this year there will be a charge for parking. This could lead to unauthorised street parking in the village and surrounds. With double the amount of people expected, there could be a lot of cars.

Todds Green is a small settlement with the Stevenage Road running through it. The Stevenage Road is quite small (one lane in either direction) and if any vehicle parks then the road is blocked in that direction. With no street lighting of any sort and several blind bends, all the residents have provision for their cars off road, as it is too dangerous to leave vehicles in the road.

All the roads in the immediate vicinity of the venue are narrow country roads with many bends. The roads outside the proposed venue have no pavements, footpaths or grass verges at all.

The access to the events venue from junction 8 of the A1M is via a narrow humped back railway bridge with no pavement, footpath or grass verge on either side of the road.

The decision to include Friday in the Music Festival weekend does not take into account the amount of rush hours traffic that uses the road though the village. The traffic starts to build up at about 4pm and by 5.30 it can be non-stop cars, vans and lorries. (Some of which use the two Shangri La industrial sites in Todds Green.) This road is a 'rat run' at peak times as it is seen as a cut through to avoid the larger roads that are often congested.

Whenever this road is closed due to various repair work, parts of Stevenage are at a standstill due to the extra traffic.

• [REDACTED]

Who is to know how many people will be let in on the day, even with a 'counter system'? There is no mention of the provision of public lavatories, or if people will be camping at the venue over the 3 days and what facilities will be provided for them.

d. The prevention of public nuisance.

- **Noise and disturbance:** Our house is approximately 500 yards from the venue. The applicant states that the live, amplified music and recorded music stage will be facing the A1M. This means we will be in direct line for the full force in the noise. Noise and disturbance that will continue until the early hours of the morning for 2 days and quite late on Sunday.

Last year at the public hearing, Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd., engaged the services of a so-called sound expert. He tried to blind us with science by explaining that at the music festival the music would be loud enough for people to enjoy and dance to, but 500 yards along the road where we lived, we would not be able to hear it.

I can assure you that we could hear it *loud and clear*. We could also hear loud and clear the reaction of the audience to the bands on stage.

By having [REDACTED] people dancing, applauding and shouting at the end of the road is almost the equivalent to having a large football crowd and that is before the music starts to play.

[REDACTED]

In the house with the TV on and windows closed the noise is not so intrusive. However this weekend last year was one of the hottest of a very hot summer. Who wants to spend the evening and early hours with the windows closed. From 11pm until 2am it would be very intrusive. These are the summer months with the windows open. Our neighbours have young children. This is a residential area and some people work to a 7-day rota.

[REDACTED]

This is not the right site for such an event. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- **Litter, pollution and anti social behaviour:** What assurances do we have that the hundreds/thousands of people passing through our village will behave in an appropriate manner, respect our property and the environment even when having been drinking alcohol for many hours?

The applicant stated last year that a licensed waste disposal contractor would collect and dispose of waste on the site and 'leave the fields as they found them'. Will they collect and dispose of waste from our village? We doubt it.

e. The protection of children from harm.

This event is being billed as 'Fun for all the family'. What parents take their children to an event where there is live music/recorded music and alcohol sold until 2am? It sounds very adult to us, along with a range of tribute pop groups.

The residents of this area are being asked to suffer 3 days of noise, pollution and upheaval. Our peace will be shattered well into the night.

[REDACTED]

This is still an inappropriate place to stage such a music festival.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Last year the event was not that well patronised and we believe the Sunday entertainment finished early but it still caused enough upheaval. This was probably due to the fact that the entertainers were 2nd rate, little known tribute bands. However, the success of this event hinges on the amount of investment the applicants are prepared to put in. If this licence was to be granted as it stands, what is to stop the applicants selling it on to a larger organisation, who are willing to bring in more expensive and successful bands

[REDACTED]

Of course we object and we are asking you to refuse this application, and [REDACTED], which will inevitably include damage to our property, [REDACTED] and our peace.

In the applicants advertising, they claim to be from 'Old Stevenage families with strong farming and business ties in the local area'.
It is a pity that they do not have more respect for the residents [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thank you.

Jennifer Calcagni and Bryant Sykes
Thornboro
Todds Green

[REDACTED]

My comments regarding this application are as follows:-

[REDACTED]

Prevention of Crime & Disorder

1. The Alcohol license extension to 2.00 is likely to encourage drunkenness and rowdy behaviour late into the nights of Friday & Saturday thereby disturbing people living in the nearby villages.
2. This extension would encourage the crime of driving while intoxicated.
3. The proposed [REDACTED] number of attendees will increase the risk of crime etc. A gathering of this size is going to attract a criminal element.

Public Safety

1. The Alcohol license extension would increase the chances of people driving from the event with a level of alcohol above the legal limit causing a safety threat to other road users.
2. The plan to charge for parking will encourage drivers to park anywhere to avoid the parking fee. Obstruction so caused on the main routes through the area will provide a safety issue for other road users and would, no doubt, cause serious holdups to other road users particularly on Friday when our roads are already full of commuters. In addition parking in cul-de-sacs, field entrances etc and maybe across residents driveways would be a serious inconvenience & annoyance to local people and could itself be a safety issue. [REDACTED]

Prevention of Public Nuisance

All the above comments are relevant to the Prevention of Public Nuisance.

1. Extension to the music license, whether live or recorded, if played at a level expected at these events will cause a public nuisance to residents of the surrounding villages. I believe the site to be inappropriate for an event of the intended size.
2. [REDACTED]

Protection of Children from Harm

1. [REDACTED] the proposed extension of both music & alcohol licenses this event will no longer be a family event as billed. The longer hours could well mean children are put at risk.
2. The criminal element of the proposed larger event could put children at risk of petty criminals & drug dealers.

In summary I would ask that:-

- + extensions to music & alcohol are not granted beyond midnight on Friday & Saturday,
 - + the licence not be granted in perpetuity but should be applied for annually with specific dates quoted.
- [REDACTED]

+all parking be free to ensure it is all kept on site

Major events, of the size proposed, elsewhere in the country are generally far more isolated from centres of population.

Yours faithfully

David Owen
Ross Cottage, Todds Green, Stevenage, SG1 2JE.

This email is our formal objection of the subject license application in its revised form.

I would like to point out that we have no objection for the Music Festival to go ahead in the same format as held in 2018. We do object in its entirety of revised application, [REDACTED]

We believe the principles set out in the application will be adversely affected as noted.

1) Prevention of crime and disorder. [REDACTED] attract some undesirables increasing the risk of house break-in and damage to property. Also high consumption of alcohol may result in disputes and personal harm.

2) Public Safety. The risk of harm to the public and residents will increase substantially from the [REDACTED] extending the festival over 3 days will increase traffic in the village where the road is already quite narrow and there are no public footpaths running along roads around the event for pedestrians. Inherently larger events always increases public safety risks.

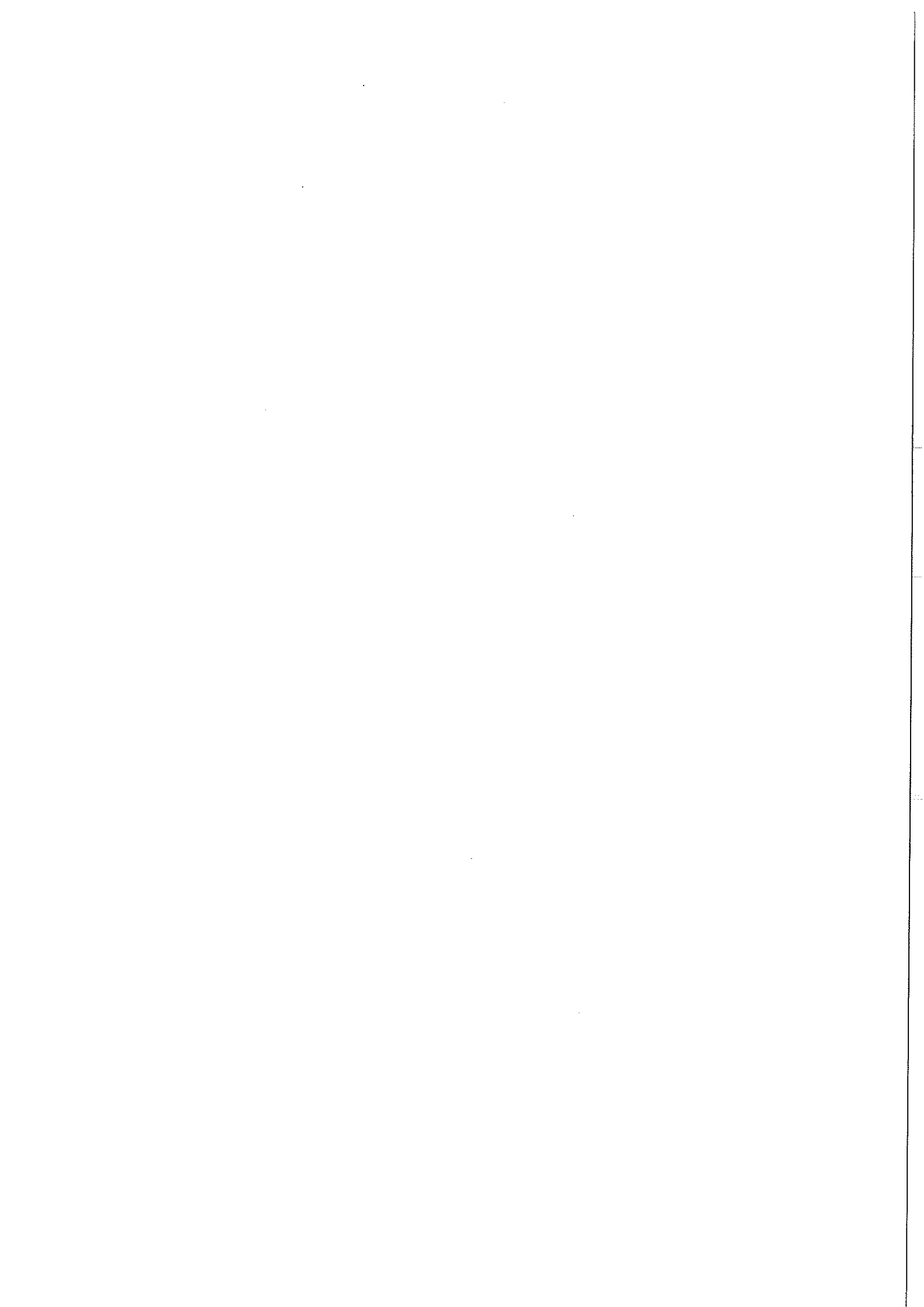
3) Prevention of Public Nuisance. in 2018 the music was loud over two days which we accepted. Increasing this to 3 days with increased volume of attendance will be a public nuisance to the Todds Green community. Also the plan to charge for parking will increase this nuisance as I would expect attendees will try and park for free rather than pay. The village has no restriction on parking therefore there will be no way to prevent a public nuisance in this regard plus the risk for vehicle and pedestrian accidents will substantially increase [REDACTED] the amount of rubbish disposed of of just discarded will probably dramatically increase.

4) Protection of Children from harm. [REDACTED] the risk of substance abuse (Alcohol and drugs) relating to children will be difficult to control by any organisers of a festival. Todds Green is a small hamlet and we do not want to be associated with this risk. This can only be effectively controlled with smaller crowds and restricting the festival to a family event as per the 2018 set up.

On a final note I have lived in Todds Green for 26 years and did not choose to live here so it can become a Glastonbury type festival area. For a festival of the proposed size, the site is too near the Todds Green community, the roads and general access is not suitable for high volumes of traffic and heavy vehicles and permanent damage to the area and environment is a high risk.

[REDACTED]

Regards
David Huggins
The Coach House, Todds Green



Dear Sirs

My husband and I, being residents of Todds Green, attended the Festival last year which was excellently organised and very enjoyable; being well attended by family groups.


If the same Licence was granted next year as was given previously we would be writing in favour of it.

The extensions until 02:00 will change the character of the festival and as will the withdrawing of free parking.

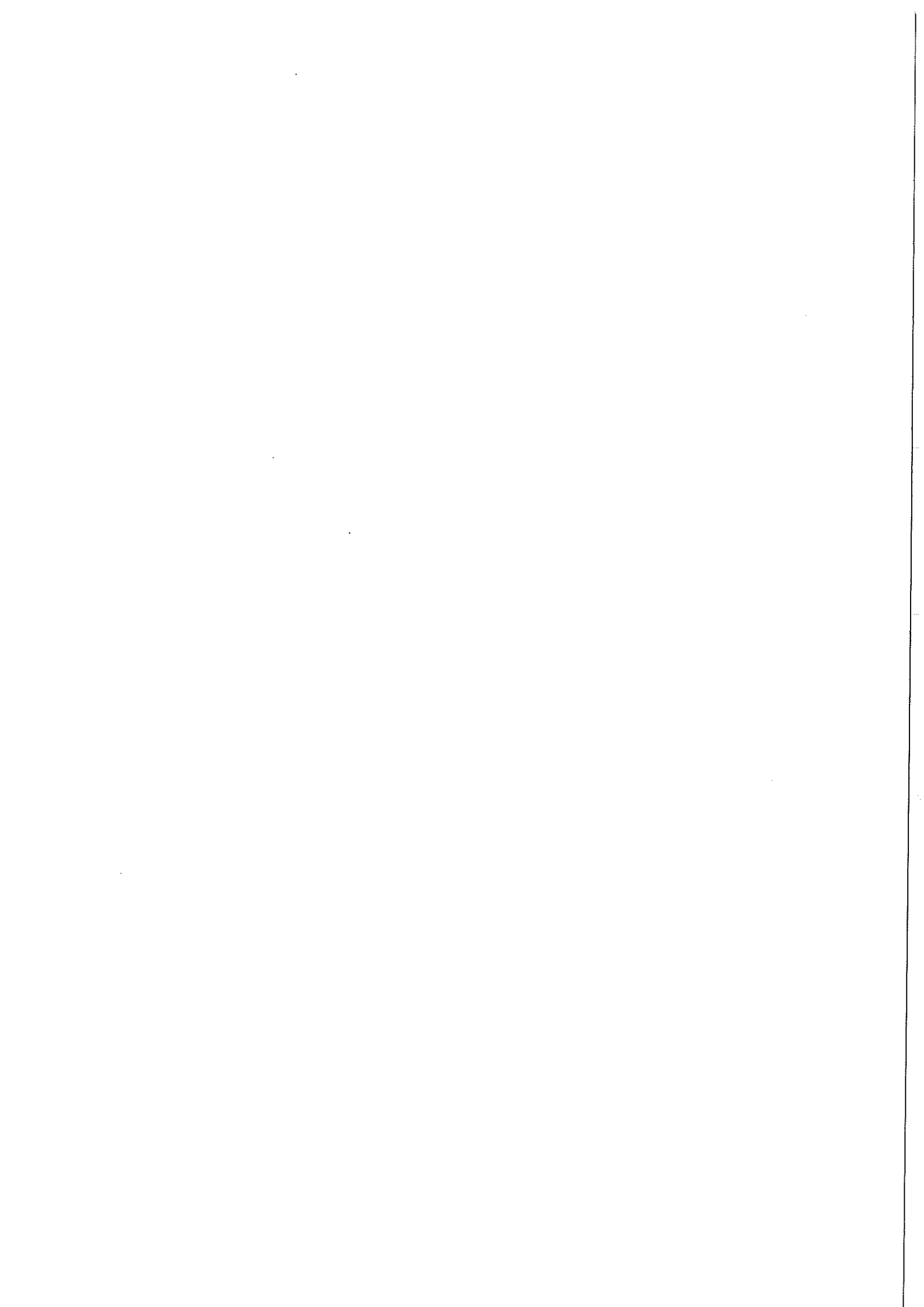
We wish to object to the extension under principle 1) The prevention of crime and disorder 2) Public safety and 3) Prevention of public nuisance

Extending the Bar times to 02:00 and saying this is a family event is fanciful - this will make it a full Pop festival, with subsequent traffic issues which must continue to well after .03:00, causing problems with noise to local residents.

Thee abolition of free parking will cause people to park in surrounding local roads, which are narrow.


We repeat we would be very happy to see the festival once again in Todds Green with the 2018 Licence conditions applied.

Chris & Jo Welch
Holmwood, Todds Green



Dear Sir/Madam,

As a resident, St Christopher, Todds Green, SG1 2JE I'm writing to object to the recent application to renew the license to the Music festival in Todds Green.(Todd in the hole).

1, I feel there is more chance of crime and disorder due to our hamlet is a very dark and remote place at night providing more opportunity for people to abuse the situation.

2, Public safety is a cause for concern as again the roads surrounding the field in which the event will be held is very dark, people drinking and possibly using drugs until 2.00 am are at risk of being in a road related incident.

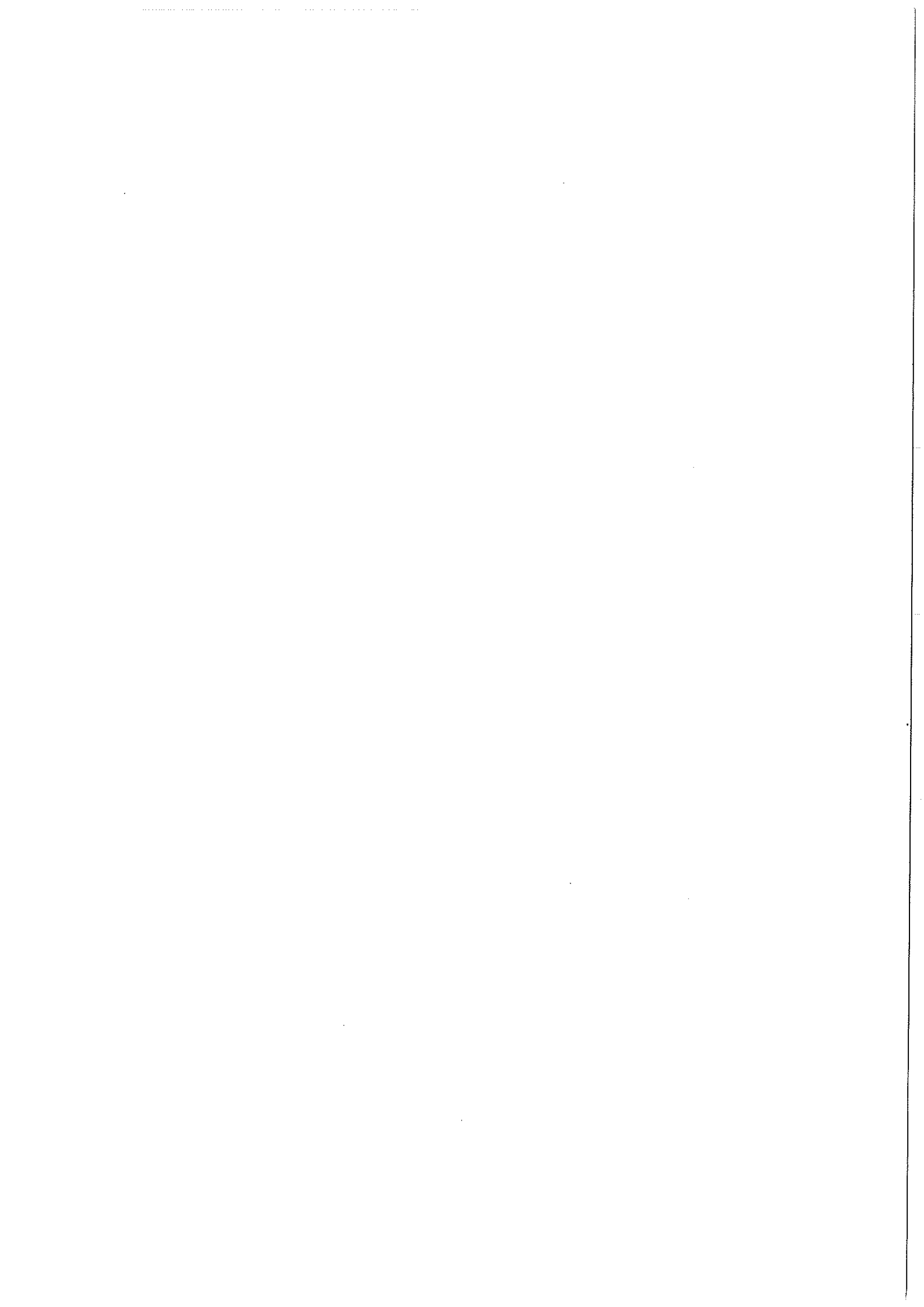
3, prevention of public nuisance is a issue due to parking will occur on the road outside residents houses making it a hazard getting in and out of our drives and extra cars etc driving along the road until the early hours. Also last years event had lots of people walking pass our properties when the event finished which wasn't a problem because it finished at a decent hour as I start work at 3.30am on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning I don't wish to have noise from music and party goers until gone 2.00 am.

4, I feel the event will not be as family friendly but more of a party event for young adults as drinking and music until 2.00am is not for children(my children are in bed around 10.00 the latest).

Yours sincerely,

Mr & Mrs Albanese

Sent from my iPad



WYMONDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

4 Tower Close, Little Wymondley, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7JG

NHDC
Licensing and Enforcement Department
PO Box 10613
Nottingham
NG6 6DW

02 January 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd. application for a premises licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Todd in the Hole, Bury Wood, Todd's Green, Stevenage, SG1 2JE

I am writing on behalf of Wymondley Parish Council, to strongly object to the granting of a premises licence, in perpetuity, to supply alcohol and play recorded and live music at an annual event planned to take place on a maximum of three consecutive days, (Friday to Sunday), between the months of June and August each year at Todd in the Hole, Bury Wood, Todd's Green.

The Council believes that, due to its location, i.e. close to a residential area; and with a limited and unsafe access route, this venue is totally unsuitable for this type of event; and would have a disproportionate, negative effect on residents' lives if not subjected to tight operational control measures by the responsible authorities – and managed appropriately within those constraints.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Detailed reasons for the Council's objections were provided in relation to the 2018 application and are given below. These remain valid in relation to the current application – **particularly given that the applicant now seeks a premises licence granted in perpetuity, for an event covering a greater number of days; during which he hopes to extend the periods during which music may be played and**

alcohol supplied. [REDACTED]

Prevention of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour

The proposed location for this event is on rural, Green Belt land and not directly accessible by public transport. (The nearest bus stop is around half a mile away, and the likelihood of frequent and/or late-running buses to suit this event is slim.) **The practical effect of this is that [REDACTED] participants of any major event held there would need to either drive or walk through Todd's Green, (and neighbouring villages), to access the site.**

[REDACTED], and would undoubtedly cause considerable nuisance to our parish residents, (particularly those in the Todd's Green vicinity), due to disturbance, disruption and inconvenience from increased traffic and pedestrians travelling to and from the event on up to four consecutive days/nights; particularly in the late evening and early morning, due to dispersal of visitors leaving the site, (and during the Monday morning rush hour, if overnight camping is permitted – which we would hope is not).

Street lighting and other sources of light are virtually non-existent, which raises safety issues for pedestrians, and increases the likelihood (and ease) of anti-social and criminal behaviour – particularly if the site is licensed to supply alcohol, and/or permission is given to consume it on the premises.

We note that the current application, if granted, will allow the supply of alcohol from 12.00 on Friday, (two hours before any music is played), until 02.00 on Saturday morning – together with the playing of recorded music until that time. On Saturday, alcohol would be available from 11.00 to 02.00 on Sunday morning, together with music; and on Sunday alcohol would be available from 11.00 to 22.30, together with music. Both the Council and residents believe these arrangements increase the potential for disorder and anti-social behaviour and would have a detrimental effect on residents' quality of life.

Residents have concerns arising from the fact that, given the significant number of likely visitors, not all will behave appropriately or respect the villages they pass through, and residents and their property – particularly if visitors have been consuming alcohol and/or other substances throughout the event. Even if the organisers apply a No Drugs or Alcohol Refusal Policy, this would be difficult to enforce at the event, and impossible en route to and from it. The Council therefore anticipates there will be a need for increased (and an appropriate level of) policing,

[REDACTED]

The Council and residents anticipate a similar knock-on effect in terms of cost and inconvenience, resulting from increased litter in the vicinity, and believe that any licensed waste disposal contractor engaged for this event should be required to extend its services to collecting and clearing litter from the villages and surrounding area.

Public safety

Aside from the issues mentioned above, the fact that most participants will arrive by car undoubtedly raises the need for significant parking facilities and associated traffic marshalling. All the roads in the immediate vicinity of the venue are small country roads with many bends; some of which – including the one outside the proposed venue – have no pavement.

This not only raises the issue of pedestrian safety, but also of traffic obstruction if vehicles park on the roads. The main road through Todd's Green, (Stevenage Road), for example, is narrow and easily blocked if vehicles park on the road. With no street lighting, and various blind bends, this causes a significant risk to vehicles and pedestrians in the vicinity – which is exacerbated by the access route from A1(M), J8 which passes over a very narrow humped back bridge and has no pavement at all on either side, so is particularly dangerous for pedestrians.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Prevention of public nuisance

As mentioned above, residents could be subjected to three/four days of increased and unavoidable noise and disturbance, even if the amplified music is facing the AI(M). (In fact, some residents will be directly in the line of fire, as it were, and therefore subject to it throughout the event – and during very anti-social hours, particularly if music and alcohol are available on some days from 11.00 to 02.00.)

This is unacceptable at the best of times - but is likely to have a disproportionate effect on those residents who work anti-social hours, have young children or otherwise need to ensure regular sleep at a reasonable time.

Summary

As stated above, the Council believes that the premises licence, if granted, should be for a single, maximum three-day event in 2019, and not granted in perpetuity.

It also believes that the hours during which alcohol is supplied and music played, (whether recorded or live), should be considerably reduced from those in the application – perhaps in line with those granted in 2018, i.e. the event would conclude at midnight on Friday and Saturday; and at 22.00 on Sunday. Music playing would cease at 22.30 on Friday and Saturday; and at 21.00 on Sunday. Alcohol could be supplied from noon and cease at the same time as the music or, alternatively, at 23.30 on Friday and Saturday and 21.30 on Sunday.

Permitted numbers of participants should not exceed 4999; and specific policies and plans for dealing with the key issues mentioned above should also be put in place, and available for consideration by the relevant authorities, prior to any licence (or other application) being considered, so that an informed decision may be made as to whether the event should proceed.

Yours faithfully,

Cathy Kerby (Ms)
Clerk to Wymondley Parish Council

Email:

Birchwood,
Todds Green,
Stevenage,
Herts.
SG1 2JE

Licencing and Enforcement Department,
PO Box 10613,
Nottingham,
NG6 6DW

3 January 2019

Dear Sirs,

Re: Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd. application for a premises licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Todd in the Hole, Bury Wood, Todd's Green, Stevenage, SG1 2JE.

I object to the above application for a premises licence and give my detailed reasons below: -

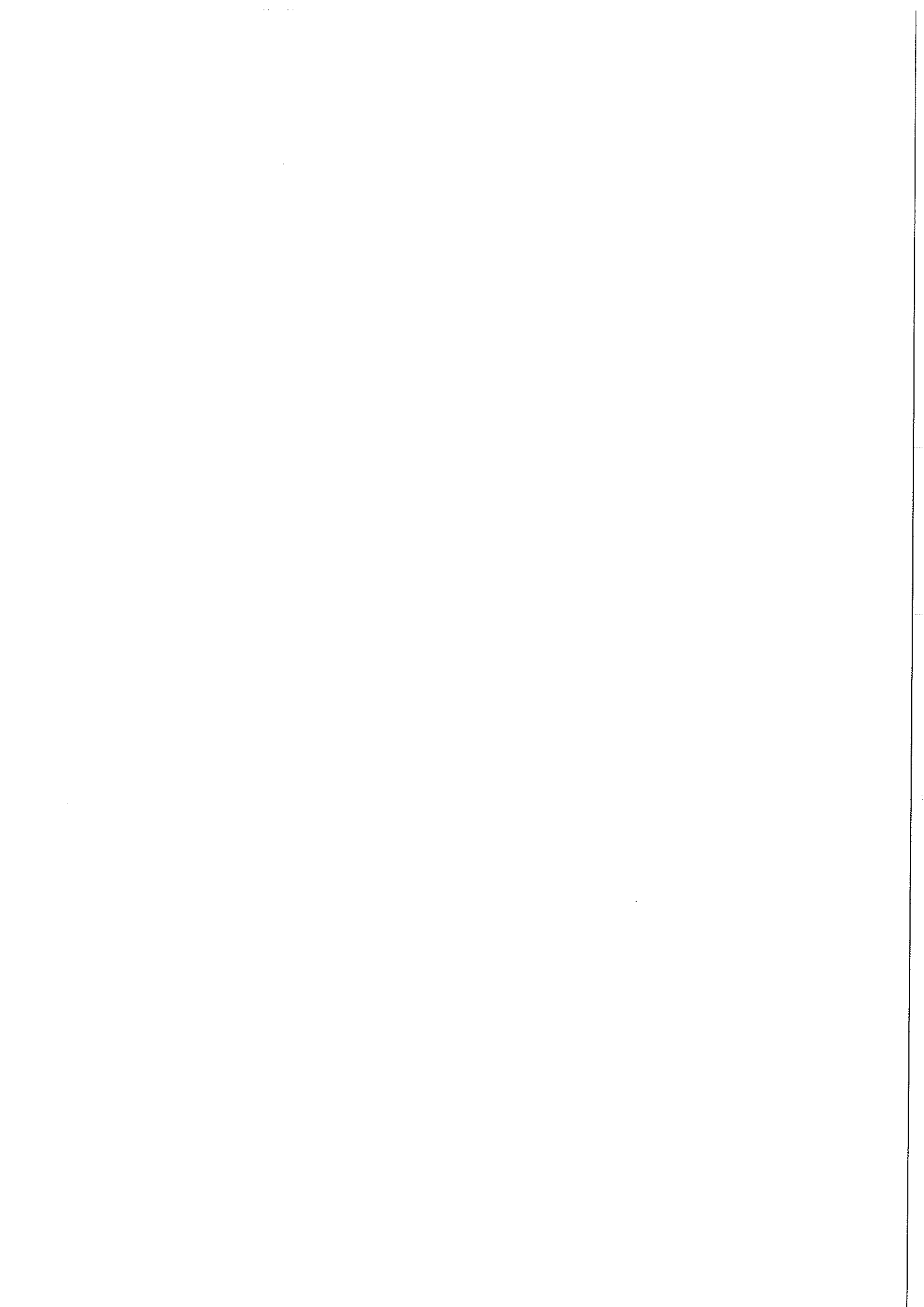
[REDACTED]

2. This site is totally inappropriate and isolated from public transport and the promoters will not be able to ensure that potential attendees cannot access or egress the site by vehicular means or on foot. This could lead to anti-social behaviour and be detrimental to local residents' quality of life.
3. This new application for three days is excessive and will cause extra disturbance to residents as well as the effect on the local traffic, (which will also have an additional effect upon residents).
4. The request for a music and alcohol licence until 2.00 am each morning is very anti-social and is likely to be very disruptive to the residents and their quality of life as the music at the same event last year could be heard quite clearly by the residents in Todds Green.

I trust that the licencing authority will be robust in either rejecting this application or imposing strict controls.

Yours faithfully

GWG Seller



I am writing as a resident of Todd s Green to object to the application [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] for a music festival in Todd s Green.

I object because of the proposed changes to the event. Todd s Green is a small residential area and i do not feel it is appropriate to host an event of this size in such proximity to people's homes.

I am particularly concerned about the proposal of playing music and serving alcohol until 2 am. I feel this would be a public nuisance for residents when [REDACTED] alcohol fuelled festival goers make their way home past my front door in the early hours on consecutive evenings.

I have huge concerns on the grounds of preventing crime and disorder as i am worried about the safety of my property and belongings again when alcohol fuelled festival goers leave each evening.

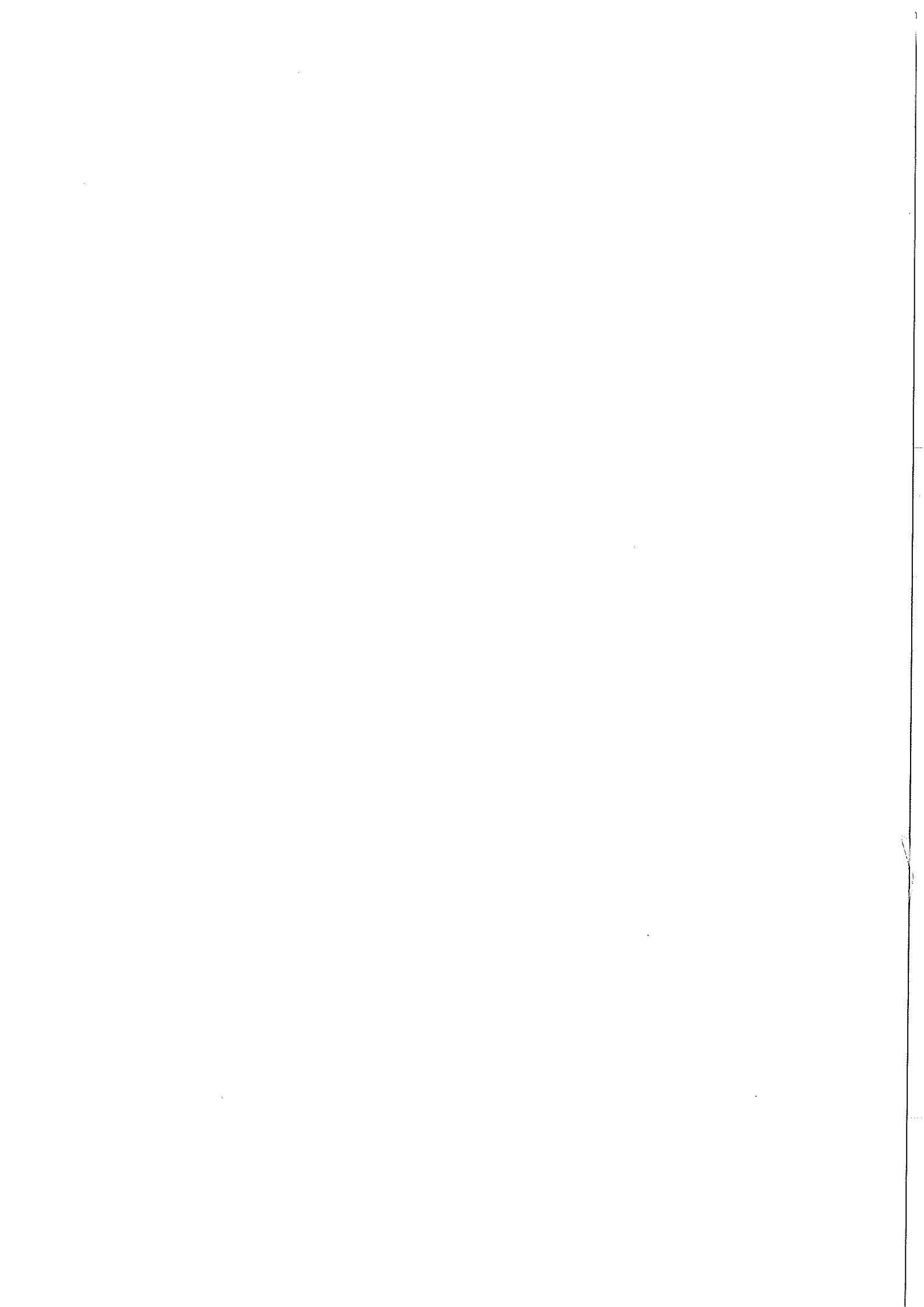
I understand that it is proposed that parking charges will apply this year resulting in festival goers parking on the road throughout Todd s Green to avoid having to pay. This concerns me on a number of levels, public safety- Todd s Green is difficult enough to drive through if any obstruction is on the road. Multiple parked cars would result in tailbacks, dangerous driving conditions and inaccessibility to residents homes. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The prevention of crime and disorder- it is an offence to park on verges or obstruct residents access but I feel this would be an inevitable side effect of the festival. Protection of children from harm - i feel it would not be safe for anyone but especially children to walk where vehicles have been parked on verges and footpaths.

I do not feel the festival caused much disruption last year but the proposed changes this year are completely selfish and uncaring to the rights of local residents.

Yours faithfully

Mrs H Ward

Ballinasloe
Todd's Green
Stevenage
Herts



Greenfields, Todds Green, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2JE

North Hertfordshire District Council
Licensing Authority - Licensing and Enforcement
PO Box10613
Nottingham
NG6 6DW

5th December

2018

To whom it may concern

Re: Application by Mr David Nye, Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd, for a Premises License to hold a Music Festival (Todd in the Hole) at Bury Woods, Todds Green, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2JE on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays in perpetuity

It has come to our notice that the above application has been made and we wish to make our objections to the application known when it is considered.

The application is wholly inappropriate given its proximity to the residential area of Todds Green in general and in particular the houses that are barely a stones throw from the site, the nearest being the opposite side of the road from a proposed entrance to the site. We also object to the application being for the three days, [REDACTED] and in perpetuity.

With regard to the four main licensing objectives we would raise the following concerns:

1) The prevention of crime and disorder

The location of Todds Green is such that we experience almost zero casual footfall and as a result almost zero crime or vandalism caused by such footfall. As attendance at this festival by the use of public transport would require hundreds if not thousands [REDACTED] to pass through Todds Green from the bus stop in Fishers Green to the site and return, the possibility of both crime and disorder is not only greatly increased it is almost inevitable. Regardless of whether it was petty or serious it would cause varying levels of distress and/or trauma to those that suffered it and prevention is better than cure and absolutely necessary.

Road access to Todds Green is limited and Todds Green does not have any large business or organisation located there resulting in low level traffic movements except when it is used as a "rat run" to Stevenage based employment during commuter rush hours. There are some small and medium size businesses operating from the Shangri La Farm sites and the traffic using these demonstrates the potential hazards that would result from allowing expansion of this event from that permitted in 2018. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It must be

taken in to consideration the organiser's failure this year to obtain authorisation from the county highways department for the road restrictions that were put in place and the unauthorised stopping of road traffic to allow cars to leave the car park site by a steward simply wearing a hi viz vest putting that person in a situation of high risk considering the lack of vision for drivers in that stretch of road.

Allowing the extension of the event to a Friday will also cause considerable problems with the traffic flow at commuter times on a working day. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The traffic calming employed for the event this year if put in place on a Friday would cause the same problems at rush hour as well as during the day for any medium to large good vehicle trying to access the Shangri La sites or further on in Stevenage.

This event [REDACTED] has the potential to generate levels of traffic movements by those attending this function that would result in an increase likelihood of breaches of the Road Traffic Act and other vehicle legislation both in Todds Green but also surrounding roads as has been demonstrated in the past when traffic flow through Todds Green has been restricted and there would also be the increased risk of friction and possibly disorder between attendees and residents trying to reasonably access their properties.

We note the proposal to provide shuttle buses but would suggest that this could in no way guarantee that this would substantially reduce the numbers of vehicles attending the event in fact their use of the road through Todds Green as they did this year would only exacerbate the problem and would cause major congestions issues on the roads leading to and from Todds Green. On the contrary the plan provided with the application indicates that they intend directing the traffic exiting from the site in the direction of Todds Green rather than the opposite direction where there are a very limited number of properties and residents and a larger number of alternative exit routes and capacity for stationary traffic. There is an attempt to direct traffic along Chantry Lane but any driver with local knowledge will know of the problems trying to access the Corey's Mill Roundabout from a road that is not part of the traffic light controlled access to that roundabout and will ignore the signage and drive through Todds Green, precisely the reason it used as a "rat run" on week days.

We note the applicants comments about controlling the consumption of alcohol and the sale of illegal drugs but it is not unreasonable to suspect that such controls would not be 100% successful and we would be faced with attendees leaving the function either drunk or having consumed drugs with the resulting prospect of disorderly conduct as they passed by our homes in the early hours of the morning

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The proposed action to prevent the over sale of tickets is at best superficial and at worst would be totally ineffective. It would be naïve to believe that the organisers faced with queues when they reached 4,999 would not continue to allow entry whether paid and registered or not. To allow entry would be illegal and to prevent could lead to disorder. Insisting that all tickets should be pre sold and banning ticket sales at the gate would be the only effective control on numbers.

[REDACTED]

Far more information must be provided about the intended live and recorded music to ensure that it will not attract attendance by an audience that would increase the possibility of crime and/or public disorder. The event this year produced volumes of noise from the acts appearing that could be clearly heard in our garden from outset and later in the evening in our house with the windows closed, which considering the temperatures at the time was a severe inconvenience, and brings in to doubt whether they exercised any restraint or observed the statutory restrictions on noise.

The proposed extension of hours to 02:00am for the sale of alcohol and the playing of music would inevitably lead to noise and disturbance in the early hours of Saturday, Sunday and possibly Monday for the residents of Todds Green, activity may be limited to those times but clearing the site would take some hours longer. It should also be considered how appropriate such opening times are for an event that is promoted as being a family event and could lead to infants and young children being kept at the event and being exposed to a range of inappropriate behaviour.

[REDACTED]

2) Public safety

The proposed access and egress for the site present grave concerns about road safety. The potential volumes of traffic and pedestrians [REDACTED] attending the site that has no footpath access and visually/size limited vehicle access is totally unsuitable. The proposed entrance to the bus and taxi car park has a mini roundabout within yards in one direction and a blind bend a similar distance in the other direction making both access and egress extremely dangerous for all types of vehicles but particularly for any larger vehicle e.g. a bus using the site, it should also be noted that the traffic calming that was proposed to be placed to "protect" this access was not actually used. The mini roundabout junction and the site entrance would require a bus to use the full width of the road which would have major implications should the road already be blocked by vehicles trying to access the site.

For pedestrians there is only a limited width footpath on one side of the road approaching the site through Todds Green which does not continue in to Chantry Lane to the site entrance, there is no footpath from the other directions and no verge for pedestrians to use where the road crosses the railway on a bridge that is barely wide enough for two vehicles to pass safely, a very real threat to pedestrian safety and it is this road that leads to one of the public transport bus routes and stops. There is also currently a very large contractor's site being established for Network Rail contractors located in the field opposite Chantry Lane that is being used by large vehicles, if the signage is to be believed and it is the usual practice for such works to take place in the evenings and week ends when train movements are minimal which would put them in direct conflict with pedestrians attending the event as there is a total absence of footpaths on both Chantry Lane and Stevenage Road together with limited road lighting.

There have been indications that the organisers believe the provision of shuttle buses and taxis will exclude attendance at the event by pedestrians but we would suggest that while it may reduce numbers they have no way of preventing the public accessing the event on foot and exposing them to the hazards mentioned. It should also be considered that if the car park were to fill up there is no provision for overflow which would result in street parking on the surrounding roads with the resulting chaos. Any overflow facility would have to avoid users having to walk on the roads to access the event exposing them to the hazards already indicated.

The proposed car park entrance/exit is as bad if not worse as the road has a number of bends limiting visibility and traffic speeds are generally markedly higher on that stretch of road as it is outside of the 30 mph speed limit and has a limit of 60mph. It has been suggested that marshalls will be provided at the entrances but they will have no legal powers to control traffic and their safety would be put at considerable risk given the nature of the roads leading to the event and the absence of safe off road havens for them to use, as already mentioned that despite not having authority to stop traffic this is exactly what they were doing.

The Plan submitted indicates where the public will be expected to enter/leave the festival site depending on how they arrive but fails to show how those that choose to arrive at the site on foot can do so safely in the absence of footpaths on the sites access roads. In fact this years tall wire barriers were placed on the verges opposite the pedestrian entrance preventing the use of the verges by pedestrians [REDACTED] would make this situation even more hazardous. Users of public transport would, of necessity, be required to walk and queue in the road which has barely the width for two cars to pass in opposite directions and insufficient width for two wider vehicles to pass making access for pedestrians extremely dangerous.

[REDACTED]

We are concerned that should there be an incident that required the evacuation of the site and the attendance by the emergency services both would be using the entrance/exit facilities at the same time with the emergency services trying to enter while the public were trying to exit. This has obvious implications given the limited access to the main festival site, of the ones identified on the plan supplied only one has a direct access to the festival site and that is already shared with buses and taxis. There are two others, one is the car park combined entrance and exit and the third the buses and taxis exit. It is

obviously impossible to have an adequate plan that would allow such a situation to be dealt with in a safe and proper manner.

3) Prevention of public nuisance

We note that the application includes a license for the sale of alcohol and the provision of live/recorded music until 02:00 on Sunday morning both of which will inevitably cause a nuisance to the vast majority of the residents of Todds Green.

The plan provided shows that the stage will be pointed away from Todds Green but this year this did not prevent a considerable noise nuisance being experienced by those properties whose rear gardens had no shelter from the noise, in our garden it was consistently above 60db and as mentioned previously we had to close all windows and the noise still penetrated them, they are incidentally triple glazed and normally sufficient to stop all noise from traffic and overhead jets from Luton Airport. It is, however, noted that the festival site, which will generate the vast majority of the nuisance, is located nearest the village while the car park where the nuisance will be limited is furthest away it would be more sensible and considerate to the residents of Todds Green to reverse the arrangement

The site is, in any case, extremely close to residential property, approx. 200 - 600 mts, making it impossible for the event not to create considerable noise and other nuisance for the vast majority of residential Todds Green. There is a comment in publicity for the event that a noise survey has been conducted to test levels approved by North Herts District Council but as no details have been provided it is not possible to know if the tests were appropriate or under what circumstances, wind direction being extremely important as an extremely efficient carrier of sound certainly music in the early hours as proposed could hardly avoid being a nuisance or whether any member of North Herts District Council's Environmental Health team was present when the tests were carried out.

The movement of potentially thousands of people would inevitably lead to the risk of large amounts of litter and rubbish being disposed of randomly through Todds Green and, in part dependant on weather conditions, this could be spread to the gardens of the residential property and the application does not appear to take this in to consideration or provide for litter collection after the event.

Todds Green will be subjected to considerable noise nuisance not only from the event but from traffic going to and leaving the event as well as that generated by the pedestrian traffic which will almost certainly include rowdy behaviour resulting from the consumption of alcohol and again the extension of the proposed hours of operation will only increase this nuisance not decrease it and make it at even more unsociable hours.

[REDACTED] Taking in to consideration that there is limited access for vehicles to the event it is inevitable that there will be periods of static traffic waiting to access the site increasing even further the nuisance and pollution this will cause.

4) Protection of children from harm

The event suggests that it is intended to be "family entertainment" and the publicity to date suggests that it is actually predominantly adult orientated (rugby club tug of war, a range of tribute pop groups etc.). The alcohol and refreshment sales time applied for and the advertised opening hours, to 02:00 am on all days including Sunday, reinforce this as they go beyond the times that responsible adults would be keeping their children at such an event.

It is also of concern that the applicant has indicated that there will be vague attempts at identifying under 18s and preventing under 18s not accompanied by an adult from entering the site. Surely as a family event under 18s should only be allowed entry if accompanied by their parents or an adult who is responsible for their behaviour perhaps by way of a family ticket. Allowing the entry of under 18s just because they are in a party with over 18s is hardly protecting children from harm and would increase the prospect of under age drinking. A more stringent policy on this issue would be a deterrent to those who may wish to attend for the purpose of under age drinking.

In summary we repeat that we believe this application is wholly inappropriate given its proximity to the residential area of Todds Green and all of the resulting issues and should be rejected. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Yours faithfully

Barry & Vivien Huffer

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Todds Green,
Stevenage
Herts,
SG1 2JE

North Herts District Council
Licensing and Enforcement
PO Box 10613 Nottingham
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To Whom it may Concern

3rd January 2019

Dear Sirs,

RE: Application by Mr David Nye, Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd, for a Premises License to hold a Music Festival (Todd in the Hole) at Bury Woods, Todds Green, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2JE on Friday, Saturday and Sunday between June and August 2019 in perpetuity

We write to not necessarily oppose the Application for a Premise licence for the above event but to requests controls and conditions in respect of such.

Our dwelling is on the corner of Chantry Lane and the Stevenage Road in Todds Green. The entrance to our property is on Chantry Lane between and opposite the intended main entrance and egress points for all incoming taxis and buses for the proposed event. So, we will very likely suffer more than most with the proposed expansion to 3 days and late nights etc.

We have read and support some of the concerns raised within the circular from the Wymondley Parish Council. [REDACTED]

We understand that any objections to this new application have to be made under the following four headings:

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

People drinking alcohol for a further 4 hours until 2 am in the morning are far more likely to commit public order offences. It is illegal to sound a horn in a built-up area after 11.30pm. So, there can be no acceptable reason legally or otherwise to permit an event such as this to continue beyond this time at the proposed location.

Public Safety

It should be considered if this location is a suitable venue for such an event with the expansion to 3 days [REDACTED]. The main access road

Chantry Lane is a narrow 2 way country lane with hills & blind bends. There are no pavements for foot traffic so all pedestrians will have to share the road with cars, buses and taxis. There isn't any street lighting, so, pedestrians heading home after dark will be at risk from the lack of visibility, changing terrain and traffic etc especially if intoxicated.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

Granting a licence for loud music beyond 11.30pm and until 2am would surely constitute a public nuisance in a residential area (Law Commission). Couple this with hundreds of people exiting a public event after 2am most of who will have been drinking alcohol for some hours and surely you have the perfect cocktail for a public nuisance.

After 2am on such a summers night it is likely that many will just not bother to go home with the event starting up again the following day. Some will look to camp or stay for the full 3 days. So, there will very likely be activity in the area throughout the night and therefore a Public nuisance is virtually guaranteed.

We understand that the organisers will be charging for car parking. The implications are those looking to park for free will very likely be parking along the verges and on the roadside causing traffic jams and preventing traffic moving freely. As we are now dealing with a significant increase in numbers this situation could also obstruct the emergency services and residents accessing their own homes.

Protection of Children from Harm

Suffice to say that any event intended to go-on until 2am the following day should not be a place for children.

Generally

Last years event went as well as could be expected and the organisers did their best to ensure consideration was given to the residents of Todds Green. We believe it was a success because it was a family event, the numbers of people were at a level that was controllable and that the event ended at a sensible time each day.

We trust you will address the issues that have been raised here and by the residents of Todds Green and the surrounding areas, we thank you in anticipation of such.

Yours Faithfully,

Stephen & Julie Thomas