

Appendix C

**Representations from
'Other Persons'**

Thornboro
Todds Green
Herts. SG1 2JE

March 2019

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

To whom it may concern,

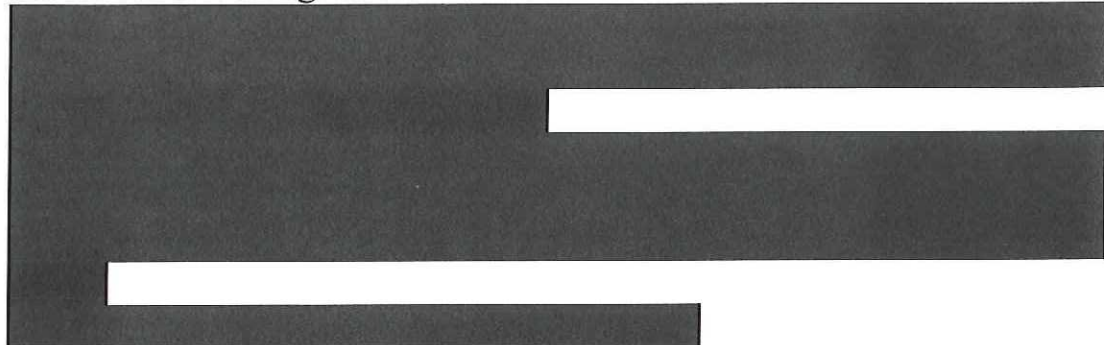
Re: Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd. application for the grant of a variation in the existing premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Todd in the Hole, Bury Wood, Todds Green, Stevenage, SG1 2JE

We are residents of Todds Green and we are very disappointed that Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd. are asking for a variation to the decision made by North Hertfordshire District Council, Licensing and Enforcement back in January.

We wish to object to this variation in the strongest possible terms.

The prevention of crime and disorder.

We understand that this variation refers to up to 2,000 people using the campsite. The organisers want the marquee where they will be entertained to be selling alcohol and playing recorded music until 2 am on the first two evenings of the festival.



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 our property will be kept safe from people many of whom will

have been drinking alcohol for many hours and late into the night who may leave the campsite and wander into our village.

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?

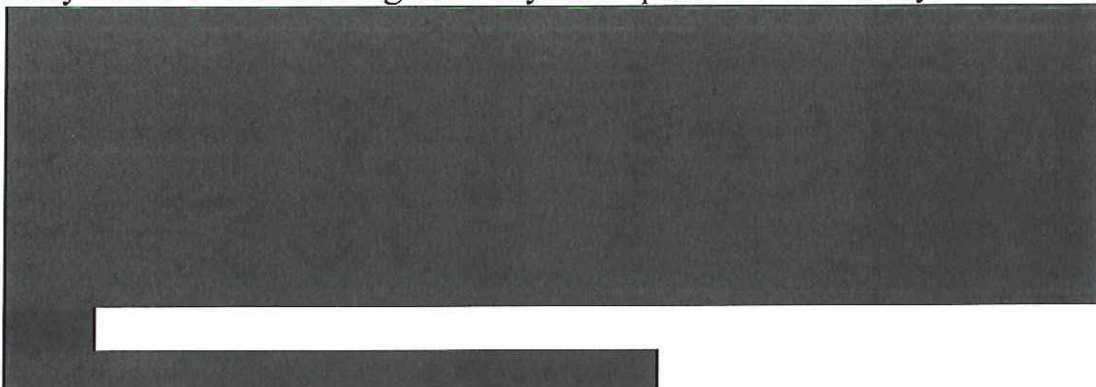
This year as with last year we are not told what genre of recorded music is to be played. That information will often inform the 'genre' and behaviour of the audience.

Public safety.

What security personnel will be on duty at the site in case of trouble?

The prevention of public nuisance.

Noise and disturbance: Our house is approximately 500 yards from the venue. The applicants told us the campers would use a marquee in which to listen to recorded music. 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.



Also it is not possible to 'turn down' the reaction of the audience to the music, especially an audience that has been drinking alcohol for many hours.

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 night with the windows closed? From 11pm until 2am it would be very intrusive. These are the summer months when we have the windows open.

Our neighbours have young children. This is a residential area and some people work to a 7-day rota.



The protection of children from harm.



[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

You obviously have to balance the demands of the music festival organisers with the needs of the residents. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Of course we object and we are asking you to refuse this variation [REDACTED] which will inevitably destroy our peace.

Thank you.

Jennifer Calcagni and Bryant Sykes
Thornboro
Todds Green

[REDACTED]

From: Barry Huffer [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 March 2019 13:33
To: Licensing
Subject: Application for Variation of Premises License for Todd in the Hole
Attachments: Huffer Letter to NHDC re Todd in the Hole Application Objections 2018.doc

We would like to register our objection to any variation of the license previously granted for this event.

[REDACTED]

The area is residential in a rural environment and licensing an event for large numbers of people, loud noise and long hours of availability of alcohol is totally insensitive.

Reassurances are given about noise control etc but in reality if they are ignored even for a short period of time the results can be disastrous for the residents.

The hours granted in the license were to allow the event to have an orderly close with those camping to have an extended evening until 01:00am and an hour to 02:00am to clear the site with potential for the disturbance of local residents being reduced although still possible until an unreasonably late hour.

[REDACTED] The organisers also want us to believe that there is something magic about 02:00 that the campers will not want to party after that time but will after 00:00, or that they will want to carry on eating and drinking after 00:00 but not after 02:00. They are displaying a total disrespect for the [REDACTED] the residents making such claims particularly that campers would be more aggressive than non campers, both are equally capable of making provision for later eating and drinking that the organisers would find impossible to stop. If the licence only extended to 12:00 there would be nothing to stop the campers stockpiling food, drinks and using smart phones and Bluetooth speakers to carry on their revelries for several hours so what is special about having a later licence time. The sooner the event is closed the sooner the drinking, eating and noise will stop and the residents of Todds Green will get some peace and some sleep.

The reasoning presented by the organisers to justify the variations insults the intelligence [REDACTED] the residents that will have to suffer them [REDACTED] This event is a disaster waiting to happen and the longer it is allowed to continue the more demands the organisers will make.

We would reinforce our objection by repeating our objections to the original application in the attached document.

Regards

Barry and Vivien Huffer

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

5th December 2018

To whom it may concern

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

[REDACTED]

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. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 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 [REDACTED] for the residents of Todds Green, activity may be limited to those times but clearing the site would take some hours longer. [REDACTED]

[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. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

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

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

3) Prevention of public nuisance

[REDACTED]

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 and 02:00 on Sunday night/Monday 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 but consideration for those residents is one thing that is totally absent from this application.

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.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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]

4) Protection of children from harm

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

'Woodside'
Chantry Lane,
Todds Green,
Stevenage
Herts,
SG1 2JE

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

To Whom it may Concern

26th March 2019

Dear Sirs,

RE: Application by Mr David Nye, Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd, for the Grant of a Variation in the Existing 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 oppose the Grant of a Variation in the existing Application for a Premise licence for the above event.

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. We are the closest dwelling to the site in Bury Wood. So, we will very likely suffer more than most if the extended hours for music and sales of alcohol etc. are granted.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Keeping hundreds of people up even longer into the early hours of the morning and plying them with more Alcohol can surely only benefit the organisers and be to the considerable detriment of the local people.

Surely the local people are entitled to reasonable breaks from the loud music, inebriated strangers and heavy traffic that will be occupying the local area for the 3 – 4days.

We reiterate the points made regarding alcohol in our last correspondence.

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

People drinking alcohol for a further 2 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 [REDACTED] to permit an event such as this to continue beyond this time at the proposed location.

Public Safety

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 [REDACTED]. 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.

Conclusion

We trust the NHDC will see this application to Grant a Variation in the existing Application for a Premise licence as completely inappropriate and unnecessary. After all, most attendees will already have been drinking alcohol for most of the day at the live music events.

We also hope that the Council [REDACTED] accepts that the residents of Todds Green, and the surrounding areas, should also have a right to influence events in and around their own homes.

Yours Faithfully,

Stephen & Julie Thomas

Dear Sirs,

I object to the granting of a variation to the premises licence for the above location. This objection is in respect of the application to vary the times for Recorded music and extension of the existing premises license. This objection is based upon the fact that visitors leaving the site at these proposed hours is anti-social and will be detrimental to the local community. Regardless of where the access and egress points are for the site it will not be possible for the organisers to ensure no disruption to the local residents.



Yours faithfully
GWG Seller
Birchwood
Todds Green
SG1 2JE

WYMONDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

25 March 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Sausage and Gobbler Productions Ltd. application to vary the existing premises licence in respect of Todd in the Hole, Bury Wood, Todd's Green, Stevenage, SG1 2JE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The table summarises the position in relation to [REDACTED] the decision of the Licensing Panel on 28 January 2019; and the practical effect if the current application to vary specific terms of the licence is granted:

	[REDACTED]	NHDC Decision	Effect of Proposed Variation
Live music playing	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Recorded music playing	[REDACTED]	Friday 12.00 – 01.00 Saturday 11.00 – 01.00 [REDACTED]	Friday 12.00 – 02.00 Saturday 11.00 – 02.00 [REDACTED]
Supply of alcohol	[REDACTED]	Friday 12.00 – 00.00 Saturday 11.00 – 00.00 [REDACTED]	Friday 12.00 – 02.00 Saturday 11.00 – 02.00 [REDACTED]
Late night refreshment		Friday 23.00 – 00.00 Saturday 23.00 – 00.00	Friday 23.00 – 02.00 Saturday 23.00 – 02.00

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I therefore write again on behalf of Wymondley Parish Council, to strongly object to this further application [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

The Parish Council strongly opposes the application [REDACTED] because it believes that, due to its location, i.e. close to a residential area; and with a limited and unsafe access route, the 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.

Detailed reasons for the Council's objections [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] are given below. [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 [REDACTED] would need to either drive or walk through Todd's Green, (and neighbouring villages), to access the site.

This 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, [REDACTED]

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 as the site is licensed to supply alcohol.

We note that the current application, if granted, will allow the supply of alcohol from 12.00 on Friday until 02.00 on Saturday morning – together with the playing of music from 11.00 until that time. On Saturday, alcohol would be available from 11.00 to 02.00 on Sunday morning, together with music; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 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. [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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Council therefore believes it imperative that any variation to the existing licence should not be granted [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 Al(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

[REDACTED]

The Council cannot see any justification in extending the permitted hours beyond those which, in January 2019, the Licensing Panel thought reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances, given the nature of the event and objections raised.

It believes that the hours during which alcohol is supplied and music played, (whether recorded or live); and late-night refreshment supplied, should not be varied from those permitted under the terms of the existing licence, as this increases the detrimental effect on residents' lives; the potential for public nuisance, crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour; and the risk to public safety.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Yours faithfully,

Cathy Kerby (Ms)
Clerk to Wymondley Parish Council

Email: [REDACTED]