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James Ellis
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

MEETING : LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE
VENUE : COUNCIL CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD
DATE : FRIDAY 4 JUNE 2021
TIME : 10.00 AM

MEMBERS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillors D Andrews, A Hall and D Snowdon

COMMITTEE OFFICER:
PETER MANNINGS
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DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

1. A Member, present at a meeting of the Authority, or any committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee of the Authority, with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in any matter to be considered or being considered at a meeting:
 - must not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting;
 - must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting;
 - must disclose the interest to the meeting, whether registered or not, subject to the provisions of section 32 of the Localism Act 2011;
 - if the interest is not registered and is not the subject of a pending notification, must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days;
 - must leave the room while any discussion or voting takes place.
2. A DPI is an interest of a Member or their partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom they are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were civil partners) within the descriptions as defined in the Localism Act 2011.
3. The Authority may grant a Member dispensation, but only in limited circumstances, to enable him/her to participate and vote on a matter in which they have a DPI.
4. It is a criminal offence to:

- fail to disclose a disclosable pecuniary interest at a meeting if it is not on the register;
- fail to notify the Monitoring Officer, within 28 days, of a DPI that is not on the register that a Member disclosed to a meeting;
- participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which a Member has a DPI;
- knowingly or recklessly provide information that is false or misleading in notifying the Monitoring Officer of a DPI or in disclosing such interest to a meeting.

(Note: The criminal penalties available to a court are to impose a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and disqualification from being a councillor for up to 5 years.)

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AGENDA

1. Appointment of Chairman

2. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

3. Chairman's Announcements

4. Declarations of Interest

To receive any Members' Declarations of Interest.

5. Summary of Procedure (Pages 7 - 14)

A summary of the procedure to be followed during consideration of item 6 is attached.

6. Application for Review of the Premises Licence for Wilkestock, Waterbridge Frogmore Hill, Watton At Stone, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 3RR (21/0239/PLV) (Pages 15 - 266)

7. Urgent Business

To consider such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration and is not likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information.

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LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

EXTRACT FROM RULES OF PROCEDURE

Note – the full Rules of Procedure can be viewed at:

<http://democracy.eastherts.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Cld=144&Year=0>

8.0 Procedure at hearing

As a matter of practice, the Sub-Committee shall seek to focus the hearing on the steps needed to promote the particular licensing objective(s) which has given rise to the specific representation(s) and will avoid straying into undisputed areas. The hearing is a discussion lead by the Authority (i.e. the Chairman) with advice from the Legal Adviser.

- 8.1 The order of business shall be at the discretion of the Sub-Committee, but shall normally proceed in accordance with the following paragraphs.
- 8.2 The Chairman shall at the beginning of the hearing, introduce themselves and the Sub-Committee members, ask the Officers present to introduce themselves before inviting the parties to the hearing to identify themselves. The Chairman will then explain to the parties the procedure that the Sub-Committee intends to follow.
- 8.3 The Chairman will ask a representative of the Licensing Authority to introduce the report, and outline the matter before the Sub-Committee.
- 8.5 The Parties to a hearing for an application shall usually be invited to address the Sub-Committee in the following order:
 - (a) Applicant
 - (b) Responsible Authority
 - (c) Other parties

However, this may be varied at the discretion of the Chairman, if in his/her opinion, this would assist the efficient business of the Sub-Committee.

8.6 Parties to the hearing shall be entitled to:

- (a) give further information in support of their application, relevant representations or notice (as applicable) in response to a point upon which the Licensing Authority has given notice that it requires clarification;
- (b) question any other party if given permission by the Chairman of the Sub-Committee; and
- (c) address the Sub-Committee.

8.7 Members of the Sub-Committee may ask any question of any party to the hearing or other person appearing at the hearing.

8.8 Where there is more than one relevant representation raising the same or similar grounds, the Sub-Committee shall request that only one party address them on behalf of the parties who have made the representations in question.

8.9 Subject to paragraph 8.10 below, in considering any relevant representations or notice made by a party to the hearing, the Sub-Committee may take into account additional documentary or other information produced by such a party in support of their application, relevant representations or notice (as applicable) either submitted at least 24 hours before the hearing commences or, with the consent of *all* the other parties and the Chairman, at the hearing. Where all the other parties consent the Licensing Sub-Committee has discretion as to whether to admit additional documentary evidence or other information at the hearing. If large documents are submitted on the day then the hearing may be adjourned at the Chairman's discretion so that such documents can be fully considered.

Note - As a matter of good practice, any additional documentation or other information produced in advance of the hearing date, should be submitted to the licensing officer no later than two working days before the hearing.

8.10 The Sub-Committee shall disregard any information given or evidence produced by a party or any person to whom permission is given to appear at the hearing, which is not relevant to:

- (a) their application, relevant representations or notice (as applicable); or
- (b) the promotion of the licensing objectives.

8.11 Hearsay evidence may be admitted before the Sub-Committee, but consideration shall always be given to the weight, if any, to be attached to such evidence, depending upon the circumstances in which it arises.

8.12 The parties to the hearing shall be entitled to make closing submissions, usually in the following order:

- (a) Responsible Authority
- (b) Other party
- (c) Applicant.

8.13 The Sub-Committee will, after hearing the relevant representations of the parties to the hearing, withdraw from the room to make their deliberations.

8.14 The Legal Adviser and the Democratic Services Officer shall accompany the Sub-Committee when they retire to make their deliberations.

9.0 Determination of applications

9.1 The Sub-Committee shall give appropriate weight to:

- (a) the relevant representations (including supporting information) presented by all the parties;
- (b) national guidance;
- (c) the Licensing Authority's Licensing/Gambling Policy (as applicable); and
- (d) the steps that are necessary to promote the licensing objectives.

9.2 The Sub-Committee shall make its determination:

- (a) at the conclusion of the hearing in accordance with the relevant Regulations; or
- (b) within 5 working days thereafter (all other cases).

9.3 The written notice of determination shall be issued by Head of Housing and Health under delegated authority and will information regarding the appeals process.

10.0 Role of Legal Adviser

- 10.1 The Sub-Committee may seek advice or clarification of any procedural, technical or legal matter from the Legal Adviser at any time during the course of the hearing.
- 10.2 The Legal Adviser shall provide the Sub-Committee with any advice it requires to properly perform its functions, on:
 - (a) questions of law;
 - (b) questions of mixed fact and law;
 - (c) matters of practice and procedure;
 - (d) the range of options available to the Sub-Committee;
 - (e) any relevant decisions of courts;
 - (f) relevant national guidance or policy;
 - (g) other issues relevant to the matter before the Sub-Committee.
- 10.4 The Legal Adviser shall play no part in making findings of fact, but may assist the Sub-Committee by reminding it of the evidence taken from his/her own or the Democratic Services Officer's notes.
- 10.5 The Legal Adviser may ask questions of witnesses and the parties in order to clarify the evidence and any issues in the case. The Legal Adviser is under a duty to ensure that every case is conducted fairly.

11.0 Role of Democratic Services Officer

- 11.1 The Democratic Services Officer's role is to make a record of the proceedings, summarise and record decisions and to provide help and assistance to parties attending hearings.

12.0 Role of Licensing

- 12.1 The Licensing Officer will present the pertinent facts of the application and the representations made by parties to the hearing.
- 12.2 The Licensing Officer shall provide the Sub-Committee with any advice it requires to properly perform its functions.
- 12.3 The Licensing Officer may ask questions of witnesses and the parties in order to clarify the evidence and any issues in the case.

13.0 Failure of parties to attend the hearing

- 13.1 If a party to the hearing has informed the Licensing Authority that he/she does not intend to attend or be represented at the hearing, the hearing may proceed in his/her absence and any properly made written submissions will be considered as part of the decision making process.
- 13.2 If a party to the hearing fails to provide notification in accordance with paragraph 13.1 above, and fails to attend or be represented at a hearing, the Sub-Committee may:
 - (a) where it considers it to be necessary in the public interest, adjourn the hearing to a specified date; or
 - (b) hold the hearing in the party's absence and shall consider at the hearing, the application, relevant representations or notice made or submitted by that party.

14.0 Adjournments

- 14.1 Subject to the provisions of the Regulations, the Sub-Committee may, where necessary for its consideration of any relevant representations or notice made by a party to the hearing, adjourn the hearing to a specified date.
- 14.2 Where the Sub-Committee adjourns the hearing to a specified date, it shall forthwith notify the parties to the hearing of the date, time and place.

15.0 Right of Appeal

- 15.1 The all parties to a hearing have a right of appeal against a decision to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days (beginning with the day on which the applicant was notified of the decision by the Licensing Authority).

Definitions

Term	Meaning
Applicant	<p>The holder of, or the person seeking the grant of, a licence, notice or other permission under the relevant Legislation.</p> <p>The premises user in relation to a temporary event notice (TEN) or temporary use notice (TUN).</p>
Interest	<p>A Disclosable Pecuniary Interest as defined in the Council's Members' Code of Conduct.</p>
Other parties	<p>Any persons making relevant representations or any person who is representing such persons.</p>
Licensing Authority	<p>East Hertfordshire District Council</p>
Parties to the Hearing	<p>The applicant and any parties that have made relevant representations or submitted a valid objection notice.</p>
Relevant Representations	<p>Representations (either in support of or against an application) that relate to one or more of the licensing objectives. Can be made by a Responsible Authority or other party.</p>
Responsible Authority	<p>The bodies that must be consulted regarding certain applications and that are entitled to make representations to the Licensing Authority.</p>

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East Herts Council Report

Licensing Sub-Committee

Date of Meeting: 4 June 2021

Report by: Jonathan Geall, Head of Housing and Health

Report title: Application for Review of the Premises
Licence for Wilkestock, Waterbridge Frogmore
Hill, Watton At Stone, Hertford, Hertfordshire
SG14 3RR (21/0239/PLV)

Ward(s) affected: Datchworth and Aston
Walkern

Summary

- An application to review the above premises has been received from a Responsible Authority. Where a review application is made there must be a Licensing Sub-Committee to decide that application even where agreement is reached. The report is to inform that decision.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

(a) The application for review of the premises licence be decided.

1.0 **Proposal(s)**

- 1.1 Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee should determine the application to review a premise licence through consideration of the information contained in this report and appendices combined with submissions made at the Licensing Sub-Committee hearing.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Under the Licensing Act 2003 an application for review of a licence or certificate has to be determined.
- 2.2 Where a valid review application is made there must be a Licensing Sub-Committee hearing to decide that application even where agreement is reached. A Licensing Sub-Committee has the delegated authority to determine applications for review of Licences and Certificates. This decision must be made whilst having regard to the Licensing Objectives, the Licensing Authority's own Statement of Licensing Policy and to statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State under Section 182 of the Licensing Act.
- 2.3 The Licensing Objectives are:
 - Prevention of Crime and Disorder
 - Public Safety
 - Prevention of public nuisance; and
 - Protection of children from harm.

3.0 Reason(s)

- 3.1 The valid review application was submitted by Hertfordshire Police on 16th April 2021. The application has been correctly advertised at the premises and consulted upon as required by legislation and regulations.
- 3.2 The application details state that the current operation of the premises undermines the Licensing Objectives of:
 - Prevention of Crime and Disorder;
 - Public Safety; and
 - Prevention of public nuisance.
- 3.3 A redacted copy of the application form is attached as

Appendix 'A', and a copy of the current premises licence is attached as **Appendix 'B'**.

- 3.4 The Police state that the number of people attending the events has grown from 500 to 3000 in 2019.
- 3.5 The licence allows for 3 events per year with each event being over one weekend. These have normally been a Wilkestock event, HogSozzle and a partnered event with the Dog and Whistle.
- 3.6 The review application alleges a number of issues with regards to the premises. The application states that the Police believe there have been errors and inconsistencies in the Event Management Plans (EMP's) provided by the Premises Licence Holder throughout 2017 through to 2021 such that the Police have to regularly chase for information and on some occasions this has still been missing from the final EMP. The Police also allege that issues that have previously been brought to the Premises Licence Holder's attention have not always been addressed.
- 3.7 The Police have indicated that they were in attendance during an event in July 2018 and they highlighted the following concerns in relation to:
 - seized drugs not being bagged or recorded,
 - ejections of people were not being recorded,
 - traffic issues due to two way traffic on narrow lanes,
 - inadequate signage,
 - lack of lighting in the car park,
 - no stewards in the car park or manning the road crossing,
 - cars parked inappropriately in the car park,
 - a person was ejected where there were clear medical concerns for them.
 - The Police were concerned that the event was not being run effectively and believe there was clear evidence of

drugs being taken by people at the festival.

3.8 In addition the Police witnessed what they have called “total chaos” at the end of the event as people tried to leave all at the same time. They state that people walking down unlit lanes is not only dangerous but being in isolated locations makes them vulnerable and at risk of being victims of crime. Those who decided not to walk continued to gather in the road between the festival site and the festival car park as well as in and around the car park itself which was insufficiently lit. People were getting increasingly frustrated and there were concerns that this could escalate. This situation was observed and managed by Police for nearly 2 hours while people dispersed from the site. Dispersal from the event was highlighted to Tom Wilkes (the Premises Licence Holder) as a major concern and as a result of this event Tom Wilkes was advised not to hold single day events at the location which, at the time, he informally agreed with the Police but no variation has been made to the licence to formalise this.

3.9 In December 2018 a condition was added to the premises licence by the applicant that restricted the number of day tickets to 1,750. This limit was alleged, however, to have been breached in July 2019 when 1,850 day tickets were sold. This is evidenced by an email from the event organisers included in the Police’s evidence.

3.10 The Police have provided dates and times when they allege that licence conditions have been breached. These are as follows:

Event	Alleged Condition Breach
HogSozzle 26 th – 28 th May 2017	2, 3, 4, 5, 20, 21,
HogSozzle 24 th – 26 th May 2019	3, 6 , 20, 21, 22, 31

Back and Beyond 6 th - 7 th July 2019	6, 8d
Wilkestock 30 th Aug - 2 nd Sept 2019	3, 6, 20, 21, 22, 31 2 of Annex 3

3.11 The Police have listed a number of reasons why the review hearing has been sought by the Police now and not instigated earlier, these being:

- 1) *Over the years the specific people from each responsible authority involved in the events has changed. This has resulted in a lack of continuity and knowledge and has allowed Tom Wilkes to avoid addressing concerns. Having worked personally with Tom Wilkes and those acting for him since the end of 2016, PS Ramirez and Sarb Minichiello between them, now have the continuity of information and can clearly see the issues.*
- 2) *Police are always keen to work with event organisers and support them to run safe events that have a minimal impact on the local communities. Having started working with Tom Wilkes for the 2017 events, PS Ramirez wanted to ensure that Tom Wilkes was given the opportunity to develop his events and resolve the concerns. However the level of support and guidance given to Tom Wilkes over the years has been far in excess of support given to any other event in East Herts and no significant progress has been made.*
- 3) *The events held prior to 2017 did not according to Police records have more than 1000 people attending. Due to the events being smaller the level of Police attention given to the events would have been minimal. As the events have grown the risks have also grown and the change from camping festivals to single day events has added to the risks involved.*
- 4) *Following the 2019 events it was clear that there was a need to collate the information about the events and properly review what had occurred each year in order to fully assess the concerns. Due to COVID resources were deployed to other concerns during 2020. At the end of 2020 Tom Wilkes applied*

for a new licence for events in 2021. As a result of this application it was felt that the risk of Tom Wilkes holding further events needed to be addressed. The information from 2018 and 2019 events was collated and the concerns became fully apparent. Following on from this work it was clear that the Police needed to act and instigate a review of the licence rather than continuing to let ever growing events take place under the management of Tom Wilkes.

- 5) *As a result of Tom Wilkes' application in December 2020 for a new premise licence a hearing was held. As a result of this hearing Police were informed by 9 local residents of ongoing issues around the current events held at the location. The full extend of this information was not known by Police until January 2021.*
- 6) *The Police have reviewed the EMP for the July 2021 events and again there is key information missing and risks that have not been identified and addressed by the organisers, this is despite the same concerns being highlighted at the hearing just 3 months ago in January 2021.*

3.12 The Police have summarised their concerns raised in relation to events held at Waterbridge as:

- 1) *A lack of confidence in the organisers of the events held at Waterbridge to plan and manage events that effectively promote the licensing objectives*
- 2) *Inability of the organisers to identify and address risks without the intervention of the responsible authorities resulting in public safety issues*
- 3) *The organisers have repeatedly failed to take on board the concerns of the responsible authorities and implement plans to address concerns resulting in public safety and public nuisance issues and an increased risk of crime and disorder*
- 4) *Concerns about the site being used for larger events especially when run as single day events with large numbers of day ticket sales resulting in the issues being further exacerbated*
- 5) *Regular failure to comply with the conditions on the licence*

that are set to ensure the licensing objectives are met

6) *A significant negative impact on the local community that has not been addressed over the years.*

3.13 The Police have requested that the Wilkestock Licence issued to Mr Tom Wilkes be revoked.

3.14 During the statutory 28 day consultation period eleven further representations were received in support of the review application made by the Police:

- one from a local councillor
- ten from local residents

These representations are attached as **Appendix 'C'**.

3.15 The representation from the local councillor reports that he has received a number of complaints from residents regarding the premises alleging traffic problems, noise, litter and antisocial behaviour.

3.16 The other interested parties have stated that they are concerned in regards to both vehicular and pedestrian traffic problems, the safety of people walking to and from the site, rubbish and noise.

3.17 During the 28 day consultation period a further 95 representations / comments were received in support of the premises that related to the licensing objectives. These were from both residents and non-residents of Watton at Stone. Some of these comments are from staff and customers of the venue.

These representations are attached as **Appendix 'D'**.

3.18 The representations in support of the licence holder and his events cover a wide variety of matters. In general they support

that these are safe well run events where the issues described by the Police have not been witnessed by those making representations.

- 3.19 A further 250 comments were received in support of the premises but these did not relate to the licensing objectives so have not been included in the report.
- 3.20 Members of the Sub-Committee must decide how much weight they attach to these comments.
- 3.21 To assist members in making a decision a map showing the location of the site is attached as **Appendix 'E'**.

Policy and Guidance

- 3.22 Paragraph 9.37 and 9.38 of the revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 states:

As a matter of practice, licensing authorities should seek to focus the hearing on the steps considered appropriate to promote the particular licensing objective or objectives that have given rise to the specific representation and avoid straying into undisputed areas. A responsible authority or other person may choose to rely on their written representation. They may not add further representations to those disclosed to the applicant prior to the hearing, but they may expand on their existing representation and should be allowed sufficient time to do so, within reasonable and practicable limits.

- 3.23 In determining the application with a view to promoting the licensing objectives in the overall interests of the local community, the licensing authority must give appropriate weight to:
 - the steps that are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives;

- the representations (including supporting information) presented by all the parties;
- this Guidance;
- its own statement of licensing policy.

3.24 Paragraphs 9.42-9.44 deal with how to determine actions that are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

3.25 If Members are minded to impose conditions to mitigate concerns regarding the undermining of the licensing objectives then Chapter 10 of the guidance deals with conditions attached to premises licences. Paragraphs 10.8-10.10, 10.13-10.15 would be particularly relevant.

3.26 Chapter 11 of the guidance deals with reviews and paragraphs 11.16 – 11.23 are particularly relevant as it deals with the powers the licensing authority has to determine the application.

Officer observations

3.27 The Police have alleged licence breaches in 2017, 2018 and 2019. At the time of these breaches the Police had six months to prosecute for the offences which they chose not to do, although they have stated their reasoning, as detailed in paragraph 3.11 above.

3.28 In relation to the event of July 2018 that the traffic management plan and dispersal policy of the EMP was not sufficient / robust enough for the number of people leaving the event at the end of the event.

3.29 During Safety Advisory Group meeting of 19th April 2021 the event organiser made it clear that the events in July 2021 are three single day events. This would therefore use up all licensed event days for 2021. If further events are required then another authorisation will need to be sought for

Licensable Activities to take place.

- 3.30 As stated in the Guidance the authority's decision should be evidence-based, justified as being appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and proportionate to what it is intended to achieve.
- 3.31 Members should consider all of the evidence submitted by the applicant (Hertfordshire Constabulary), the representations submitted in support of the review application, the evidence submitted by premise licence holder and the representations received opposing the application in order to determine whether the licensing objectives are being undermined.
- 3.32 If Members believe that the evidence shows that the premises do undermine the licensing objectives then guidance requires that the minimum steps needed to mitigate the issues should be the steps that are taken by the authority. Therefore if Members believe that the licensing objectives are being undermined then any of the actions detailed in the first four bullet points of paragraph 4.1 of this report are available to them. If however members feel the premise does not undermine the licensing objectives then no changes are required to the licence.

4.0 Options

- 4.1 The actions open to the Licensing Sub-Committee are:

- Modify the conditions of the premises licence (which includes adding new conditions or any alteration or omission of an existing condition which are appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives (either permanently or temporarily for up to 3 months);
- Exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
- suspend the licence for up to 3 months;
- revoke the licence;

- remove the designated premises supervisor (DPS);
- make no changes to the licence.

5.0 Risks

5.1 A decision on the application must be made and any decision made can be appealed at the Magistrate's Court. Therefore the Licensing Sub-Committee should ensure that when giving their decision on the application that they give clear reasons on how and why they have made their decision.

6.0 Implications/Consultations

6.1 As with any application for a new premise licence / variation of premise licence or review of a premise licence there is a 28 day public consultation.

Community Safety

The report details the four licensing objectives, these objectives are detailed in paragraph 2.3, therefore Community Safety will be considered when determining the application.

Data Protection

Where the appendices have shown personal data this has been redacted.

Equalities

Consideration will be made to the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Environmental Sustainability

No

Financial

There will be a cost to the Licensing Sub-Committee hearing, this will be covered by the existing budget.

There may also be a cost if the decision of the Licensing Sub-Committee is appealed to the Magistrates Court.

Health and Safety

No

Human Resources

No

Human Rights

As with all applications and Council functions ,the Human Rights Act 1998 has been considered in this report and will be considered during the Licensing Sub-Committee hearing.

Legal

All statutory requirements have been considered in preparing this report.

Specific Wards

Yes Aston and Datchworth
Walkern

7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

- 7.1 Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (April 2018) -
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705327/Revised_guidanceIssuedUnderSection182OfTheLicensingAct2003_April2018.pdf
- 7.2 East Herts Statement of Licensing Policy 2016 –
https://cdn-eastherts.onwebcurl.com/s3fs-public/documents/Statement_of_Licensing_Policy.pdf
- 7.3 Night Time Economy (NTE) Position Statement –
https://cdn-eastherts.onwebcurl.com/s3fs-public/documents/Night_Time_Economy_NTE_Position_Statement.pdf

- 7.4 **Appendix 'A'** – Application for a Review of a Premise Licence.
- 7.5 **Appendix 'B'** – Current Premise Licence of Wilkestock
- 7.6 **Appendix 'C'** – Representations supporting the review application.
- 7.7 **Appendix 'D'** – Representations against the review application.
- 7.8 **Appendix 'E'** – Map showing location of the premises.

Contact Member Councillor Peter Boylan – Executive Member for Neighbourhoods
peter.boylan@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officer Jonathan Geall – Head of Housing and Health
Contact No: 01992 531594
jonathan.geall@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author Brad Wheeler – Senior Licensing and Enforcement Officer
Contact No: 01992 531520
brad.wheeler@eastherts.gov.uk

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

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

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

You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

I PS

(Insert name of applicant)

apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51 (delete as applicable)

Part 1 – Premises or club premises details

Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description

Wilkestock 4 Acre Field, Waterbridge, Frogmore Hill, Watton At Stone

Post town Hertford

Post code (if known) SG14 3RR

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known)

Tom Wilkes

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

20/0419/PLMV

Part 2 - Applicant details

I am

Please tick yes

1) an interested party (please complete (A) or (B) below)

- a) a person living in the vicinity of the premises
- b) a body representing persons living in the vicinity of the premises
- c) a person involved in business in the vicinity of the premises
- d) a body representing persons involved in business in the vicinity of the premises

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

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

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

Please tick

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

Surname

First names

Please tick yes

I am 18 years old or over

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

Post town

Post Code

Daytime contact telephone number

**E-mail address
(optional)**

(B) DETAILS OF OTHER APPLICANT

Name and address

Telephone number (if any)

E-mail address (optional)

(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

Name and address

PS on behalf of Hertfordshire Constabulary
Hertford Police Station,
Peggs Lane,
Hertford

Telephone number (if any)

E-mail address (optional)

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

Please tick one or more boxes

1) the prevention of crime and disorder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2) public safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3) the prevention of public nuisance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4) the protection of children from harm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 1)

Please see attached report - Appendix A

**Please provide as much information as possible to support the application
(please read guidance note 2)**

Please see attached report, Appendix A

Please tick yes

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

If yes please state the date of that application.

Day	Month	Year
0	9	0
4	2	0
2	1	

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

Representations made against a new premise licence application in January 2021. This was not in relation to this premise licence but was in relation to the same location and the same licence holder. The concerns were of the same nature as those detailed in the attached reports.

In addition an application to review the licence was submitted on 9/4/2021. This application is now being submitted as it contains more detailed information that was not contained within the orginal application.

Please tick yes

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

IT IS AN OFFENCE, LIABLE ON CONVICTION TO A FINE UP TO LEVEL 5 ON THE STANDARD SCALE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003 TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 3)

Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (See guidance note 4). If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.

Signature

Date 16/04/2021

Capacity

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 5)
Please use email as below

Post town

Post Code

Telephone number (if any)

If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address your e-mail address (optional)

Notes for Guidance

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

**HERTFORDSHIRE****CONSTABULARY**

The governing principles of the Licensing Act are the four Licensing Objectives. All organisations and individuals involved in the running of Licensed Premises, must do so with a view to promoting these Objectives:

- The Prevention of Crime and Disorder**
- Public Safety**
- The Prevention of Public Nuisance**
- The Protection of Children from Harm**

This review is brought by Hertfordshire Constabulary in relation to the Premise Licence held by Tom Wilkes, ref 20/419/PLMV at Wilkestock 4 Acre Field, Waterbridge located off Frogmore Hill, Watton at Stone. The premise licence for this location, licences Tom Wilkes to hold a maximum of 3 events each year, consisting of up to 3 days and 3 nights each with a capacity of up to 4950 people. The review is made in relation to concerns around public safety, prevention of crime and disorder and the prevention of public nuisance.

The Waterbridge site is in a rural area, it is accessed via Frogmore Hill, a single track lane with few passing places, about 700 metres long to the start of the site area from the A602. Alternatively it is accessed via Walkern Road, again another lane that links to the village of Watton at Stone, approximately 1500 metres away. The lanes have no street lighting, no pavements or other safe pedestrian passage ways and are national speed limit roads. There are residential properties within the immediate area also accessed off Frogmore Hill and Walkern Road.

Tom Wilkes has run events at this location for a number of years. Police records show a temporary event notice first being applied for in 2009 followed by the first premise licence application in 2011. Appendix B details the applications for TEN's and premise licences dating back to 2009 and lists the number of events held and the capacities each year. It has grown from 1 event (Wilkestock) which is held each September to 3 events held in May, July and September. The numbers have also increased over the years, initially less than 500 were attending Wilkestock, this has grown to 3000 in 2019. HogSizzle has grown to 1200 in 2019. A new event called Back Of Beyond was added in 2018 with approximately 2500 people attending, the numbers remained similar in 2019.

Police licensing have worked closely with Tom Wilkes since 2016, over this time there have been mounting concerns resulting in Police having a lack of confidence in the organisers of the events held at Waterbridge.

As a result of a premise licence application in November 2016 the plans for the events going forwards were looked at in detail by the responsible authorities. As part of the application Tom Wilkes was asked to submit an EMP that covered how the event would be run at the capacity of 3000 which was being applied for at the time. At this time (end of 2016) Tom had a licence for up to 1500 people. The numbers given to Police as attending the events in the years prior had been mostly less than 1000, with Wilkestock pushing slightly over. A number of discussions and meetings, including a site visit, took place with Tom Wilkes, PS and from the Police in relation to the Licence application.

The EMP submitted by Tom did not cover all the required areas, advice and guidance was given to Tom about the EMP and what needed to be included. Tom appeared willing to work with authorities and agreed to update the EMP with the required information and so Police decided to attach conditions to the licence, that Tom agreed to, which detailed all the areas that the EMP needed to cover along with other conditions. Based on the conditions being agreed the Police did not object to the application.

Representatives from Herts Fire and Rescue) and Environmental Health,) also liaised with Tom Wilkes. Concerns were raised in relation to the structural safety of the structures built on the site out of hay bales and the fire resistance of such structures. Conditions were agreed by Tom and added to the licence in order to address these concerns. Conditions in relation to noise were added by Environmental Health.

Following this input and guidance the expectation was that Tom Wilkes would resolve the issues with the EMP for the 2017 events. The licence conditions were aimed at guiding Tom Wilkes in relation to the areas he needed to consider and cover within the EMP.

Through 2017, 2018, 2019 and now 2021 Ps and Police licensing officer, , have found that the EMP's provided lacked the necessary information and have contained errors and inconsistencies (full details are detailed later in this document). A lot of Police time has gone into reviewing the documents for each event and pointing out what is missing and the errors in the documents to try to ensure these issues were rectified before the events. Tom Wilkes or those acting for him, have regularly had to be chased for the information and even when it has been supplied, on occasions information was still missing.

Events need to be planned thoroughly, all aspects need to be considered and decisions made on the running of the event. As events become larger the planning becomes more complicated and the risks involve increase. It is important that the EMP explains how every aspect of the event will work. It should include the measures that need to be put in place to reduce risks, as identified within the risk assessment specific to the event that is part of the EMP. EMP's are key as they ensure that everyone who has read them will be aware of how the event will function and who is responsible for managing each part of the event. Without detailing this information and being clear the likelihood of key safety actions being missed is high. To reiterate Tom's licence conditions list the majority of points that he needs to ensure are covered so there is no reason why Tom should forget them if, put simply, he refers to his conditions.

The Police have gone above and beyond in relation to helping and guiding Tom Wilkes with resolving the concerns over the years however he continues to make the same mistakes. The Police role should only involve advising the organiser about matters of concern that need further consideration, explaining our reasons. It is then the event organisers responsibility to decide on and take appropriate action to resolve the concerns satisfactorily. We accept that at times there will be innocent mistakes made by organisers and points omitted in error but the number of mistakes and omissions that are continually being made by Tom Wilkes and those acting for him are significantly beyond this and is unacceptable.

The reason for Tom Wilkes and those acting for him leaving the information out is clearly not due to lack of guidance. As a result of this constant requirement of Police to identify and rectify issues, the Police have a lack of faith in Tom Wilkes' and question his willingness and ability to ensure the safe running of these events. The safety issue around the access and egress of pedestrians entering and exiting the site is a prime example. From looking back at public records from the Licensing Sub Committee hearing held in February 2012 this issue was raised at this hearing.

An email in June 2015 was sent to Tom Wilkes by from Herts County Council Highways department stated 'Neither Frogmore Hill or the Walkern Road would be suitable as a pedestrian route for any number of attendees especially in hours of darkness'.

Yet when this issue was raised in 2018 by PS following the Back of Beyond event it seemed to come as a surprise to Tom Wilkes that it was a safety issue for pedestrians to walk on Frogmore Hill or Walkern Road in the dark.

The Wilkestock and HogSozzle events held at the location have always been sold to the Police as camping festivals held over a number of days with the majority of attendees' camping on site for the duration of the festival. As a result, the impact of traffic from people entering and exiting the site at unsocial hours is reduced as people arrive and leave during the daytime and over a more spread out period of time. People are also more likely to drive rather than walk as they are able to drive having had enough time to recover from drinking alcohol. Indeed, the addition of a third event as part of the November 2016 application was to add a camping festival called Magical. This was described by Tom Wilkes at the time as a small health and well being festival. The event known as Magical never took place.

In 2018 a predominantly single day event called Back of Beyond was held in July 2018. Approximately 2500 people were at the event with only around 90 people camping. Police were in attendance during the evening concerns were highlighted in relation to seized drugs not being bagged or recorded, ejections were not being recorded, traffic issues due to two way traffic on narrow lanes, inadequate signage, lack of lighting in the car park, no stewards in the car park or manning the road crossing, cars parked inappropriately in the car park, a person was ejected where there were clear medical concerns for them. I was concerned that the event was not being run effectively. There was clear evidence of drugs being taken by people at the festival.

In addition Police witnessed total chaos at the end of the event as people tried to leave all at the same time. Taxi numbers were insufficient, they were reluctant to pick up patrons due to the lack of traffic management, meaning people decided to walk home / to the train station or walk to the top of lane to meet taxis / lifts. This resulted in a very dangerous situation where people were walking on single track, unlit lanes while under the influence of alcohol. People walking down unlit lanes is not only dangerous but being in isolated locations also makes them vulnerable and at risk of being victims of crime. Those who decided not to walk continued to gather in the road between the festival site and the festival car park as well as in and around the car park itself which was insufficiently lit. People were getting increasingly frustrated and there were concerns that this could escalate. This situation was observed and managed by Police for nearly 2 hours while people dispersed from the site. The main stage concluded at 2300 hours with music continuing in the dance tents until 0230 hours. Alcohol sales stopped at 0200 hours. By 0215 hours the numbers of people leaving had lessened although there were still a number of people waiting. It was clear that the issues had arisen due to a lack of planning and consideration by the organisers. The potential for crime and disorder occurring was high as a result of the situation and the lack of management. Dispersal from the event was highlighted to Tom Wilkes as a major concern and as a result of this event Tom Wilkes was advised not to hold single day events at the location which, at the time, he agreed to.

As part of a variation to his licence in December 2018 a condition was added to the licence, at the request of the Police, restricting the number of day ticket sales to 1750. Even this number was felt to be too high but Tom was adamant he would be able to manage this number, he was in fact pushing for the number to be higher.

In July 2019 the numbers attending the Back of Beyond event was again approximately 2500 however a larger number camped on site reducing the number of day ticket holders to approximately 1850. This number was in breach of the condition on the licence.

Tom Wilkes submitted a minor variation application to the licence in August 2019 to increase the number of day tickets allowed to 2750 from 1750. objected to this application which as a result was refused by East Herts Council's licensing team. On 15th November 2019 Tom applied to increase the day ticket numbers to 4950, again this was refused by East Herts Council's licensing team as it was a repeat

application only 3 months after the first application. Strangely, less than a month later, Tom Wilkes submitted a further minor variation application on the 13th December 2019, this time requesting a few changes to the conditions on the licence. One of which was to remove the restriction on day ticket sales altogether. Both PS [redacted] and [redacted] were not at work over the 2 week consultation period for this application, the removal of the day ticket restriction was overlooked by those covering, resulting in the application being granted as applied for, with the day ticket restriction being removed. Therefore the number of day ticket attenders for the events in 2021 are not restricted by the licence conditions. The plan for 2021 is to hold 3 single day events in July, without camping and up to 3000 people. Along with 2 other festival weekends, one in August and one in September.

The Sub Committee may question why the review of the licence is brought by Police now and had not been instigated earlier. There are a number of reasons for this.

- Over the years the specific people from each responsible authority involved in the events has changed. This has resulted in a lack of continuity and knowledge and has allowed Tom Wilkes to avoid addressing concerns. Having worked personally with Tom Wilkes and those acting for him since the end of 2016, PS [redacted] and [redacted] between them, now have the continuity of information and can clearly see the issues.
- Police are always keen to work with event organisers and support them to run safe events that have a minimal impact on the local communities. Having started working with Tom Wilkes for the 2017 events, PS [redacted] wanted to ensure that Tom Wilkes was given the opportunity to develop his events and resolve the concerns. However the level of support and guidance given to Tom Wilkes over the years has been far in excess of support given to any other event in East Herts and no significant progress has been made.
- The events held prior to 2017 did not according to Police records have more than 1000 people attending. Due to the events being smaller the level of Police attention given to the events would have been minimal. As the events have grown the risks have also grown and the change from camping festivals to single day events has added to the risks involved.
- Following the 2019 events it was clear that there was a need to collate the information about the events and properly review what had occurred each year in order to fully assess the concerns. Due to COVID resources were deployed to other concerns during 2020. At the end of 2020 Tom Wilkes applied for a new licence for events in 2021. As a result of this application it was felt that the risk of Tom Wilkes holding further events needed to be addressed. The information from 2018 and 2019 events was collated and the concerns became fully apparent. Following on from this work it was clear that the Police needed to act and instigate a review of the licence rather than continuing to let ever growing events take place under the management of Tom Wilkes.
- As a result of Tom Wilkes' application in December 2020 for a new premise licence a hearing was held. As a result of this hearing Police were informed by 9 local residents of ongoing issues around the current events held at the location. The full extend of this information was not known by Police until January 2021.
- The Police have reviewed the EMP for the July 2021 events and again there is key information missing and risks that have not been identified and addressed by the organisers, this is despite the same concerns being highlighted at the hearing just 3 months ago in January 2021.

The events held at this location have an impact on those living in the area. The extent of this impact has become apparent following information received by Police in January 2021 from 9 residents.

Tom Wilkes is fully aware that his events have previously impacted on residents. A hearing was held in January 2012 as Environmental Health and residents objected to an application by Tom Wilkes at the time to increase the number of events and the capacity at the events being held. From looking at the Public

records of this hearing, contained within the report on page 39 is an email from Tom Wilkes in response to the concerns raised. Tom Wilkes states the following;

I want to make it clear to residents that the levels looked at by Nick (EH) will be drastically less than previous years. After speaking to many of the residents the sound levels of the previous year were not acceptable at all and will never be repeated. I myself was very surprised of the stories told by the residents' face to face of the previous years noise and public nuisance issues. I feel personally embarrassed and will do my up-most to eradicate these issues and work with the residents. I was unaware of many of the issues and need to be more in touch with the local residents in the future in order for this to happen.

The houses/drive into the waterworks would be manned by security to stop any persons / cars entering the housing area that shouldn't be

24hr 4x4 security patrol will also be used around the surrounding area to 'move on' any loitering cars / persons, also to safe guard resident's property and for peace of mind.

A direct number to myself will be available from the run up to the festival and also during the festival hours to deal directly with any issues the local residents have.

The Chairman at this hearing advised Tom Wilkes that he was expected to liaise with residents.

Tom Wilkes suggested in his application in November 2016 that he had been in contact with the surrounding households and had formed a good working relationship with the residents over the past 4 years. This is not the view of the residents we have spoken to. Some of whom have not heard from Tom Wilkes since 2012. Others have only spoken to him having contacted him themselves while the rest have occasionally received a letter informing them of the dates of the events. Only some of the residents have a contact number for Tom Wilkes, a number of residents have never been provided with a way of contacting him should issues arise. The residents do not feel that Tom has made any significant effort to engage with them about the events. They were not informed of the traffic management plans in 2019, they have not had a meeting with Tom Wilkes to deal with the concerns that arose at the July 2019 event (as stated by Tom Wilkes to the responsible authorities). They are not aware of a car patrolling the area during the events to deal with festival goers who are in the surrounding roads.

The residents have highlighted the following issues as a result of the events which evidence concerns in relation to public nuisance, crime and disorder and public safety –

- Excessive noise disturbance from the event music preventing residents from being able to sleep, described as incessant beats. Residents do not believe the event is being run within the noise limits set stating that often it is so loud that individual lyrics are clearly audible. The noise has got progressively worse over the years. The noise is not only an issue at night but also during the day and prevents residents from being able to use their gardens.
- Noise from drunk people walking along the roads away from the event late at night who behave in an antisocial way by shouting and being unruly.
- Residents fearing for their safety and concerns about the safety of their property such as garden furniture.
- Being disturbed by strangers asking for directions
- Litter being left on the surrounding roads and on occasions thrown into residents' gardens. The litter has included broken glass bottles, beer cans, nitrous oxide cannisters and other drug paraphernalia. The litter has not been cleared and so residents have taken it upon themselves to clear it.
- Concerns around the safety of the site being used for such events due to the surrounding roads being narrow and dangerous and not suitable for the level of traffic that the festival creates.
- Concerns for the safety of festival goers who walk along the roads in the dark where there are no pavements
- A feeling of being misled by Tom Wilkes in relation to the events and the expansion of them.

I am not aware of Environmental Health attending during any of the events over recent years to conduct their own checks in relation to the noise levels at the event. I am aware from email correspondence that Police were copied into that the Noise Management Plan contained with the EMP for the 2019 Back of Beyond event was stated to be insufficient by environmental health officer [REDACTED]. This was stated to Tom Wilkes on 2nd July 2019 just 4 days before the event. Tom Wilkes is required under his licence conditions to provide a detailed noise management strategy for approval to the licensing authority at least 8 weeks prior to the first day of each event.

On the following pages there are reports for a number of the events held at Waterbridge since 2017. They further evidence the concerns highlighted above and detail breaches of the licence conditions.

The Police summarise the concerns in relation to the events at Waterbridge as follows;

- A lack of confidence in the organisers of the events held at Waterbridge to plan and manage events that effectively promote the licensing objectives
- Inability of the organisers to identify and address risks without the intervention of the responsible authorities resulting in public safety issues
- The organisers have repeatedly failed to take on board the concerns of the responsible authorities and implement plans to address concerns resulting in public safety and public nuisance issues and an increased risk of crime and disorder
- Concerns about the site being used for larger events especially when run as single day events with large numbers of day ticket sales resulting in the issues being further exacerbated
- Regular failure to comply with the conditions on the licence that are set to ensure the licensing objectives are met
- A significant negative impact on the local community that has not been addressed over the years

As a result of all these concerns the Licensing Committee are asked to revoke the licence held by Tom Wilkes.

Report completed by PS [REDACTED] and

HogSozzle 2017 - Held 26th-28th May 2017

CONDITIONS BREACHED in 2017 - Relevant Premise Licence ref – 16/2198/PLV

1. **Condition number 2 on licence** - The premise licence holder shall notify the responsible authorities of the exact dates of each event no less than 5 months prior to the start of each of the 3 events.
2. **Condition number 4 on licence** – The EMP shall contain a summary document covering an overview in the following areas (areas are then listed).
3. **Condition number 5 on licence** – The EMP shall contain Appendices detailing fully the following areas (areas are then listed).
4. **Condition number 20 on licence** – The premise licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all artists performing at the event 28 days before the event takes place. The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary immediately of any artists booked in the 28 days leading up to the event.
5. **Condition number 21 on licence** - The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all contractors and volunteers employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. This will include registered company name and where possible name, address and date of birth of individual staff.
6. **Condition number 3 on licence** – An event management plan shall be submitted to the responsible authorities no less than 3 months prior to the start of each of the 3 events. The EMP must demonstrate that resourcing and infrastructure is based on threat and risk to the event. The latest EMP must be supplied to all responsible authorities 21 days before the event takes place. Following this any changes must be circulated immediately to all responsible authorities.

- **Condition 2 states** – *The premise licence holder shall notify the responsible authorities of the exact dates of each event no less than 5 months prior to the start of each of the 3 events.*
Email sent to Tom Wilkes 15/2/2017 (3.5 months prior to start of Hogsozzle) requesting information as no information had been sent, this was in breach of the above condition which required this information to be sent 5 months prior to the start of the event. It was noted that HogSozzle was being advertised online as taking place between 26th and 28th May. Tom Wilkes was reminded that the EMP needed to be submitted by the 26/2/2017.



(Herts)

FW: Wilkestock License

To

Cc



Premises Licence 04.01.2017.pdf
201 KB

Hi Tom,

I'm just emailing in relation to the 2017 festivals. We note that the Hogsozze event is being advertised as taking place on the 26th-28th May. As your licence is new I'm sure this is an oversight but one of the conditions is to notify us of the name of each event 5 months before the event. Can you just confirm the event known as Hogsozze will be taking place on the dates above?

The EMP for Hogsozze will need to be with us by the 26th February in order to meet the 3 month requirement specified within your licence.

In relation to the new event that you plan to hold and are licensed to hold in July you will need to confirm the name of this event fairly soon as we are on the cusp of 5 months depending on when in July you are holding it?

Also SAG are keen to see your events officially registered with them, the link below takes you to the page containing the form that you need to fill out for each event informing SAG of the events. If you could get these in as soon as possible we would be grateful.

<http://www.eastherts.gov.uk/safeevents>

Many thanks,

Police Sergeant

Community Safety Unit East Herts and Broxbourne

- **Condition 4 states –** *The EMP shall contain a summary document covering an overview in the following areas (areas are then listed).*

Condition 5 states – *The EMP shall contain Appendices detailing fully the following areas (areas are then listed).*

An EMP was submitted on 23/2/17 by Tom Wilkes which should have contained all the areas listed within conditions 4 and 5. Review of the EMP showed that a significant amount of information was missing and key areas were not covered or covered but insufficiently. Email sent to Tom Wilkes 11/4/2017 detailing the issues with the EMP. It was pointed out to Tom Wilkes that although we appreciate that the EMP is a document that will be updated over time, this should not mean that the majority of information is initially left out and then added at a later date. Due to information being missed this is in breach of conditions 4 and 5 on the licence. Full details of what was missing is contained within the email to Tom, a screen shot of which is below.



Tue 11/04/2017 11:41

Hogsozzle 26th - 28th May

To

You forwarded this message on 11/04/2017 11:04.

ESMP - HogSozzle..docx 51 KB

Good Afternoon Tom,

Myself and [redacted] (fire) met yesterday to discuss Hogsozzle. We have reviewed the EMP that you submitted in February. We are concerned by the lack of specific detail contained within the EMP and wanted to highlight these issues to you now so that you can resolve them. This is a somewhat urgent situation as the event is due to take place in less than 7 weeks.

The EMP summary document supplied references 6 Appendices, those being as below however none have been sent to us. Do you have these?

1. Organisational structure
2. Artists running order
3. Site plan
4. Contractors
5. Security and stewarding deployment
6. Event specific risk assessment

Annex 2 of your premises licence contains conditions with regards to the EMP and its contents, namely a summary document and appendices. Point 5 lists the appendices that should form part of your EMP (see below). My concern is that you have not completed and supplied these appendices and what you have supplied has insufficient detail. The EMP supplied to us 3 months prior to the event needs to contain the information listed on your premises licence as forming part of the EMP. We appreciate the EMP is a document that will be updated over time however this should not mean that the majority of information is initially left out and then added at a later date. We need you to supply a full EMP to us by next week and at the very latest by Tuesday 18th April.

Below I have included screen shots of your licence conditions for ease of reference and have gone on to explain our concerns and detail what is missing. This is to assist you with completing what is needed. We need to see from your EMP how the event will be managed to ensure the licensing objectives are being promoted.

4. The event management plan shall contain a summary document covering an overview in the following areas -

- Event overview
- Audience profile
- The site – summary description
- General site safety policy
- Management structure, responsibilities and roles - names of specific personnel, key roles and responsibilities and how the structure of these roles is planned.
- Vehicle access
- Ticket holder access
- Local access
- Campervan access
- Accreditation
- Artist Liaison
- Bars
- Camping
- Car Parking
- Communications and IT
- Concessions
- Catering
- Crime and Disorder
- Electrical Systems
- Event Capacities
- Event timings
- Fencing
- Insurance
- Licensing
- Local Community
- Medical Cover
- Build and breakdown period
- Plant
- Public information
- Site signage
- Showers
- Sound
- Temporary Structures
- Toilets
- Waste Management
- Water Provisions
- Event control
- Emergency Protocols and Contingency Procedures

5. The EMP shall contain Appendices detailing fully the following areas –

- 5.1 A scaled site plan which shows the location and size of all areas of the event and the site infrastructure as well as showing the immediate surrounding area including ingress and egress for pedestrians, vehicles and crew. As well as emergency evacuation routes and access / egress routes for emergency services. All areas of the event mentioned in the EMP must be detailed on the map.
- 5.2 Event risk assessment covering all areas of risk and management of risks to ensure the health and safety of all those on site
- 5.3 A crowd management plan including Capacities and Evacuation times from each area of the site to allow for safe and quick evacuation in the event of an emergency
- 5.4 Emergency protocols and Major Incident Plan covering the following types of emergencies, fire, bomb threat, suspect packages, public disorder / disturbance, structural failure, hazardous substances, person in water, detained person, injury to a person, crime in progress. To also cover the role of the Event Liaison Team (ELT), coded messages, alert levels and procedures for each, partial evacuation procedure, full evacuation procedure, rendezvous points (RVP's), emergency announcements, event stop procedures, crime scene management.
- 5.5 Extreme weather procedure and action plan covering all adverse weather conditions, detailing the impact and actions to be taken in each possibility.
- 5.6 Fire safety plan – in line with conditions set by Herts Fire and Rescue
- 5.7 Traffic management plan covering the management of the traffic on the roads surrounding the event. Management of those attending and leaving the event as well as local residential traffic. Internal site signage for traffic. Car park management and lighting. Expected traffic levels throughout the event. Control measures to be used. Taxis and drop off facilities and operation of this facility. Pedestrian routes and lighting of routes. Management of pedestrian and vehicle crossing points.
- 5.8 Noise management plan - in line with conditions set by Environmental Health
- 5.9 Waste management plan - in line with conditions set by Environmental Health
- 5.10 Medical provisions plan covering details of medical / first aid posts, location and description of facility available. Staffing levels of the facility and process to be used when treating patients. Medical emergency procedure.
- 5.11 Security operations and deployment plan covering security management structure, roles and responsibilities, security staff briefings, security control area operations, communication with the ELT, expectations of SIA staff and non SIA staff, perimeter integrity, searching of people within the site, bar security, camping / tent security, car parking security and security incident log
- 5.12 Drugs policy including psychoactive substances. Zero tolerance policy to be adopted in relation to any quantity of drugs, any items found to result in ejection or refusal of entry. Surrender bins to be provided at all entrances and must be clearly marked. Possession of a small quantity results in confiscation, incident documentation to be supplied to the police at the conclusion of the festival. Possession of larger quantities results in confiscation, person being detained and police being immediately informed. All confiscated drugs are to be stored securely and safely, sealed where possible and documented accordingly.
- 5.13 Weapons policy - Zero tolerance policy to be adopted in relation to any weapons found that are made, used or adapted to cause injury, any such items found to result in ejection or refusal of entry. Such items are to include knives where the blade is more than 3 inches in length (excluding un-lockable pocket knives).
- 5.14 Entry policy and procedure including publicised conditions of entry, prohibited items, search policy on entry, entry refusal process. Prohibited items to include glass of any kind, weapons, illegal drugs, including psychoactive substances, fireworks, sky lanterns or kites, CO2 canisters, flares, laser pens, open or unsealed vessels of any description, alcohol over the allowed allowance of 16 cans of beer or 8 litres of cider, or 2.25 litres (one box) of wine per person. On re-admittance of a person no alcohol to be brought onto the site by that person.
- 5.15 Eviction policy and procedure, including eviction notice. Detailing circumstances under which a person will be evicted, the eviction process and onward travel from the festival of the evicted person.
- 5.16 Bar management and Alcohol policy including staff management structure and responsibilities, bar staff briefings for the event. The use of challenge 25 protocol, refusals registers and incident logs.
- 5.17 A Safeguarding policy and plan to cover both children and vulnerable adults, but especially those under 18's and those who lack capacity through intoxication. To include a lost child procedure
- 5.18 A communication strategy covering local community engagement, transport options, complaints, arrival and dispersal from site
- 5.19 Full details of CCTV provisions and management including map detailing camera locations. All recordings to be stored for a minimum of 21 days. Footage to be supplied to police on request and without delay.

From reading the EMP you supplied, you have covered some of the above appendix areas within the summary document however this information ideally needs to be contained within its own appendix. What you have needs to be more specific and expanded upon as key information is currently missing.

Below are some examples but this is not exhaustive,

1. **Scale site plan** – not supplied although you reference this as one of your appendices.
2. **Event risk assessment** - not supplied although you reference this as one of your appendices.
3. **Crowd management plan** – not detailed within document supplied or supplied as an appendix.
4. **Emergency protocols and major incident plan** – evacuation of the site procedure is detailed in the EMP supplied but there is nothing in relation to all the other points mentioned with the condition under your licence – 5.4 – see above.
5. **Extreme Weather procedure and action plan** – you detail this in the EMP on pages 21 to 25 – this needs to be an appendix. The information you supply needs to detail actions in relation to the specific structures you have (you have done this for the toilets for example but not other structures) – each structure needs to be referenced and detail given with regards to maximum wind speeds and actions to be taken at each stage. You state on page 21 under the heading 'Ground conditions for temporary demountable structures' – 'advice from the marquee / tent company should be sought – this needs to be done and the information gained so it is included in the appendix.
6. **Fire safety plan** – only detail within document supplied is a few lines under the heading 'Fire precautions' on page 26 and a fire procedure is mentioned on page 27 / 28 – see note below from On page 18 under the heading 'Electrical systems' the wording used appears to be a direct lift of the words used on this site <http://www.eade.uk.com/guide%20to%207909.htm> And is not in any way detailing the specifics of Hoqsozzle. Fire safety plan not supplied as an appendix as per licence condition.
7. **Traffic management plan** – page 11 has a heading 'Transport links', this needs more detail – see licence condition and should be an appendix.
8. **Noise management plan** - page 19 has a heading 'Noise management', this needs more detail and should be an appendix.
9. **Waste management plan** - page 20 has a heading 'General cleaning / waste disposal', this needs more detail and should be an appendix.
10. **Medical provisions plan** - page 27 has a heading 'Medical incidents', this needs more detail – see licence condition and should be an appendix.
11. **Security operations and deployment plan** - not supplied although you reference this as one of your appendices - page 14 has a heading 'Security and stewarding' where you state a plan will be produced, please supply this plan.
12. **Drugs policy including psychoactive substances** – page 15 has a heading 'drugs policy' - this needs more detail and should be an appendix.
13. **Weapons policy** - not detailed within document supplied or supplied as an appendix.
14. **Entry policy and procedure** - page 14 has a heading 'Searching' but there is no detail as to what the procedure will be with regards to searching but cannot see anything with regards to the entry policy and procedure. This need to be supplied as an appendix.
15. **Eviction policy and procedure** - not detailed within document supplied or supplied as an appendix

16. **Bar Management and Alcohol Policy** – page 13 has a heading ‘Alcohol management’ however no information is included with regards to the management structure of the bars, bar staff briefings, refusals registers and incident logs which as per the condition on your licence needs to include. This need to be supplied as an appendix.
17. **A safeguarding policy and plan** - page 28 has a heading ‘ Lost Children procedure’ This need to be supplied as an appendix and should include the other areas of safeguarding as detailed in the licence conditions – 5.17
18. **A communication strategy** - not detailed within document supplied or supplied as an appendix.
19. **Details of CCTV provisions** - not detailed within document supplied or supplied as an appendix.

Other points

raises are below –

On page 17 under the heading 'Use of special effects' you mention the use of pyrotechnics but have put no details of what grade of pyrotechnics you plan to use and whose licence they will operated under.

On page 19 under the heading 'Temporary and demountable structures' no information is given on size, quantity and location of any structures. With regards to structures that involve straw bales there is no mention of the fire resistance of them or their structural integrity. You will be aware that one of your licence conditions requires the information with regards to structural integrity of the bales to be supplied no less than 3 weeks before the event and the information with regards to the fire resistance of the bales to be presented at least 2 weeks prior to any event. It is currently unclear from your EMP that this is being done and details of how you plan to achieve this. The wording used under the heading 'Temporary and demountable structures' appears to be a direct lift of the words used on this site <http://www.stareventsltd.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Star-Events-CDM-in-Events-Guidance-April-15-v1.pdf> and is not in any way detailing the plan around temporary and demountable structures for the Hogsozzle event.

On page 28, under the heading 'Fire Procedures' one of the bullet points states water reserves with pumps and hoses will be located on the site. Stephen questions who you have on site that is competent to use this equipment. The concern also being that members of the public and staff who are not trained could be encouraged to fight the fire with this equipment which would be a dangerous situation.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email.

Many thanks,

PS 1

Community Safety Unit East Herts and Broxbourne

- Tom Wilkes responded to the email stating he would have an updated EMP to us by early May. In his email he indicates that he is using an independent events planning company to produce the document. He offers reassurance that the EMP that will be submitted in early May will be comprehensive.

Re: Hogsozzle 26th - 28th May

You replied to this message on 02/05/2017 15:16.

Suggested Meetings

+ Get more add-ins

Hi

Hope your well.

Thanks for the email, it has been received.

We have noted all the comments and will be working with an independent company to bring the EMP inline. Unfortunately I'm currently on holiday for Easter and will not be able to sort this by the 18th of April.

We did send the EMP for review back in February and we have not heard anything until now, to turn it around in under 7 days over a Easter weekend will be a little tricky! especially as I'm not in the country.

The event is not a new event and has run very successfully for the passed 4 years, there are no major changes to the structure of the event just some underling licence agreements we have to meet and document more appropriately than before.

Rest assured we will have a comprehensive EMP to you early May once I'm off holiday and can produce an accurate document meeting the points you have highlighted below. We can also meet with the EMP early May if needed.

I will be working on this inline with an independent event planning company to produce the document. I also have structural engineers assessing the bales early May. In the meantime we have also been putting together a document explaining this and will be included in the ongoing EMP that needs to be produced to yourselves 21days prior to the event.

I hope you understand and appreciate the timings here whilst I'm away, I would rather have a little more time to produce an accurate comprehensive document than produce a non-comprehensive document in less than one weeks time.

Kind regards,

- Further email sent to Tom Wilkes on 2/5/17 asking how the EMP was progressing, also pointing out that conditions 20 and 21 had not been complied with as it was now 24 days until the event and the information had not been received.

Condition 20 states – *The premise licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all artists performing at the event 28 days before the event takes place. The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary immediately of any artists booked in the 28 days leading up to the event.*

Condition 21 states - *The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all contractors and volunteers employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. This will include registered company name and where possible name, address and date of birth of individual staff.*

The email also reminded him of other requirements under the conditions and that deadlines were approaching, in an attempt to ensure he complied.

RE: Hogsozzle 26th - 28th May

Good Afternoon Tom,

Following on from the emails below, I am emailing to ask how you are getting on with completing the EMP and sending it to us? We are now just 24 days before your event is due to take place and have not yet seen an EMP covering all the contents required by your licence conditions.

Also two of your licence conditions, 20 and 21, copied below require you to provide information to police 28 days before the event. Please provide this information ASAP as we are already within 28 days.

20. The premises license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all the artists performing at the event 28 days before the event takes place. The license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary immediately of any artists booked in the 28 days leading up to the event.
21. The license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all contractors and volunteers employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. This will include registered company name and where possible name, address and date of birth of individual staff.

Please also note that condition 22 on your licence requires you to supply SIA details 14 days before the event, which would mean this needs to be supplied by Friday 12th May - next week.

22. The license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all SIA registered staff employed at the event 14 days before the event takes place.

Other conditions you need to bear in mind are the two set by fire (27 and 28) with regards to the structural integrity of the structures on site and the fire resistance of the straw bales.

27. The Licence holder will be responsible for producing a policy for the inspection of the structures built on his site. This will include a maintenance and inspection programme with his methodology of testing. The Licenceholder will consult with relevant persons with expertise e.g. a suitable Building Control body, or other similar organisation to agree the structural integrity of the bales. This will be presented to the relevant authorities not less than three weeks prior to an event.
28. The fire resistance of the bales of straw used on site for construction or otherwise, together with all materials that form any part of a means of escape will be certified by a suitably qualified person to satisfy this authority of their fire resistance. We require this evidence to be presented for confirmation at least two weeks prior to any event held on site.

With regards to the structural integrity the information will need to be supplied by Friday 5th May (this week) and for the fire resistance of the straw bales by Friday 12th May (next week) to comply with the conditions on your licence.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Many thanks,

PS

- Email from Tom Wilkes on 3/5/2017 sending the details of 15 crew members, 36 artists, 5 food vendors, company names for PA team, sanitation, security, lighting towers, power and stretch structures. It is not made clear who if any are volunteers as required by condition 21.
- Email from Tom Wilkes 5/5/2017 in relation to the EMP being completed by Andy Fraser



Action Items

+ Get more add-ins

F

I have cc'd in [redacted] who will send the EMP direct today. [redacted] has been putting the EMP together with input and information from myself since our meeting back in the winter. He has a wealth of experience and expertise and produced many EMP's for small and much larger events. I discussed with Andy yesterday on the phone that you required the EMP Friday and was assured it will be completed, also answering your queries from before. The EMP will also be updated and tweaked right up to the event date.

We were busy testing the structural forces on bales yesterday and I see [redacted] sent yourselves an email earlier today explaining initial findings with a full report next week. It has been a little tricky pulling the correct equipment together at the same time, the testing however I believe has proved some good results.

Kind regards,

Wilkestock Charity Music Festival

- Updated EMP received from Tom Wilkes on 9/5/2017, 17 days before the start of the event.

Condition 3 states – *An event management plan shall be submitted to the responsible authorities no less than 3 months prior to the start of each of the 3 events. The EMP must demonstrate that resourcing and infrastructure is based on threat and risk to the event. The latest EMP must be supplied to all responsible authorities 21 days before the event takes place. Following this any changes must be circulated immediately to all responsible authorities.*

The EMP supplied on 9/5/2017 was only the second version of the EMP, updated only as a result of all the errors highlighted by Police on 11/4/2017. The final version of the EMP should have been submitted to Police no less than 21 days prior to the start of the event. As it was by this point only 17 days until the event, condition 3 was also breached.

Back of Beyond 2018 - event held on 7th July 2018

Report compiled by PS

I attended the Back of Beyond event held on the 7th July 2018. Initially I attended at approximately 1545 hours and completed a walk through the event site itself and speak with members of staff on site. I noted the following points

—

Amnesty bins not marked as such at the entrance to the site. The staff selling tickets on the door informed me that they were not asking for proof of age at this point which I thought was strange. I was told that security at the site entrance were checking ID and the bar staff were operating challenge 21. I had concerns that there were traffic issues, with cars coming into conflict with each other due to the road being two way at the site entrance and down to the A602. The road is very narrow making passing impossible. There were no staff monitoring the road where pedestrians cross between the car park and the event site.

I returned to the site a few hours later in company with PS [REDACTED]. We were present from around 2000 hours. Dale Mabutt the head of security at the event informed me that lots of drugs had been found and people were being ejected, one had been frothing at the mouth and was clearly under the influence of drugs. On asking whether this person had been taken to the medics tent to be seen by them in relation to his welfare, the response was that the medics have a radio so it's up to them to listen. This issue was addressed with the medics and with [REDACTED] and they were told that peoples medical welfare must be checked before ejecting them off the site.

One of the security staff stated to us that he thought that people they were ejecting were being let back in by the event management team. There was no proof of this. Also he was aware of a rumour that a female member of bar staff had been found in possession of drugs but was allowed to continue to work again there was no proof of this.

At 2200 hours we attended a meeting at the ELT. During this meeting we raised concerns about the safety of people on the road at the end of the event and onward travel. No plans in place to manage people who leave on foot down unlit roads. It was explained that taxi firms were aware. We were aware that the safety officer had changed the day before the event which was a concern. The medical team reported they had seen 6 people with drug related issues, some have disclosed they have taken ecstasy. A few minor injuries – falls. One member of security had been taken to A&E with heat stroke. Ejections were not being recorded, advised that this must be done.

At around 2315 hours myself and PS [REDACTED] left the site in a vehicle, on driving back to the site up Frogmore Hill just before midnight we witnessed people in the road walking away from the site. The lane is very dark and narrow so seeing people and passing them is unsafe. Some of the people we saw were waiting at the junction of Frogmore Hill and the road to the site entrance, we spoke to them and they stated they were waiting for a taxi.

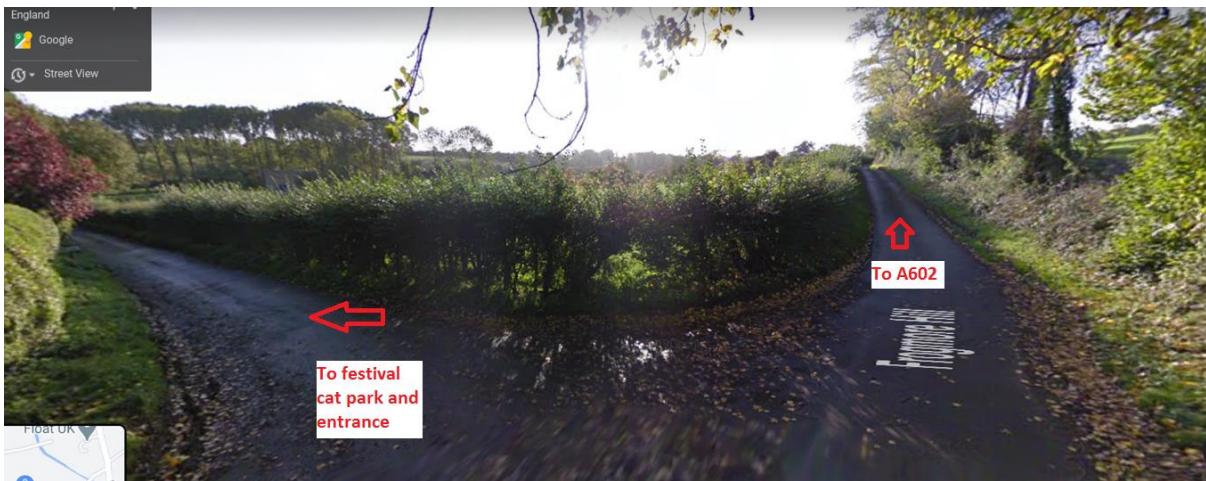
Once back at the event we went to the site entrance / exit, where customers leave the festival area itself, crossing the road to the car park area. I have circled this area red in the photo below.



The below is a google image from within the area circled red in the photo above. Looking towards Frogmore Hill.



The below is a google image showing Frogmore Hill, junction with the road to the festival entrance. Frogmore Hill is to the right and the festival entrance to the left. These photos show how narrow these lanes are.



There were lots of people at this location (area circled red in first photo), most of the people were stood in the road and wandering around all over the place. It became clear to us that people were struggling to get taxi's. They were calling for taxi's but were facing long waiting times. There were cars trying to go both ways along this road. This was causing issues as there was no space and there were people every where and no management of them at all. People were walking straight out of the festival entrance area onto the road without really even realising it was a road. I requested [redacted] to come to the entrance where I spoke to her about put barriers up across the entrance area to stop people walking out with no control. They could then be more easily managed by staff.

We also had barriers placed on the other side of the road at the entrance to the car park to keep people away from the cars that were turning into the car park. Although there was light in the immediate area at the festival site entrance, junction with the road, there were no further lights in the car park, it was very dark as soon as you walked away from the road outside the festival site entrance in any direction, including into the car park. I stumbled across some fire extinguishers in the grass in the car park area which could not be seen due to the lack of lighting.

For nearly 2 hours myself and PS [redacted] remained at this location trying to manage the dispersal of people who were constantly leaving the festival site, piling through onto the road and into the car park. People were sat around on the grass waiting for taxi's or lifts, stood around talking in groups, generally wandering around trying to work out how they would get home, while others started walking away from the location on the narrow lanes. People were frustrated as taxi's seemed reluctant to come to the site and they did not know how they would get home. We requested additional officer to come and assist us with managing the dispersal of the people as we felt it was unsafe. It took a while for any officers to be available to assist us. At 0145 hours 5 officers arrived to assist. At 0200 hours officers took a male to A&E due to him having what was believed to be a bad reaction to MDMA.

By 0215 hours the numbers of people had lessened although there were still people waiting to get home. We left the staff at the festival to manage the remaining people, leaving at around 0230 hours.

Below are a copy of the notes used during a meeting held on the 17/10/2018 with Tom Wilkes and following Back of Beyond event 2018. Detailing all the areas of concern that I discussed with them during the meeting.

Meeting- 17/10/18

Police Feedback

Back of Beyond 2018

1. Amnesty bins not clear marked
2. No ID checks at entrance – person on desk said he thought ID was checked when they brought tokens
3. Last minute designation of Health and Safety Officer
4. Two way traffic not working
5. Inadequate signage
6. Dale not wearing high vis
7. People walking home in dark
8. 90 camped the rest left that night (2600 people in total)
9. Too dark in pickup area
10. People congregating in road way
11. No staff manning crossing
12. Not enough taxi's - people complaining
13. Cars not parked appropriately in car park – too close to exit
14. Lighting not sufficient in car park
15. Not enough stewards in car park
16. Seized drugs not bagged or recorded / some being put in amnesty bin by staff
17. Medical concerns for those ejected - not taken to medics. All those ejected who are injured or under influence should be referred to medics first
18. No record of ejections
19. Were incident reports completed?
20. Concern that those ejected were being let back in
21. Rumour re member of bar staff being found with drugs
22. Fire extinguishers in foot way in car park in dark
23. Police had to call resources to assist

Medical reports - medical company asked for feedback never came back to me

1. Working until 2am only, (winding down from midnight some staff left at 12)
2. 6 drug related presentations – Rolls Royce ecstasy
3. Spiking – then thought to be heat stroke
4. SIA taken to A&E with heat stroke
5. Medics stated the UV tent was open at 5pm (they had told them to shut it due to heat)
6. Police took a male to A&E at 0200hrs – due to MDMA reaction

For 2019 –

1500 camping
1000 day tickets

5th & 6th July 2019

List of drugs / unknown substances seized by SIA or placed in amnesty bins.

Drugs - Back of beyond .

From SIA safe -

1 bag white powder

9 x orange pills in bag

1 rock unk substance

2 x paper wraps of white substance .

39 x cannisters .

From amnesty bin .

Rock

2 x bags of white powder

Bag orange substances .

5 x cannisters .

1 x empty bag

It was agreed that a separate meeting needed to take place to discuss the traffic management for the events held at the location. This meeting needed to include Police Traffic Management Officer and from Highways Herts County Council. This meeting was held on the 28/11/2018. Myself and were also present. The traffic issues were discussed and solutions were looked at in relation to getting a TTRO that would legally mean traffic could be made to go one way only on certain roads. The cost implication associated with applying for a TTRO and employing a Traffic Management Company to implement the TM plan seemed of great concern to Tom Wilkes. It was explained that reduced rates are applied to charity events. It was fully explained to Tom Wilkes that to legally place any signs on the Highway they had to be agreed through a TM plan and any restrictions such as making a road one way needed to be authorised by a TTRO. Tom Wilkes had not used such a process before and had been placing his own signs on the Highway for events as he saw fit. It is not legal to do this.

Email detailing concerns following Police attending the Wilkestock site during the event in 2018 –

From:
Sent: 29 August 2019 08:33
Tc
Subject: RE: Wilkstock [OFFICIAL]

Many thank:

I've spoken with an SNT officer that covered the event last year and he said that Walkern Road was dangerous due to it being an unrestricted road with absolutely no street lighting.

When the fire extinguisher was discharged in the tent last year – and the ensuing panic that this caused from a potential CT perspective – emergency vehicles attending the scene were faced with people walking at them in pitch blackness.

I am told that there were no sectioned off pathways and that there was no additional lighting along Walkern Road to cope with people that had walked from Stevenage or Watton at Stone train stations/areas. I know that we can't expect miles of Heras fencing – but I think that we should review this in light of what we know about taxi drop offs and what we might do about road additional road signage, appropriate communications and accredited security personnel.

I am also told that the TMP for taxi drop off was not adhered to – and that taxis were simply dropping off from as far afield as the Three Horseshoes at Hooks Cross and the A602 Watton at Stone bypass roundabout because they did not want to get stuck in the site.

Can the above please be considered in light of the last minute security changes – and what we now know about crowd numbers anticipated by the Slave set.

Many thanks,

2019 HogSozzle Held 24th-26th May 2019

CONDITIONS BREACHED in 2019 - Relevant Premise Licence ref – 18/2254/PLV

1. **Condition number 3 on licence** – An event management plan shall be submitted to the responsible authorities no less than 3 months prior to the start of the event. The latest EMP must be supplied to all responsible authorities 21 days before the event takes place. Following this any changes must be circulated immediately to all responsible authorities.
2. **Condition number 6 on licence** – The EMP shall contain Appendices detailing fully the following areas (areas are then listed).
3. **Condition number 22 on licence** - The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all SIA registered staff employed at event 28 days before the event takes place. Following this Hertfordshire Constabulary must be notified of any changes to SIA staff.
4. **Condition number 31 on licence** – An external Traffic Management Plan must be submitted no later than 3 months prior to the event and to be completed to the satisfaction of Hertfordshire Highways and Hertfordshire Constabulary.
5. **Condition number 20 on licence** – The premise licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all artists performing at the event 28 days before the event takes place. The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary immediately of any artists booked in the 28 days leading up to the event.
6. **Condition number 21 on licence** - The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all contractors and volunteers employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. This will include registered company name and where possible name, address and date of birth of individual staff.

- **Condition 3 states** – *An event management plan shall be submitted to the responsible authorities no less than 3 months prior to the start of the event. The latest EMP must be supplied to all responsible authorities 21 days before the event takes place. Following this any changes must be circulated immediately to all responsible authorities.*

HogSozzle EMP received 7/3/19 - Event planned to start on 24/5/19. EMP was due by 24/2/19. It was not received by this date resulting in condition 3 being breached.

HogSizzle 2019 - Event Management Plan

To
Cc

 HogSizzle 2019 - Event Management Plan (1).pdf
760 KB

Hi

Hope you're having a wonderful week!

I am so sorry - Tom and I just realised we hadn't sent you our first draft of HogSizzle's EMP! This a complete oversight on our part, and we do apologise.

Please see the attached first draft of this year's HogSizzle ESM. There is a few details missing in terms of specifics on contractors, and some details still to be confirmed in terms of the final site maps, build/break schedules and manager roles/responsibilities.

If you have any queries please feel free to get in touch.

Apologies again for the lateness.

Kind regards,

- Email from 29/4/19 with an updated EMP for HogSizzle (2nd version)
- Email from 15/5/19 with an updated EMP for HogSizzle (3rd version)

- **CONDITION BREACH 2 –**

Condition 6 states – *The EMP shall contain Appendices detailing fully the following areas*

(a number of areas are then listed) Areas not covered or only partly covered within the EMP's submitted were as follows.

- a) A scaled site plan which shows the location and size of all areas of the event and the site infrastructure as well as showing the immediate surrounding area including ingress and egress for pedestrians, vehicles and crew. As well as emergency evacuation routes and access / egress routes for emergency services. All areas of the event mentioned in the EMP must be detailed on the map.
- b) Event risk assessment covering all areas of risk and management of risks to ensure the health and safety of all those on site
- c) A crowd management plan including Capacities and Evacuation times from each area of the site to allow for safe and quick evacuation in the event of an emergency
- g) Traffic management plan covering the management of the traffic on the roads surrounding the event. Management of those attending and leaving the event as well as local residential traffic. Internal site signage for traffic. Car park management and lighting. Expected traffic levels throughout the event. Control measures to be used. Taxis and drop off facilities and operation of this facility.
- h) Noise management plan - in line with conditions set by Environmental Health
- j) Medical provisions plan covering details of medical / first aid posts, location and description of facility available. Staffing levels of the facility and process to be used when treating patients. Medical emergency procedure.

- k) Security operations and deployment plan covering security management structure, roles and responsibilities, security staff briefings, security control area operations, communication with the ELT, expectations of SIA staff and non SIA staff, perimeter integrity, searching of people within the site, bar security, camping / tent security, car parking security and security incident log
- l) Drugs policy including psychoactive substances. Zero tolerance policy to be adopted in relation to any quantity of drugs, any items found to result in ejection or refusal of entry. Surrender bins to be provided at all entrances and must be clearly marked. Possession of a small quantity results in confiscation, incident documentation to be supplied to the police at the conclusion of the festival. Possession of larger quantities results in confiscation, person being detained and police being immediately informed. All confiscated drugs are to be stored securely and safely, sealed where possible and documented accordingly.
- m) Weapons policy - Zero tolerance policy to be adopted in relation to any weapons found that are made, used or adapted to cause injury, any such items found to result in ejection or refusal of entry. Such items are to include knives where the blade is more than 3 inches in length (excluding un-lockable pocket knives).
- p) Bar management and Alcohol policy including staff management structure and responsibilities, bar staff briefings for the event. The use of challenge 25 protocol, refusals registers and incident logs.
- q) A Safeguarding policy and plan to cover both children and vulnerable adults, but especially those under 18's and those who lack capacity through intoxication. To include a lost child procedure
- r) A communication strategy covering local community engagement, transport options, complaints, arrival and dispersal from site
- s) Full details of CCTV provisions and management including map detailing camera locations. All recordings to be stored for a minimum of 21 days. Footage to be supplied to police on request and without delay.
- Attached to an email from Tom Wilkes on the 22/5/2019 (just 2 days before the start of the event) was a number of documents (see below) that should have formed part of the EMP – which is required to be submitted 3 months prior to the start of the event. A full risk assessment covering all of the event was never supplied. (Risks around fire and risks to SIA staff working at the event were covered within other documents). The missing information was not updated prior to the start of the Hogsozze event.

Name	Type	Compressed size	Password ...	Size	Ratio	Date modified
Briefing and Debriefing Formv2 (1) QC164	Microsoft Word Document	83 KB	No	112 KB	26%	22/05/2019 16:05
Ejection and Walk Out Log QC184 Version 2 December 2018	Adobe Acrobat Document	280 KB	No	304 KB	9%	22/05/2019 16:05
Event Officer JD V2 QC028	Microsoft Word Document	73 KB	No	101 KB	29%	22/05/2019 16:05
Event Supervisor v1 QC027	Microsoft Word Document	73 KB	No	101 KB	29%	22/05/2019 16:05
HogSozze 2019 - Event Management Plan	Adobe Acrobat Document	4,425 KB	No	4,688 KB	6%	22/05/2019 16:05
HogSozze 2019 Risk Assessment	Adobe Acrobat Document	393 KB	No	440 KB	11%	22/05/2019 16:05
Incident Log	JPG File	700 KB	No	789 KB	12%	22/05/2019 16:05
Lost Property Form QC189 Version 2 December 2018	Adobe Acrobat Document	159 KB	No	174 KB	9%	22/05/2019 16:05
Time Sheet	JPG File	682 KB	No	759 KB	11%	22/05/2019 16:05

Summary of documents within the folder as shown above –

1. Briefing and debriefing form - blank version supplied by Firstline Security
2. Ejection and walk out log - blank version supplied by Firstline Security
3. Event Officer job description - supplied by Firstline Security – generic
4. Event Supervisor job description - supplied by Firstline Security – generic
5. HogSozze 2019 EMP - old version dated 22.4.19
6. HogSozze 2019 Risk Assessment – completed by Firstline Security on 1/5/19 specifically in relation to the work by the SIA and not in relation to the Event as a whole.
7. Incident log - blank version supplied by Firstline Security
8. Lost property form - blank version supplied by Firstline Security
9. Time sheet – blank version supplied by Firstline Security

- **Condition 22 states** - *The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all SIA registered staff employed at event 28 days before the event takes place. Following this Hertfordshire Constabulary must be notified of any changes to SIA staff.*

Email sent to Tom Wilkes 22/5/19 requesting Security / SIA deployment for the event as this had not been received and current ticket sales. Due to not supplying the SIA information 28 days prior to the event the above condition was breached.

Email received back from Tom Wilkes 22/5/19 stating numbers expected to be around 1200 but no exact sales figures given. He indicated in this email that the SIA information requested was attached. The attachments to the email are listed above on page 3. The details of the SIA staff were not within the documents supplied. At no point was the information supplied as to the exact numbers of SIA being employed for the event or how they would be deployed as requested and as required by the conditions on the Premise Licence.

On Wednesday, 22 May 2019 08:49:11 BST

wrote:

The lady's name is
obviously thinks she's a secured vendor for your event

You may want to contact her direct – she

May I have details of your Security/SIA deployment for the event and current ticket sales.

Kind regards,

On Wednesday, 22 May 2019 14:43:34 BST,

wrote:

H

Apologies on the delay I was awaiting this to come from security (firstline)

Please find attached.

Tickets are very similar to last year and expected to be at around 1200 come Friday. Any major variation I will let you know.

Kind regards,

Wilkestock Charity Music Festival

We have made it to the final 3 of the Live Music Awards 2018!

2018's full festival video [here!](#)

- **Condition 31 states – An external traffic management plan must be submitted no later than 3 months prior to the event and to be completed to the satisfaction of Hertfordshire Highways and Hertfordshire Constabulary.**

The below Traffic Management Plan was contained within the HogSozzle EMP sent 7/3/19 which should have been sent by the 24/2/2017 in order to meet the 3 month requirement. In addition the information supplied is not deemed to be a sufficient traffic management plan. This plan is in fact an exact copy of the traffic management plan submitted in 2017. Tom Wilkes was advised in December 2018 during a meeting with (Traffic Management Police), (Police Licensing), Sgt (Police) and (Highways) of detailed requirements required for this site as the 2017 traffic management plan was not acceptable.

B. Traffic management plan

The HogSozzle Site has not seen traffic problems in previous years, therefore we do not anticipate any traffic issues throughout the event. The entrance exit routes have been tried and tested in previous years:

Plan 1

If needed Festival Staff will overcome any issues that may arise, staff will be equipped with 2-way radios and have constant communication with security and event Manager:

- Access from Aston onto Frogmore Hill will be restricted by signage to residential and common traffic only
- Any Festival traffic wanting to use this route will be directed either to the A602 or Walkern Road for alternative access points
- Attendees on foot wanting to use the route above will be encouraged to take a taxi
- Attendees on foot using the route above will be closely monitored by security to the venue
- Access from the A602 onto Frogmore Hill will be discouraged through adequate signage
- Access from the Walkern road in either direction onto Frogmore Hill will be clearly signposted
- Access away from the venue will be directed onto the Walkern Road in direction either to Walkern or to the A602
- Sufficient signs directing attendees to the site will be placed in the surrounding area, these will be placed on the Walkern Road, A602, Watton-at-stone, Aston and on the edge of Stevenage.
- Sufficient signs will also be placed warning drivers of hazards#
- Staff of the festival will not direct traffic but may offer direction
- The carpark has space for upto 700 cars with a further overflow for another 700 cars
- Maps and direction to the site will be readily available to tickets holders prior to the event

Public Transport

- There are 3 very well linked train stations in the surrounding area
- 2 local taxi firms have been contacted and look to provide a discounted service to Festival attendees, thus reducing the urge to walk to the venue and also reducing potential traffic
- Taxi firms will be notified about the event
- Taxi firms will be informed where the Site is and the best routes in and out of the festival area
- Lift sharing will be greatly emphasized on the website and when purchasing a ticket
- The information above will all be issued when purchasing a ticket online [90% of sales]
- There are no plans for road closures, temporary traffic lights or the use of traffic cones

- 21/3/2019 - Email to pointing out concerns in relation to the TM plan

On 21 March 2019 at 15:51:44 -00:00,

wrote:

Deal

With regards to our telephone conversation, please find attached guidance from guy with regards to the TMP:

All temp' TM, signs etc, need to be detailed on a plan as HCC consent is required before TM may be lawfully placed on the public highway.

A map illustrating which specific signs will be placed at which specific locations will aid this process and allow HCC to either consent or reject the proposal & for example ensure the event TM does not clash with any other event or works in the vicinity.

Kind regards,

Licensing Officer

- 3/4/19 – Email sent to chasing TM plan and updated EMP

Wed 03/04/2019 11:44

RE: Hogsozzle [OFFICIAL]

To 'Brittany Melly'

Hi

I saw your message with regards to Back and Beyond EMP which is fine. Can you confirm status of Hogsozzel EMP, in particular, TMP for the event?

Thanks,

Sarb

- Email from 24/4/19 with TM plan attached for HogSozzle.

Wed 24/04/2019 11:23

HogSozzle TM plan

To MINICHIELLO, Sarb 8800

Cc Tom Wilkes

 image002.jpg
4 KB

 ATT00001.htm
3 KB

 2021-TM Plan v1.pdf
551 KB

 ATT00002.htm
492 bytes

H

Apologies for the delay on this one.

Please see attached TM plan for HogSozzle. Any queries please let us know.

Kind regards,

- Email from [REDACTED] on 24/5/2019 (the day the event started) to [REDACTED] (Police Licensing Officer) stating Herts County Council had not received a TM plan for this event. Therefore HCC had not agreed the TM Plan so no signs could legally be placed on the highway. Also no TTRO had been applied for to cover the HogSozzle event, meaning that legally Frogmore Road could not be made one way only. Email not seen by [REDACTED] until after the event at which point an email was sent to Tom Wilkes highlighting this issue.

From
Sent: 26 May 2019 10:05
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: HogSozzle 2019 - Event Management Plan [OFFICIAL]

Please see below.

We need to have a discussion about the missing information from your EMP and its delivery to relevant authorities. I'll catch up with you next week.

Thanks,

From
Sent: 24 May 2019 15:06
To:
Subject: FW: HogSozzle 2019 - Event Management Plan [OFFICIAL]

Hi
 I've just received a call from [REDACTED] at HCC who confirms he's not seen any TM plan for this event. Therefore no signs or temp' TM should be placed on the public highway.
 Regards

Attachment FYI,
 Best regards

- **Condition 20 states** – *The premise licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all artists performing at the event 28 days before the event takes place. The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary immediately of any artists booked in the 28 days leading up to the event.*
- **Condition 21 states** - *The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all contractors and volunteers employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. This will include registered company name and where possible name, address and date of birth of individual staff.*

The information detailed in the above conditions was never supplied to Police.

2019 Back of Beyond - Held on 6th and 7th July 2019

CONDITIONS BREACHED in 2019 - Relevant Premise Licence ref – 18/2254/PLV

1. **Condition number 6 on licence** – The EMP shall contain Appendices detailing fully the following areas (areas are then listed).
2. **Condition number 8d on licence** – Day ticket shall not exceed 1,750 for any day

- EMP V1 supplied by email on 5/4/2019 but it appears from the email that this was sent only to [redacted]. It is therefore unclear if other responsible authorities were sent the EMP by this date which is 3 months prior to the event. The best way to ensure all responsible authorities are notified is to complete the SAG notification form online. The SAG notification for Back of Beyond was not submitted until the 25th June 2019 after various reminders and following a SAG meeting on the 19th June 2019 that had been arranged separately. Ideally the SAG notification should be used as the way of informing all responsible authorities of the event and supplying them with the EMP, 3 months prior to the event start date.
- As a result of the SAG meeting held on the 19/6/19 a number of areas were identified as requiring further work. They are detailed in the email below sent by [redacted] following the meeting to Tom Wilkes and others. The areas listed are areas that should have been included in the EMP and submitted 3 months before. As this information was missing condition 6 on the licence is being breached.

From:

Sent: 19 June 2019 16:37

To:

Cc:

Subject: Back and Beyond SAG Meeting 19/6/19

Hi

As discussed at today's SAG meeting, please find below details of outstanding information required for the EMP. I am concerned there is quite a lot to be done, so please contact me if you need any assistance.

EMP to be completed by 1st July 2019 (latest)

1. **Detailed Security and Deployment Plan (missing)**
 - a. Stop and search procedure
 - b. Weapon policy (patting down/knife wands/notify Police if weapons found)
 - c. Profiling demographic
 - d. Documented briefings (possible police presence)
 - e. Physical crime procedure
 - f. CCTV/body cameras
 - g. Sexual offences procedures (refer to festival safe website)
 - h. Collection of destruction of items (drugs/weapons)

- i. Detailed number/names of SIA staff and stewards
- j. Statement of intent to be provided by Sgt Edwards

2. Detailed Noise Management Plan (missing)

- a. Site visit with Clare Smedley from Environmental Health

3. Maps

- a. Road traffic signs
- b. Water points
- c. Evacuation points
- d. Watch towers and CCTV cameras

4. Merchandise/Food

- a. Full list of vendors

5. First Aid

- a. First aid provider to follow East England Medical Provision Guide

6. Traffic Management Plan

- a. Arrangements to tow stranded vehicles
- b. Clean mud on/from public highway

7. Emergency accommodation

- a. Field/tents availability
- b. Provision of extra tents

*Licensing Officer
East Herts Community Safety Unit*

From:
Sent: 20 June 2019 09:22
To: '

Cc
Subject: RE: Back and Beyond SAG Meeting 19/6/19

With regards to the Traffic Management Plan you also mentioned the use of a shuttle bus. Grateful if you could include detailed logistics for the EMP.

Thank you,

- The majority of the points raised in the above email were addressed by the 28th June 2019 with the others resolved soon after. requested to ensure the EMP was fully updated and recirculated.
- I was aware that PC had been on site during the 2019 event. Following the event he sent a short email to as below stating all was good –

From:
Sent: 09 July 2019 14:29
To
Subject: RE: Back and Beyond Festival

I worked in the festivals control Friday and Saturday and from my point of view no major issues at all.

Impressed with the security firm and both and were on hand if I needed questions answering.

Issues over taxi prices in the evenings but from my side I didn't want or need to get involved.

- As there was little detail within this email I asked Dean Perrett for any further information. He sent me the below email.

From:
Sent: 05 January 2021 14:52
To:
Subject: Back and Beyond

Sgt

Report / ELT log from
Pc
Events Planning Team
Hertfordshire Constabulary

Date of the event 5-7-19 – 7-7-19 (early hours)

As part of my role in the events planning team we attend festivals and carry out duties such as ELT'S this is overseeing the event from a Police perspective and being on site although not in the actual arena of the event.

On Friday 5th July 2019 I started at the festival at 1800hrs.

After been shown around the site and arena I was set-up in the control room with Frontline security and started the ELT Log.
My role is to monitor the radio and update our log and control of any issues occurring also liaising with Security and Event organisers.
Number updates on and off site are recorded in the log.

There were 2 ejections for 2 females who where intoxicated but once outside refused to leave for the security and tried on numerous occasions to re enter the arena.

Car park was flowing well and well marshalled by event and security staff. Only issue was around Taxis turning up late or trying to increase their prices.

Later in the evening a report of 6 males trying to enter the site without wrist bands dealt with by security.

Log closed at 0100 hrs.

Saturday 6th July 2019 I started at the festival at 1800hrs

As soon as I started I was made aware by security that 2 females had been refused entry for being intoxicated, both females were spoken to by myself and they were very intoxicated one was seen by paramedics, they were both very sorry for there reactions but were not happy with something said by a security guard isr was updated. The 2 females again tried to get through a fence to gain entry but again were removed to the car park where eventually the left the site.

No further issues during the day security made a few stops and carried out cursery searches for drugs.

Less issues with the taxi's on the 2nd day.

Car park again worked well and had significant lighting.

Isr and ELT Log was closed at 0145hrs.

My observations....

My view of the security firm Firstline security – Very good and very professional

My view of the Event organisers – Good event plenty of information given to me on site always someone on hand to answer any questions/issues I had.

My issues ... Not many to raise. I was aware that local residents had made some complaints regarding cars and members of the public walking in the middle of un lit roads heading to the village and towards the Hall that leads to the A602 towards Stevenage, also the amount of rubbish found discarded in hedges and along the roads.

Regards

- 29/7/19 Email to SAG members from – Environmental Health Technical Officer – with 3 reports from residents attached (Names removed). See following reports from residents.

From

Sent: 29 July 2019 13:27

To:

Subject: FAO The East Herts Safety Advisory Group

Hi ,

As discussed, please can this email with the attachments be forwarded to each of the responsible authorities for their information. This is regarding concerns raised following the Back of Beyond Festival at the address below.

Back of Beyond Festival
Frogmore Hill
Hertford
SG14 3RR

Many thanks

Technical Officer
Environmental Health Service

Direct Dial

East Herts Council

Complainant 1

Further to our telephone conversation this morning I am writing to formally object to the Music Festivals/events held at Waterbridge, Frogmore Hill, Watton at Stone. There was an event this weekend - Back to Beyond. These festivals be they Wilkestock or Back to Beyond are too frequent. Originally there was just one festival annually- Wilkestock. This has increased. The owners of Waterbridge are obviously renting their fields out to other festival companies and now our peace is disturbed in May, July and August/September.

Thumping rhythms vibrate across the fields both all day and in the evening until midnight causing us to be banished inside our house with the windows closed. We cannot enjoy our garden or sit outside without disturbance from the noise. We cannot go to sleep with the windows open.

Also the Lane/road leading to the festival is also left littered with evidence of drug use (dozens of nitrous oxide canisters), broken glass bottles, beer cans, Fosters cardboard packaging, plastic bottles and labelled Back to Beyond beakers. We collected loads of the above when walking our dog on Sunday morning.

Complainant 2

Dear

Ref: Festivals Held at Waterbridge (Including Back Of Beyond etc)

Further to our recent telephone conversation I am writing to you regarding the concerns I have with the increased number of festivals being held near our house:

My concerns are:

The roads running from the outskirts of Watton at Stone to the festival fields are unlit (or poorly lit) with large stretches that have no curb or footpath. This is forcing the festival attendees on foot to walk in the middle of the roads. The roads are also quite winding with poor visibility for the drivers at the curves or inclines. I am concerned that there will be an increased risk of accidents relating to the increased numbers of pedestrians walking in the roads due to the festivals. Especially if these pedestrians have chosen to walk because they are either drinking alcohol or high.

The festival goers who are walking to the event or driving along the Walkern Road appear to be disposing of rubbish including glass bottles, beer cans, crisp packets, plastic water bottles and in some cases drug paraphernalia in the bushes lining these roads. My garden backs on to the Walkern Road and I have a daughter and a dog. I am concerned that festival attendees may throw their litter over my fence into my garden as well as along the roadside all the way along the Walkern Road from Watton to the festival fields.

Since the end of the last festival I have been out several times with a black bin liner and gloves and collected as much litter as I can from the roads around my house.

I am presuming that festival attendees are searched going into the festival fields and I can imagine that the attendees are drinking their alcohol and using any drugs before they enter the festival so they are not caught with it in their possession. This maybe why they are disposing of glass bottles and drug paraphernalia in the roads leading to the event.

The noise from the festivals held in the warmer months are becoming increasingly annoying. This is because I have my windows and patio doors open when it is warm and can hear the music constantly.

Originally when we moved in we spoke to local people and they gave us the impression that there was a music event held once a year and this was a charitable event in memory of a family member who had sadly passed. We respectfully decided not to complain and we still feel that we are happy to turn a blind eye and ear to a charitable event raising money and awareness for a good cause. However, we have since learnt that this is not always the case. That some events are now being held for profitable reasons.

I object strongly to this getting out of hand and can foresee that someone will get injured on the roads or a child or animal being hurt by the discarded broken glass or worse by coming into contact with the discarded items relating to drug use.

I think at the very least there should be restrictions placed on how the festival goers get to the event - which roads they use. These roads should be periodically patrolled by festival employees to check that all is well and also these roadsides should be THOROUGHLY cleaned at the expense of the festival and not left to the local residents to do it.

I would be grateful if you could let me have as much information as possible going forward with regard to future events being held.

Complainant 3

Dear

I understand I may write to you regarding the recent event at Waterbridge the 'Back of Beyond' festival.

We are one of the prime 'recipients' of all aspects of this (and all the other) festival's disruptions.

The most recent festival resulted in a most miserable weekend for a number of reasons :

Traffic - I understand Frogmore Hill was closed which meant a very great deal of the traffic entering and leaving the site travelled down the Walkern Road. It was ridiculously busy, and so dangerous, as the road is simply not fit for this volume of traffic. We are particularly aware of this as there is a 'pinch point' directly outside our house. It was plainly dangerous for attendees making their way on foot as there are no pavements and site lines are often very poor (I will not walk my dog up or down the road even on a normal day for these reasons). Also, sign-posting must have been inadequate as a good number of vehicles cut through the single track, private drive of Frogmore Hall from the A602 to the Walkern Road and so past the front of our house.

Rubbish - festival goers left a variety of rubbish along the road : glass bottles, cans, crisp packets, sandwich boxes, plastic bottles but most disturbingly, drug paraphenalia including helium canisters and the balloons used to inhale this (we saw a number of revelers inhaling as they passed our house). I am particularly concerned about broken glass and of course if wildlife (or my dog) got hold of these latter items, it could be fatal.

Noise - particularly when the wind comes from the North West, I find it very difficult to believe noise levels were within proscribed limits at all times (I presume they are monitored during the event?). As crude as my noise meter may be it registered levels over 100dcb at times during Saturday afternoon. Overall, the continuous beat throughout the weekend and early into the mornings is extremely disturbing and tiring.

My daughter whose bedroom is adjacent to the road was kept awake by walkers leaving the event making a very great deal of noise from 2am to 3:30am approximately on Sunday morning (despite her being deaf in one ear!)

I am writing now because, as I have said, this last festival weekend was utterly miserable for us. But this is not to say I am happy about any of the festivals taking place on a site which I regard as being quite unsuitable for anything but the smallest and most infrequent events.

Your records may show that I wrote to the Safety and Licensing Committee on 11th January 2012, with my objections, when the application for a licence was made which doubled the numbers attending each event ; quadrupled the numbers of attendees annually ; and brought about a six-fold increase in the number of festival nights. Unfortunately, the Licensing Committee chose to ignore my objections and those of very many others at the time by granting these extensions.

Despite my previous objections, no-one has sought my opinions as the 'Back of Beyond' festival has been added to the calendar (incidentally, totally against the personal assurance to me by the licensee that "there will be no additional festivals").

May I suggest that if there were any element of experimentaion in granting these licenses, then the experiment has failed and it is time to revoke them.

- 13/8/19 Email from Ricky – promoter for Back of Beyond, stating day ticket sales were 1850/1900 which is in breach of a condition on their licence which states ticket sales for day tickets must not exceed 1750. He stated overall numbers were around 1000 on the Friday and 2500 on the Saturday.

-----Original Message-----

From
Sent: 13 August 2019 12:48
To
Subject: Re: Back Of Beyond [OFFICIAL]

H

I wasn't aware of that, I will sort this with Tom tomorrow after our meeting..

With the day tickets we had around 1850/1900 This was slightly over the recommended amount due to Dj's returning on the second day with their guests, Dj's turning up on the day with more guests than that were on their riders & a few local business/home owners turning up..

Friday we had around 1000 through the door Saturday around 2500

The amount we had through the door and leave in the evening was totally under control and we didn't have any problems with the dispersal..

Thanks

2019 Wilkestock - Held on 30th Aug – 2nd Sept 2019

CONDITIONS BREACHED in 2019 - Relevant Premise Licence ref – 18/2254/PLV

1. **Condition number 3 on licence** – An event management plan shall be submitted to the responsible authorities no less than 3 months prior to the start of the event. The latest EMP must be supplied to all responsible authorities 21 days before the event takes place. Following this any changes must be circulated immediately to all responsible authorities.
2. **Condition 2 under Annex 3** – The premises licence holder shall submit a detailed noise management strategy for approval to the licensing authority at least 8 weeks prior to the first day of each event
3. **Condition number 6 on licence** – The EMP shall contain Appendices detailing fully the following areas (areas are then listed).
4. **Condition number 31 on licence** – An external Traffic Management Plan must be submitted no later than 3 months prior to the event and to be completed to the satisfaction of Hertfordshire Highways and Hertfordshire Constabulary.
5. **Condition number 22 on licence** - The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all SIA registered staff employed at event 28 days before the event takes place. Following this Hertfordshire Constabulary must be notified of any changes to SIA staff.
6. **Condition number 20 on licence** – The premise licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all artists performing at the event 28 days before the event takes place. The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary immediately of any artists booked in the 28 days leading up to the event.
7. **Condition number 21 on licence** - The licence holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all contractors and volunteers employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. This will include registered company name and where possible name, address and date of birth of individual staff.

- Email chasing EMP, sent 5/8/19, less than a month before the event. No record can be found of the EMP for this event being sent before this date. This is in breach licence condition 3 stating the EMP must be submitted at least 3 months before the event. The EMP was sent in response to this email on 5/8/19.

On 5 Aug 2019, at 12:59 pm,

wrote:

Good afternoon

Further from your e-mail below, I am still awaiting your completed EMP - please may you send this over at your earliest convenience?

Kind regards,

Community Safety Support Officer
Housing and Health Services
East Herts Council
01992
www.eastherts.gov.uk

- An updated EMP was sent later the same day (5/8/19) with the Noise Management Plan added to the EMP. This is in breach of licence condition 2 on Annex 3 that states the noise management plan must be submitted at least 8 weeks before the event.

From:
Sent: 05 August 2019 14:20
To:
Cc:
Subject: WILKESTOCK EMP V2.1

With updated noise plan attached :)

Thanks guys. Any queries let us know.

- Further documents that form part of the EMP were not sent until the 9/8/19, after highlighted that they had not be supplied. This is in breach of condition 6 on the licence requiring certain information to be supplied as part of the EMP when submitted. The documents attached are of excellent quality and have been produced by the Security firm Firstline Security.

 Wilkestock Festival 2019 Risk Assessment.pdf 429 KB	 WILKESTOCK PROHIBITED ITEMS SIGN.pdf 210 KB	 Wilkestock Search Policy V1 2019.pdf 277 KB
 Wilkestock Security Method Statement.pdf 765 KB	 Ask for Angela.jpg 5 MB	

From: Brittany Mell
Sent: 09 August 2019 15:48
To:
Cc:
Subject: Wilkestock 2019 Security Docs [OFFICIAL]

Bloody phone!

Now attached.

- Email sent to 28/8/19 asking her to send the updated EMP out urgently just 2 days before the event.

From:
Sent: 28 August 2019 14:41
To:
Cc:
Subject: Wilkestock [OFFICIAL]

Hi Brittany,

As discussed, please ensure the new completed EMP is circulated to SAG urgently. All SAG members will need to see the new EMP as outlined in the premises licence.

Thank you,

*Licensing Officer
East Herts Community Safety Unit*

- Email to SAG members in relation to the security firm, Firstline Security withdrawing from the event the day before the start date. The reasons are detailed in the email.

On Thursday, 29 August 2019 10:56:05 BST

wrote:

Good morning all,

****Please forward this e-mail to any colleagues or partners who you do not see included in this e-mail who should consult upon the below****

Following some concerns after conducting a risk assessment, Firstline Security Ltd have pulled out of the Wilkestock event which is due to take place from Friday 30th August – Monday 2nd September. Their particular concerns were:

- Total number of SIA staff to manage the event
- Dedicated number of SIA to provide first aid/medical cover (tent)
- No accredited persons directing traffic

Due to this, an updated EMP has now been submitted by the event organisers (attached) which details the new security measures and firm, SRM Security.

It is also worth noting a band called SLAVE will be at the event (a punk rock band playing on the Saturday), whose contract requires dedicated SIA at the pit and one paramedic solely for the band, which should be reflected in the EMP. We are currently awaiting the staffing list from SRM Security and are expecting to receive this today.

Please review the new EMP as soon as possible and raise any concerns directly to Sgt

Many thanks in advance,

Community Safety Support Officer

Housing and Health Services

East Herts Council

01992

www.eastherts.gov.uk

• Email from **received 29/8/19 in response.**

On Thu, 29 Aug 2019 at 11:34,

wrote:

Hi All

Just to make you all aware Firstline Security did not pull out for H + S concerns and all points raised by Firstline have been off the back of a 'bitter end to our relationship' left very late in the day by themselves to force us to use themselves. We have since dealt with the situation Firstline have left us in and have all security in place to run another successful wilkestock charity music festival.

Myself after running the event here for over 12 years and also Lee our onsite health and safety manager do not have any concerns regarding security levels or staff employed. Many of these staff have worked the event 2 years ago and we are using trusted supplier. Some of the events included Summer Solstice / Hertford Council events / Luton and Dunstable council events as well as managing road closures for St Neots and Luton council

Its our family home and would not run an event if this was a concern.

We are currently expecting the same numbers onsite as last year, we have increased the SIA numbers anyhow.

Paramedic is onsite

Pit crew will be present during the headline band Saturday.

This is a long standing, well mannered event with no history of incidents, we intent to keep it that way and have all bases covered to run another successful Wilkestock for its 12th year.

Kind regards,

- An email was sent on the 29/8/19 containing a zip file with the following documents. All Firstline Security documents had been removed but had not been replaced with similar documents. The TM plan is supplied within this email but had not been supplied as part of the original EMP submission on the 5/8/19. This is in breach of licence condition 31 which states the Traffic Management Plan must be supplied no later than 3 months prior to the start of the event.

Name	Type	Compressed size	Password ...	Size	Ratio	Date modified
Copy of Wilkestock Security Rota 2019 v2	Microsoft Excel Worksheet	22 KB	No	26 KB	15%	29/08/2019 10:08
Copy of Wilkestock Security Rota 2019 v2 (003)	Microsoft Excel Worksheet	22 KB	No	26 KB	15%	29/08/2019 10:20
EL Certificate 201920	Adobe Acrobat Document	649 KB	No	678 KB	5%	29/08/2019 10:10
PL Certificate 201920	Adobe Acrobat Document	634 KB	No	664 KB	5%	29/08/2019 10:11
Re Updated EMP security	Outlook Item	37 KB	No	105 KB	65%	29/08/2019 10:22
Wilkestock 2019 ESMP V3 - Event Management Plan	Adobe Acrobat Document	2,084 KB	No	2,199 KB	6%	29/08/2019 10:20
Wilkestock 2019 - TM Plan v1	Adobe Acrobat Document	478 KB	No	534 KB	11%	29/08/2019 10:18
Wilkestock 2019 - TM Plan v1 signage	Adobe Acrobat Document	578 KB	No	642 KB	11%	29/08/2019 10:21
Wilkestock CAD map 2019	Adobe Acrobat Document	1,100 KB	No	1,217 KB	10%	29/08/2019 10:09
Wilkestock TM Routes	Adobe Acrobat Document	118 KB	No	131 KB	11%	29/08/2019 10:17
Wilkestock v2.2 map 2019	PNG File	1,150 KB	No	1,198 KB	5%	29/08/2019 10:18
Wilkestock v2.2 stripped map 2019	PNG File	1,142 KB	No	1,191 KB	5%	29/08/2019 10:19

- The following conditions from the premise licence were also not complied with as the information was not received

The premises license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all the artists performing at the event 28 days before the event takes place. The license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary immediately of any artists booked in the 28 days leading up to the event.

The license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all contractors and volunteers employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. This will include registered company name and where possible name, address and date of birth of individual staff.

The license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all SIA registered staff employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. Following this Hertfordshire Constabulary must be notified of any changes to SIA staff.

- In addition conditions on the premise licence require certain appendices to be supplied as part of the EMP. No risk assessment was supplied that covered the event as a whole (Risks around fire and risks to SIA staff working at the event were covered within other documents).

2021 Back of Beyond – to be held on 2nd to 4th July 2021

- Email sent to Tom Wilkes as below on 31/3/2021 detailing a number of areas that are missing from the EMP.

Thank you for sending the Dog and Whistle Weekender Event Management Plan, please see below our initial comments.

We would be grateful if you could provide current tickets sales for each day to include shuttle bus and car park sales.

We note in appendix D it states the security deployment plan and rota will be made available once consultations have taken place. Please advise when you will be having this meeting?

On the site maps provided there is a 'new stage' listed as number 6 on the areas of the event. There is a TBC next to this. Please advise whether this stage is going to be utilised or not as well as Bar E which appears on some of the site maps but not all.

There are two manager structure diagrams in your EMP, one on page 11 and one on page 16, which differ slightly, which is the correct one?

In accordance with section 6 of the Wilkestock Licence conditions, the Event Management Plan is missing/or further information is required for the following:

6(a) Scaled Site Plan

- The plan is not to scale.
- Plan does not indicate the type of structures.
- No blue access route shown.
- No RVP shown.
- No emergency exits shown out of the enclosed event area.
- No pedestrian routes from car parks, in particular car park C.

6(b) Event Risk Assessment

- No Risk Assessment.

6(c) Crowd Management Plan

- It is not site specific and does not indicate capacity of each structure within the site.
- The evacuation procedure does not offer specifics.

6(d) Emergency Protocol and Major Incident Plan

- There is no crime scene management or crime in progress plan.
- Which members of staff are trained to use the water reserves.
- Coded messages, alert levels and procedures are not outlined in the EMP

6(f) Fire Safety Plan and Procedure

- Straw, Marquee mentions 3 exit points but unsure what structures referring to.

6(g) Traffic Management Plan

- The plan supplied appears to be a signage plan as it does not show blue access route.
- Unsure x2 SIA on the front gate location is this referring to? This needs to link into your deployment plan detailing roles and positions.
- The signage plan shows x2 CSAS but it is unclear of their role throughout the event.
- Your plan indicates the use of Gatemen in 3 locations, please advise where they have been allocated from as they do not appear on the deployment plan.
- There is no mention of a pedestrian plan. This needs to be a more detailed plan with regards to safety of those people who wish to walk to and from your event. It is noted in your eviction policy that event goers will have to make their own way home either by taxi, shuttle bus or by walking to the train station.
- The traffic management plan should also cover your plans around taxi services and whether they will be pre-booked. We note the taxi rank is shown on the car park map but there are no details on how this will be managed/staffed and not advised within the deployment plan. Have there been any communications with any taxi firms and what response have you had from them.
- No clear details with regards to operation of the shuttle bus. We note your Shuttle Bus will be located along the main lane outside the event, however there are no details where people will queue, how often it will run and where is the drop off location.
- The plan states all vehicles must go through car park but however the plan you have provided indicates shuttle busses will continue to use the road immediate outside the event rather than go through car park, please advise which is correct.
- It is noted you have two tower lights in Car Park A which only appear to cover half of the car park and there do not appear to be any in car park B or C.

6(j) Medical Provisions

- A more detailed plan is required. There is a reference on page 21 on medical services being provided but it is in contrast to what is written in Appendix L.

6(k) Security Operations and Deployment of Staff

- The deployment plan excel spreadsheet lists the number of SIA with the location, position and hours of work. Can you please provide a diagram to where these locations are on site as it is currently unclear:
 - Front Gate – what gate are you referring to.
 - Resident security where are these located.
 - Outside patrol where will they be positioned.
 - Road tower and road access.

- You mention 6 stewards in the excel sheet, is this the totality of your stewards or do you have further staff, if so, please provide more detail.

6(l) Drugs Policy

- No mention of Psychoactive substances.
- Detail information required on the ejection policy process.
- Any drugs ceased should documented and stored separately rather than in the amnesty bins.

6(m) Weapons Policy

- What is the procedure if weapons are found.

6(o) Bar Management and Alcohol Policy

- No refusal or incident logs mentioned.
- Signage Challenge 25/free water/weight and measures act/drinks price list including abv's)

6(p) Safeguarding policy

- More detailed information required. Welfare Tent mentioned on the plans (connects to condition 12 on the licence).

6 (r) CCTV

- No map detailing camera locations.
- All recordings to be stored for a minimum of 21 days.

Myself and PS [redacted] are concerned that there is key information missing from the EMP and a number of areas are unclear. After the concerns raised during the hearing in January we had hoped that these issues would be resolved going forwards. We are further concerned by the fact that you have decided to run 3 single day events with large numbers of people all leaving at the same time and no provisions have been mentioned about providing pedestrians with a safe walking route. Due to these concerns a review of the premise licence will be instigated by the Police imminently.

Thanks and kind regards,

Licensing officer

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District of East Hertfordshire Premises Licence Licence No: 20/0419/PLMV

Licensing Act 2003

Part 1 – Premises Details

POSTAL ADDRESS OF PREMISES, OR IF NONE, ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP REFERENCE OR DESCRIPTION	
Wilkestock - 4 Acre Field Waterbridge, Frogmore Hill, Watton At Stone, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG14 3RR	Telephone: 01920 830107

WHERE THE LICENCE IS TIME LIMITED THE DATES
Not applicable

THE TIMES THE LICENCE AUTHORISES THE CARRYING OUT OF LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES			
SALE OF ALCOHOL			
Friday		11:00	04:00
Saturday		11:00	05:00
Sunday		11:00	04:00
Thursday		11:00	04:00
PERFORMANCES OF DANCE (BOTH)			
Friday		10:00	04:00
Saturday		10:00	05:00
Sunday		10:00	04:00
Thursday		10:00	03:00
FILMS (BOTH)			
Friday		10:00	04:00
Saturday		10:00	05:00
Sunday		10:00	15:00
Thursday		10:00	04:00
LIVE MUSIC (BOTH)			
Friday		10:00	04:00

THE TIMES THE LICENCE AUTHORISES THE CARRYING OUT OF LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES

Saturday	10:00	05:00
Sunday	10:00	04:00

LATE NIGHT REFRESHMENT (BOTH)

Friday	23:00	05:00
Saturday	23:00	05:00
Sunday	23:00	05:00
Thursday	23:00	05:00

RECORDED MUSIC (BOTH)

Friday	10:00	04:00
Saturday	10:00	05:00
Sunday	10:00	04:00

THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES

Friday	00:00	00:00
Monday	00:00	18:00
Saturday	00:00	00:00
Sunday	00:00	00:00
Thursday	00:00	00:00

WHERE THE LICENCE AUTHORISES SUPPLIES OF ALCOHOL WHETHER THESE ARE ON AND/OR OFF SUPPLIES

Alcohol is supplied for consumption on the Premises

Part 2**NAME, (REGISTERED) ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL (WHERE RELEVANT) OF HOLDER OF PREMISES LICENCE**

Mr Tom Wilkes
Waterbridge, Frogmore Hall, Watton At Stone, Hertfordshire, SG14 3RR

REGISTERED NUMBER OF HOLDER, FOR EXAMPLE COMPANY NUMBER, CHARITY NUMBER (WHERE APPLICABLE)

N/A

NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR WHERE THE PREMISES LICENCE AUTHORISES FOR THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL

Mr Ricky Harding

PERSONAL LICENCE NUMBER AND ISSUING AUTHORITY OF PERSONAL LICENCE HELD BY DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR WHERE THE PREMISES LICENCE AUTHORISES FOR THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL

Personal licence number:

Licensing Authority: |

ANNEX 1 – MANDATORY CONDITIONS

1. No supply of alcohol may be made under the premises licence –
 - (a) at a time when there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of the premises licence, or
 - (b) at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or his personal licence is suspended.
2. Every supply of alcohol under the premises licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.
3. (1) The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises.
(2) In this paragraph, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises—
 - (a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to—
 - (i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or
 - (ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise);
 - (b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted fee to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
 - (c) provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
 - (d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, the premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner;
 - (e) dispensing alcohol directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of disability).
4. The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.
5. (1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.
(2) The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the

supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy.

(3) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth and either—

- (a) a holographic mark, or
- (b) an ultraviolet feature.

6. The responsible person must ensure that—

- (a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcoholic drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container) it is available to customers in the following measures—
 - (i) beer or cider: ½ pint;
 - (ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25 ml or 35 ml; and
 - (iii) still wine in a glass: 125 ml;
- (b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises; and
- (c) where a customer does not in relation to a sale of alcohol specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold, the customer is made aware that these measures are available.

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

For the purposes of this condition -

- (a) "duty" is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979;
- (b) "permitted price" is the price found by applying the formula -

$$P = D + (D \times V)$$

where -

- (i) P is the permitted price,
- (ii) D is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and
- (iii) V is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol;
- (c) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence -
 - (i) the holder of the premises licence,
 - (ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or
 - (iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such

a licence;

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

(e) "value added tax" means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

8. Where the permitted price would (apart from this paragraph) not be a whole number of pennies, the price given by that sub-paragraph shall be taken to be the price actually given by that sub-paragraph rounded up to the nearest penny.

9. (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where the permitted price on a day ("the first day") would be different from the permitted price on the next day ("the second day") as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax.

(2) The permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of 14 days beginning on the second day.

10. The admission of children under 18 to any film exhibition must be restricted in accordance with any recommendation made by the film classification body specified in section 4, Video Recordings Act 1984 unless the licensing authority notifies the holder of the premises licence that recommendations made by the licensing authority must be followed instead.

11. Any individual employed on the premises to conduct a security activity (within the meaning of paragraph 2(1)(a) of schedule 2 to the Private Security Industry Act 2001) must be licensed by the Security Industry Authority.

ANNEX 2 – CONDITIONS CONSISTENT WITH THE OPERATING SCHEDULE

1. The Premises Licence is limited to three events per calendar year, each consisting of a maximum of three consecutive days. The name of each event will be supplied to 3 months prior to the event taking place.
2. The Premises Licence holder shall notify the responsible authorities of the exact dates of each event no less than 3 months prior to the event start date of each of the 3 events.
3. The maximum capacity for each event at any one time is 4950 people, this includes all staff on site.
 - a) Entry numbers will be monitored and recorded at all times through the use of attendance clickers
 - b) Entry numbers to be supplied immediately on request by any police officer
 - c) Entry onto the site will not be allowed between 2300 hours and 0600 hours.
4. An EMP shall be submitted to the responsible authorities no less than 3 months prior to the start of the event. The EMP must demonstrate that resourcing and infrastructure is based on the threat and risk of the event. The final version of the EMP must be supplied to all responsible authorities a minimum of 21 days before the event takes place. Responsible authorities must notify the licence

holder of any concerns with the final EMP within 5 working days of receiving it. Any changes proposed to the final EMP, later than 21 days prior to the event start date, must be circulated immediately to all responsible authorities for approval.

In the event of any of the responsible authorities advising the licensing authority that the Event Management Plan (EMP) does not in their professional view satisfy the requirements to promote the four licensing objectives, the event will not proceed until such time as those requirements are met or the responsible authority confirms they are satisfied.

5. The event management plan shall contain a summary document covering an overview in the following areas -

Event overview

- Audience profile
- The site - summary description
- General site safety policy
- Management structure, responsibilities and roles - names of specific personnel, key roles and responsibilities and how the structure of these roles is planned.
- Vehicle access
- Ticket holder access
- Local access
- Campervan access
- Accreditation
- Artist Liaison
- Bars
- Camping
- Car Parking
- Communications and IT
- Concessions
- Catering
- Crime and Disorder
- Electrical Systems
- Event Capacities
- Event timings
- Fencing
- Insurance
- Licensing
- Local Community
- Medical Cover
- Build and breakdown period
- Plant
- Public information
- Site signage
- Showers
- Sound
- Temporary Structures
- Toilets
- Waste Management
- Water Provisions
- Event control
- Emergency Protocols and Contingency Procedures

6. The EMP shall contain Appendices detailing fully the following areas -

- a) A scaled site plan which shows the location and size of all areas of the event and the site infrastructure as well as showing the immediate surrounding area including ingress and egress for pedestrians, vehicles and crew. As well as emergency evacuation routes and access / egress routes for emergency services. All areas of the event mentioned in the EMP must be detailed on the map.
- b) Event risk assessment covering all areas of risk and management of risks to ensure the health and safety of all those on site
- c) A crowd management plan including Capacities and Evacuation times from each area of the site to allow for safe and quick evacuation in the event of an emergency.
- d) Emergency protocols and Major Incident Plan covering the following types of emergencies, fire, bomb threat, suspect packages, public disorder / disturbance, structural failure, hazardous substances, person in water, detained person, injury to a person, crime in progress. To also cover the role of the Event Liaison Team (ELT), coded messages, alert levels and procedures for each, partial evacuation procedure, full evacuation procedure, rendezvous points (RVP's), emergency announcements, event stop procedures, crime scene management.
- e) Extreme weather procedure and action plan covering all adverse weather conditions, detailing the impact and actions to be taken in each possibility.
- f) Fire safety plan - in line with conditions set by Herts Fire and Rescue
- g) Traffic management plan covering the management of the traffic on the roads surrounding the event. Management of those attending and leaving the event as well as local residential traffic. Internal site signage for traffic. Car park management and lighting. Expected traffic levels throughout the event. Control measures to be used. Taxis and drop off facilities and operation of this facility.
- h) Noise management plan - in line with conditions set by Environmental Health
- i) Waste management plan - in line with conditions set by Environmental Health
- j) Medical provisions plan covering details of medical / first aid posts, location and description of facility available. Staffing levels of the facility and process to be used when treating patients. Medical emergency procedure.
- k) Security operations and deployment plan covering security management structure, roles and responsibilities, security staff briefings, security control area operations, communication with the ELT, expectations of SIA staff and non SIA staff, perimeter integrity, searching of people within the site, bar security, camping / tent security, car parking security and security incident log.
- l) Drugs policy including psychoactive substances. Zero tolerance policy to be adopted in relation to any quantity of drugs, any items found to result in ejection or refusal of entry. Surrender bins to be provided at all entrances and must be clearly marked. Possession of a small quantity results in confiscation, incident documentation to be supplied to the police at the conclusion of the festival. Possession of larger quantities results in confiscation, person being detained and police being immediately informed. All confiscated drugs are to be stored securely and safely, sealed where possible and documented accordingly.

- m) Weapons policy - Zero tolerance policy to be adopted in relation to any weapons found that are made, used or adapted to cause injury, any such items found to result in ejection or refusal of entry. Such items are to include knives where the blade is more than 3 inches in length (excluding un-lockable pocket knives).
- n) Entry policy and procedure including publicised conditions of entry, prohibited items, search policy on entry, entry refusal process. Prohibited items to include glass of any kind, weapons, illegal drugs, including psychoactive substances, fireworks, sky lanterns or kites, CO2 canisters, flares, laser pens, open or unsealed vessels of any description, alcohol over the allowed allowance of 16 cans / 8 litres of beer or cider, or 2.25 litres (one box) of wine per person. On re-admittance of a person no alcohol to be brought onto the site by that person
- o) Eviction policy and procedure, including eviction notice. Detailing circumstances under which a person will be evicted, the eviction process and onward travel from the festival of the evicted person.

Bar management and Alcohol policy including staff management structure and responsibilities, bar staff briefings for the event. The use of challenge 25 protocol, refusals registers and incident logs.

- p) A Safeguarding policy and plan to cover both children and vulnerable adults, but especially those under 18's and those who lack capacity through intoxication. To include a lost child procedure
- q) A communication strategy covering local community engagement, transport options, complaints, arrival and dispersal from site.
- r) Full details of CCTV provisions and management including map detailing camera locations. All recordings to be stored for a minimum of 21 days. Footage to be supplied to police on request and without delay.

7. The premises License holder shall have procedures in place to;
 - a) Manage the occupancy levels within areas to enable a safe and quick evacuation in the event of an emergency; and
 - b) Allow the swift access for emergency vehicles.
8. The event will be managed in accordance with the EMP. During the operational phase any deviation from the EMP must be fully documented and rationale recorded at the time.
9. All public address systems shall be under the control of the premises license holder or their nominated representatives so that emergency broadcast message can override the musical entertainment and can be delivered clearly audibly to all parts of the site.
10. The Premise License Holder shall publish a message on the event website at least 3 months prior to the event containing the following information;
 - a) Terms and Conditions of entry, to include searching on entry and list of prohibited items
 - b) Under 18's will need to be accompanied by an adult 21 years old or over
 - c) Challenge 25 Policy
 - d) Quantity of alcohol permitted
 - e) No glass vessels and bottles allowed on site
 - f) Disabled access and facilities information

- g) Medical facilities
- h) Local weather updates (required only in the 7 days prior to the event)
- i) Travel Information
- j) Maps of the site and surrounding area
- k) Post code for Satellite Navigation Systems.

11. The Premise License Holder shall ensure that all Stewards and Security Industry Authority personnel have received training commensurate to their role, and have been fully briefed prior to the start of the event on the information contained within the EMP documents relevant to their role.

12. There shall be an area within the licensable area dedicated to dealing with vulnerable children and adults this includes those who are vulnerable through drink and drugs. There shall always be on duty at this location a person nominated as in charge. Staff working in this area shall have access to a radio connecting with the event management.

13. There shall be an established chain of command for all stewards and Security Industry Authority personnel who shall report directly upwards to their Supervisor who in turn will report directly to the Security Manager.

14. All stewards and Security Industry Authority staff shall wear high visibility jackets so that they are easily identifiable and Security Industry Authority staff employed at the premises wear and clearly display their Security Industry Authority registration badge at all times whilst on duty, except those working in a covert capacity. There shall be an established chain of command for all stewards and Security Industry Authority personnel who shall report directly upwards to their Supervisor who in turn will report directly to the Security Manager.

15. No staff member while on duty and / or in uniform will consume alcohol or drugs on site or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs at any time whilst working.

16. An event log shall be maintained which includes any actions or decisions taken by the manager of the medical provisions and the reasons for those actions, and a record of all people seeking treatment. The record shall detail the name, address, gender, age, presenting complaint, diagnosis, treatment given, onward destination and signature of person treating

17. The Designated Premises Supervisor must be actively involved in the running of the event or clearly nominate someone to act on their behalf in the case of illness or injury. The Designated Premises Supervisor must be on site when alcohol is permitted to be sold or supplied or clearly nominate someone to act on their behalf in the case of illness, injury or required rest time. The nominated person must be a personal licence holder.

18. Each bar will be clearly identifiable by number or name. Only 100% polycarbonate to be used by the public on site, no glass to be permitted in areas open to the public. Each bar will have visible signage (challenge 25/ free water/ weights and measures act/ drinks and price list including abv's). Tap water will be made freely available in the main bar.

19. The premises license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all the artists performing at the event 28 days before the event takes place. The license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary immediately of any artists booked in the 28 days leading up to the event.

20. All areas of the event and all documents referred to in the Event Management Plan shall be

available for inspection during the event by officers of responsible authorities should they request access or ask to view the documents.

21. The license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all contractors and volunteers employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. This will include registered company name and where possible name, address and date of birth of individual staff.
22. The license holder will notify Hertfordshire Constabulary of all SIA registered staff employed at the event 28 days before the event takes place. Following this Hertfordshire Constabulary must be notified of any changes to SIA staff.
23. Accurate and up to date details of ticket sales to be supplied immediately on request from any of the responsible authorities to allow for event planning.
24. The Premises Licence Holder shall take out Public Liability and Third Party insurance to cover at least £5,000,000.00 (five million pounds) for any one occurrence. The Premises Licence Holder shall provide the Licensing Authority with certified copies of the Policy and Certificates of Insurance, or other acceptable proof of cover, not later than 14 days prior to the start of the event.
25. The fire resistance of the bales of straw used on site for construction or otherwise, together with all materials that form any part of a means of escape will be certified by a suitably qualified person to satisfy this authority of their fire resistance. We require this evidence to be presented for confirmation at least two weeks prior to any event held on site.
26. An on-site suitable control hub (ELT) will be accessible to police and responsible authorities if at any time it is deemed necessary by the responsible authorities.
27. People under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by an adult 21 years old or over in order to gain entry. A maximum of 3 under 18's to be allowed in with each person 21 years or over. The adult (over 21) entering with any person under 18 years is to be informed of their responsibilities with regards to the person under 18 years.
28. The Licence holder will be responsible for producing a policy for the inspection of the structures built on his site. This will include a maintenance and inspection programme with his methodology of testing. The Licence holder will consult with relevant persons with expertise e.g. a suitable Building Control body, or other similar organisation to agree the structural integrity of the bales. This will be presented to the relevant authorities not less than three week prior to an event.
29. An external Traffic Management Plan must be submitted no later than 3 months prior to the event and to be completed to the satisfaction of Hertfordshire Highways and Hertfordshire Constabulary.
30. An event log shall be maintained which includes any actions or decisions taken in relation to each event.
31. The surrounding households are notified of any events and possess a 24hr phone number direct to the DPS.

ANNEX 3 – CONDITIONS ATTACHED AFTER A HEARING BY THE LICENSING AUTHORITY

1. The premises licence holder shall ensure that music noise levels do not exceed 55 dB(A) LEQ over a

15 minute period at the pre-agreed noise monitoring locations before 23:00, or 45dB(A) LEQ over a 15 minute period after 23:00 on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

2. The premises licence holder shall submit a detailed Noise Management Strategy for approval to the licensing authority at least 8 weeks prior to the first day of each event and these shall take account of all regulated entertainment which will be provided during each event, including the number of stages and the location, orientation and operational times of each stage. The strategy shall include provision for community engagement, monitoring, an event hotline and post completion reporting.

ANNEX 4 - PLANS

Wilkestock - 4 Acre Field, Waterbridge, Frogmore Hill, Watton At Stone

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Senior Licensing & Enforcement Office,
East Herts District Council,
Wallfields,
Pegs Lane,
Hertford, SG13 8EQ.

Dear ,

Re: Wilkstock – 4 Acre Field, Waterbridge, Frogmore Hill, Watton at Stone,
SG14 3RR.

I wish to make representation as Ward Member for Datchworth and Aston, I do not live near the site but my comments are based on those received from local residents.

I have had comments from local residents in Aston that appear to support Wilkstock, however a number of residents that live nearer to the venue site have expressed their concerns as follows.

- 1: Traffic problems with vehicles arriving and leaving the venue using the very narrow lanes that exist in the area.
- 2: Noise from the event when in full swing.
- 3: Litter problems in the lanes as people leave the venue to walk to train station and bus connections.
- 4: Concerns regarding misbehaviour from people attending the events.

These are some of the comments past to me as Ward Member and I would be grateful if you could ensure that those who need to know are made fully aware.

Yours sincerely

From:
Sent: 29 April 2021 12:32
To:
Subject: [External] my comments re. waterbridge licensing review

Categories:

Reasons that we object to events at Waterbridge, Frogmore Hill, Watton at Stone:

- The Festivals were originally held once annually on the August Bank Holiday weekend, then they increased to twice annually on bank holiday weekends, then thrice annually and most recently over 4 different weekends. This year (2021) they are proposed to be held on 3 x 3 day weekends over 3 consecutive months (July, August and September).
- They were originally under the excuse of 'raising money for charity'. We were always sceptical of this and have seen no evidence/data of actual monies donated to charities. A percentage of money donated per person attending each event should be made available.
- The Festival site is quite ugly and can be seen from different locations along the Walkern Road - people camp overnight, there's a massive car-park and crowds of people.
- The noise is awful, especially if the wind is blowing in our direction, thumping repetitive music until late into the night.
- We have to sleep with our bedroom windows closed on warm summer nights to try to shut out the noise coming from the 'Festivals'.
- We have had to go away for the weekend when we know a Festival is taking place or avoid having a garden party/friends over on the same weekend as one of the Festivals.
- People wander along Walkern Road, looking for the Festival site. We've had people knocking on our front door, asking us if we know where Wilkestock is. We have worried about the vulnerability of our property and put our outside garden furniture away on occasions.
- This is a rural area – there are no street lights and no pavements. It is a safety concern that event/festival goers are wandering along unlit streets after dark. Seeing the litter evidence of alcohol cans/bottles and empty nitrous oxide canisters along the lanes during and following events these event/festival goers are probably drunk/high when walking to/from the events and this exacerbates the danger to them and also to vehicles driving along the lanes.
- The litter along the lanes and Walkern Road is atrocious - walking our dogs around Festival time we've spotted and collected in bin bags, various items of litter, drinks cans, crisp packet wrappers, bottles etc – the increase in litter is clear after a Waterbridge event. This was despite the Wilkes' reassurance that people were employed to clear up local litter after the events. They clearly did not do a very good job, if at all.
- We have also witnessed the scattering of hundreds of empty/used nitrous oxide canisters along the edge of the roads/lanes following a Waterbridge event. We've taken photos of these and sent them to Environmental Health along with our objections.
- There's always an increased amount of traffic travelling to/from the site in Walkern Road and High Elms Lane.
- We do not need an events site here in Watton at Stone/Aston. There is already another local site, much more suitably located, at Knebworth House, Stevenage. This is a venue for Festivals, concerts, open air cinemas etc. It is away from local housing so doesn't disturb neighbours/residents and it is situated adjacent to the A1. Much easier and safer for people to travel to/attend without disturbing local residents.

From:
Sent:
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 12:02 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: WalkernRoad Watton at Stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer objects to the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 12:02 PM I live in a Grade 2 listed Georgian house along Walkern Road towards Watton at Stone. For the few weekends that Wilkestock is currently on the noise inside my house is very loud and I cannot go about my normal business. To hear that the application mentions events every 2 weeks from 1st May to 27 th September is horrifying especially as events are going to be over 2 days .
I am also concerned about the level of traffic that will come with these events . Walkern Road is very narrow and every year there are a number of near misses.
Last year, following the events ,there were beer cans ,wine bottles and a very large number of helium gas capsules littering the road.
I am shocked that this application has any chance of getting the go- ahead when there are many domestic residences so near the site .
Yours sincerely

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 13:35
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 1:35 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Walkern Road Watton at Stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 1:35 PM We are pleased that this review is taking place and for the opportunity to further raise our concerns regarding events at Waterbridge.

Since an initial one-off charitable festival, events at Waterbridge have since then grown into a commercial operation quite unsuitable for a residential location.

At events at the site, including but not listed to Wilkestock, there is a significant noise nuisance way into the early hours. This is in part due to the excessive volume of music, so loud that individual lyrics are very clearly audible. Even in the period prior to events there is disturbance from sound checks or similar at the site. Despite the distance between our properties, we are unable to sleep in our bedroom throughout the events and are forced to move to another part of the house. Even during the daylight hours our ability to peacefully enjoy the amenity of our garden is impacted by noise from the festivals.

We are also disturbed and woken by groups of festival-goers wandering loudly along Walkern Road at all hours. The litter left behind along the road indicates that alcohol and substance abuse is involved too. Broken alcohol bottles on the verges and roadside constitute a further hazard to vehicles, pedestrians and equestrian users of the country lanes.

This is all very, very different from the tranquillity of non-festival nights in this rural setting. We understand that there are supposed to be vehicular and pedestrian patrols around the site but we have not seen any evidence of these. Nor have we seen any evidence of litter clearing, with litter persisting long after the festivals end.

(continues)

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 13:39
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 1:38 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Walkern Road Watton at Stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 1:38 PM (continued)

An unacceptable risk to local residents, visiting festival-goers and other road users alike arises from the vastly increased number of vehicle movements along very narrow country vehicles leading to and from the venue, which are also used by heavy farm machinery, of which the festival visitors may have little experience thus compounding personal and highway safety. There are many blind bends, sudden narrowings and obscured entrances to properties including our own - not such an issue on typically quiet weekends, but a risk factor when traffic is substantially increased. We also frequently see and hear near misses between vehicles on Walkern Road during events which appears to be directly attributable to the increased volume of vehicles visiting the festival site. There is also an increase in commercial traffic delivering goods and services to and from the site before and after the events which again is a concern for public safety on the narrow highways.

We are also concerned with the ability of a residential property to adequately manage the health and safety of the numbers of attendees the festivals attract. The festival site sits within an environment agency flood plain for the River Beane which is also used for water abstraction for public drinking water with the pumping station a short distance from the site. There is therefore the potential for spills of human waste or other contaminants associated with the operation of the festival to enter the water table and to pollute the river.

We trust that the licensing authority will carefully review whether renewing this licence is in the best interests of the public.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 29 April 2021 13:42
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 29/04/2021 1:42 PM from Mr Keith Smith.

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: High Elms Lane Watton at Stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 29/04/2021 1:42 PM Dear Sirs
I would like to object to the renewal of the licence at the above premises.
I have lived close to Waterbridge for the last ten years, so almost from the beginning of the events there. The events that were covered by the original licence were of much smaller proportions and were for a donation to charities and I think were only once a year for two days?
They have now grown alarmingly with Mr Wilkes trying to organise as many events as he can lasting 3 or 4 days. Whilst, from what I can ascertain, only one of which makes charitable donations?
These have a massive impact on this quiet rural area. Traffic is noticeably increased, as you can imagine, with some 4000 people attending. Cars and groups of festival goers, wandering along the unlit road with no pavement. The rubbish and discarded drug canisters along the road leading to the site is disgusting.

We live in an unlit, quiet lane but have had people knocking on our door late at night asking for directions. This makes you feel very vulnerable. Our front garden is open to the lane and we usually take the garden furniture in to try and lessen the risk of attracting unwanted attention.

The noise during the concerts, which at times has gone on past 12 midnight, can be so disturbing that we have to sleep with all our windows closed. This is obviously very uncomfortable during warm, summer evenings.

I therefore strongly oppose the renewal of the licence as I feel Mr Wilkes will use this as his opportunity to run more and longer events in the future, ruining our summers even more than he does now. I have seen he has 3 events in 3 consecutive months planned for this year (only one for charity) - ridiculous! This will have a massive effect on myself and the local residents. Just shows what his plans are, without a thought for us.

Kind regards

Sent: 29 April 2021 12:26
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 29/04/2021 12:26 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Elms Lane, Watton At Stone Hertford, Hertfordshire
SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 29/04/2021 12:26 PM Reasons that we object to events at Waterbridge, Frogmore Hill, Watton at Stone:
- The Festivals were originally held once annually on the August Bank Holiday weekend, then they increased to twice annually on bank holiday weekends, then thrice annually and most recently over 4 different weekends. This year (2021) they are proposed to be held on 3 x 3 day weekends over 3 consecutive months (July, August and September).
- They were originally under the excuse of 'raising money for charity'. We were always sceptical of this and have seen no evidence/data of actual monies donated to charities. A percentage of money donated per person attending each event should be made available.
- The Festival site is quite ugly and can be seen from different locations along the Walkern Road - people camp overnight, there's a massive car-park and crowds of people.
- The noise is awful, especially if the wind is blowing in our direction, thumping repetitive

music until late into the night.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 11:26
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 11:25 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Walkern Road Watton-at-Stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 11:25 AM The site is not suitable for the events held there. They are disturbing to local residents in a variety of ways - noise, rubbish, traffic - and because of the isolated position down narrow lanes with no public transport, dangerous both to local residents and attendees.
The event originated as small family-oriented charitable festival but licence extensions have allowed the frequency and size of events to burgeon and now full scale commercial events are held.
There are plenty of other more suitable and safer sites in the vicinity.

From:
Sent: 12 May 2021 09:12
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 12/05/2021 9:12 AM from

Application Summary

Address:

Proposal: Review - Premises Licence

Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:

Email:

Address: Walkern Road Watton-at-Stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Licensing Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments: 12/05/2021 9:12 AM This festival has got larger and less well organised each year it has taken place . During the event there is excessive noise , and after the event there is a trail of rubbish , including helium canisters , empty bottles and general mess all the way along Walkern Road to the event site .
As the event is not managed properly it should not be allowed to proceed .

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 11 May 2021 08:57
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 11/05/2021 8:56 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Walkern Road Watton-at-Stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 11/05/2021 8:56 AM Wilkestock a small, family-based event held for charitable reasons. In 2012, the application for a licence was made which doubled the numbers attending each event ; quadrupled the numbers of attendees annually ; and brought about a six-fold increase in the number of festival nights. We (along with many others) raised our objections with the Licensing Committee when the application was made for this significant escalation. Despite the unsuitability of the site the licence was granted. As a result of this extension Hoggsozzle was instituted and ran over the entire May Bank holiday. Mr Wilkes sought to justify this event to me, at least, as a quasi-charitable event where the profits made were used to defer the costs of Wilkestock so allowing more money to go to charity. At this time I was assured by Mr Wilkes that there would be no further events. Then the mid-summer event Back of Beyond was added. Apart from being contrary to Mr Wilkes assurance of no further events this is a full scale, raw, commercial event. I have written to the Licensing Committee and summed up the dangers and difficulties but

received no response

Traffic - the Walkern Road was ridiculously busy, and so dangerous, as the road is simply not fit for this volume of traffic

Safety - Since the site has no reasonable access to public transport so many attendees must drive or walk, and walking becomes very dangerous

Rubbish - festival goers left a variety of rubbish along the road : glass bottles cans crisp packets sandwich boxes plastic bottles but most disturbingly drug paraphenalia including helium canisters and the ballons used to inhale this

Noise - my noise meter registers levels over 100dcb at times during events. Overall, the continuous beat through a weekend is extremely disturbing and tiring

The Waterbridge site is unsuitable for these events. They are disturbing to local residents and dangerous both to residents and attendees

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 10 May 2021 11:04
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 10/05/2021 11:04 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Watton at Stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer objects to the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 10/05/2021 11:04 AM This was originally a one off Charity event and is now trying to morph into a money making business!
There are no buildings between us and the site and the noise (particularly the bass line) prevents us from sleeping at night and is intrusive during the day.
We are very upset by the increase in the number of events despite Mr Wilkes express promise at the outset that this would not happen!
We have been forced to go away on the festival weekends but are then concerned for the security of our property.
We would like the festivals to be cancelled altogether or at the very least restricted to only one festival a year - for Charity only.

From:
Sent: 08 May 2021 17:45
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 08/05/2021 5:45 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Hertford Sg14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer objects to the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 08/05/2021 5:45 PM We live near the event site with our 2 young children and are very worried at the growing number of events that are happening at Waterbridge. We are concerned about antisocial behaviour and drug use/alcohol and cannot help but feel the location is entirely unsuited due to no nearby footpaths or street lighting... this may lead to festival goers wandering dangerously on the surrounding country lanes and disturbing residents. our summer weekends will be hugely disrupted and the few routes out of our property will undoubtedly be clogged with traffic. What we thought was one annual charity family friendly event has now snowballed to multiple events with alcohol served throughout. This cannot be good news for local residents who came to this beautiful area for peace and escape from the usual antisocial problems of town life.

From:
Sent: 06 May 2021 18:44
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 06/05/2021 6:43 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Hertford SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 06/05/2021 6:43 PM
We are nearby neighbours of the festival site living in . We have tolerated all the issues which a large musical festival poses, with the noise levels being the overriding intrusion factor for us, for the 10 years we have lived here because Wilkestock has been a charity raising event for a good cause. However, the noise, in particular the bass notes, vibrate in our bedroom when we are in bed and sometimes continue well into the night. In addition, the music travels during the day over the entire weekend and is disruptive, especially if we have visitors. Indeed, we often try to be away for the weekend because of the disruption. There are, of course, environmental issues associated with such large events. We feel that 3 separate festivals this year over the Summer months is excessive noise intrusion at the very time of year we are likely to need our windows open and spend a lot of time outdoors with guests, especially if most of the events are purely commercial. If we need to be away during those months, accommodation costs are high. In any case, we shouldn't have to feel forced to go

away in order to get a good night's sleep. In summary, we object to licence being given to the landowners for multiple annual music festivals as the location is too close to many other residential properties

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 29 April 2021 12:29
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Categories:

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 29/04/2021 12:29 PM from

Application Summary

Address:	Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal:	Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:	

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	
Email:	
Address:	Watton At Stone Hertford, Hertfordshire
	SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour
Stance:	Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	29/04/2021 12:29 PM - The litter along the lanes and Walkern Road is atrocious - walking our dogs around Festival time we've spotted and collected in bin bags, various items of litter, drinks cans, crisp packet wrappers, bottles etc - the increase in litter is clear after a Waterbridge event. This was despite the Wilkes' reassurance that people were employed to clear up local litter after the events. They clearly did not do a very good job, if at all. - We have also witnessed the scattering of hundreds of empty/used nitrous oxide canisters along the edge of the roads/lanes following a Waterbridge event. We've taken photos of these and sent them to Environmental Health along with our objections.

- There's always an increased amount of traffic travelling to/from the site in Walkern Road and High Elms Lane.
- We do not need an events site here in Watton at Stone/Aston. There is already another local site, much more suitably located, at Knebworth House, Stevenage. This is a venue for Festivals, concerts, open air cinemas etc. It is away from local housing so doesn't disturb neighbours/residents and it is situated adjacent to the A1. Much easier and safer for people to travel to/attend without disturbing local residents.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 29 April 2021 12:28
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Categories:

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 29/04/2021 12:28 PM from

Application Summary

Address:	Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal:	Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:	

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	
Email:	
Address:	, Watton At Stone Hertford, Hertfordshire
	SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour
Stance:	Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	29/04/2021 12:28 PM - We have to sleep with our bedroom windows closed on warm summer nights to try to shut out the noise coming from the 'Festivals'. - We have had to go away for the weekend when we know a Festival is taking place or avoid having a garden party/friends over on the same weekend as one of the Festivals. - People wander along Walkern Road, looking for the Festival site. We've had people knocking on our front door, asking us if we know where Wilkestock is. We have worried about the vulnerability of our property and put our outside garden furniture away on occasions. - This is a rural area - there are no street lights and no pavements. It is a safety concern that

event/festival goers are wandering along unlit streets after dark. Seeing the litter evidence of alcohol cans/bottles and empty nitrous oxide canisters along the lanes during and following events these event/festival goers are probably drunk/high when walking to/from the events and this exacerbates the danger to them and also to vehicles driving along the lanes.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 08 May 2021 12:15
To:
Subject: [External] Waterbridge 4-acre site Licence Review

Hello

I am trying to make a representation on the East Herts Licensing webpage in relation to the above licence review but keep receiving error messages. I know am not the only person to have experienced difficulties. It shows no comments have been made when I know a number of my neighbours believe they have submitted comments.

I am very concerned that other members of the public will either think they have submitted comments when they have not or give up trying to submit. PLEASE WILL YOU SORT THIS OUT.

Below are my comments which I am sending to you because I cannot upload them on your site.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email and the comments therein and let me know what you are doing to make the site work.

Regards



Your



Search ▾

My Profil

Licensing – Applicat

Error while submit

- Your comments could

Comments :

I am grateful for the opportunity to raise concerns over the number and conduct of events at the Waterbridge site. Living where we do, we are prime recipients of all the forms of noise, traffic and disruption the events bring.

I think it is very important to remind ourselves of the context of the way events at Waterbridge have unfolded.

I do not believe the site is suitable for events of any sort such as this but Wilkestock was the original, small, family-based event held for charitable reasons.

However, in 2012, the application for a licence was made which doubled the numbers attending each event ; quadrupled the numbers of attendees annually ; and brought about a six-fold increase in the number of festival nights. We (along with many others) raised our objections with the Licensing Committee when the application was made for this significant escalation. Despite the unsuitability of the site the licence was granted.

As a result of this extension, Hoggsozzle was instituted and ran over the entire May Bank holiday. Mr Wilkes sought to justify this event to me, at least, as a quasi-charitable event where the profits made were used to defer the costs of Wilkestock so allowing more money to go to charity. At this time I was assured by Mr Wilkes that there would be no further events.

Then the mid-summer event Back of Beyond was added. Apart from being contrary to Mr Wilkes assurance of no further events this is a full scale, raw, commercial event.

I wrote to the Licensing Committee at the time and summed up the dangers and difficulties thus

Traffic - I understand Frogmore Hill was closed which meant a very great deal of the traffic entering and leaving the site travelled down the Walkern Road. It was ridiculously busy, and so dangerous, as the road is simply not fit for this volume of traffic. We are particularly aware of this as there is a 'pinch point' directly outside our house. It was plainly dangerous for attendees making their way on foot as there are no pavements and site lines are often very poor (I will not walk my dog up or down the road even on a normal day for these reasons). Also, sign-posting must have been inadequate as a good number of vehicles cut through the single track, private drive of Frogmore Hall from the A602 to the Walkern Road and so past the front of our house. [One of the reasons this site is unsuitable is that it has no reasonable access to public transport which is why so many attendees must walk or drive.]

Rubbish - festival goers left a variety of rubbish along the road : glass bottles, cans, crisp packets, sandwich boxes, plastic bottles but most disturbingly, drug paraphenalia including helium canisters and the ballons used to inhale this (we saw a number of revelers inhaling as they passed our house). I am particualrly concerned about broken glass and of course if wildlife (or my dog) got hold of these latter items, it could be fatal.

Noise - particularly when the wind comes from the North West, I find it very difficult to believe noise levels were within proscribed limts at all times (I presume they are monitored during the event?). As crude as my noise meter may be it registered levels over 100dcb at times during Saturday afternoon. Overall, the continuous beat throughout the weekend and early into the mornings is extremely disturbing and tiring.

My daughter whose bedroom is adjacent to the road was kept awake by walkers leaving the event making a very great deal of noise from 2am to 3:30am approximately on Sunday morning (despite her being deaf in one ear!)

In summation, I regard the Waterbridge site as being quite unsuitable for these events. They are disturbing to local residents and dangerous both to residents and attendees. There are much more suitable venues where sound, traffic and transport concerns would make so much less of an impact on local residents and provide much greater levels of convenience and safety to attendees. It is my understanding that I am certainly not the only local resident to feel this way and to have raised objections to events.

Walkern Road

Watton-at-Stone

Hertford

SG14 3

Sent from my iPad

Subject: Wilkestock

Date: 30 April 2021 at 11:53:33 BST

To:

My concerns are:

The roads running from the outskirts of Watton at Stone to the festival fields are unlit (or poorly lit) with large stretches that have no curb or footpath. This is forcing the festival attendees on foot to walk in the middle of the roads, sometimes three or four abreast. The roads are also quite winding with poor visibility for the drivers at the curves or inclines. I am concerned that there will be an increased risk of accidents relating to the increased numbers of pedestrians walking in the roads due to the festivals especially if these pedestrians have chosen to walk not drive because they are either drinking alcohol or high.

The festival goers who are walking to the event or driving along the Walkern Road appear to be disposing of rubbish including glass bottles, beer cans, crisp packets, plastic water bottles and in some cases drug paraphernalia in the bushes lining these roads. Our community is made up of a mix of age groups including family groups with children. I am concerned that festival attendees may throw their litter into gardens as well as along the roadside all the way along the Walkern Road from Watton to the festival fields causing risk of injury to children and/or pets from broken glass etc.

At the end of the last festival I went out several times with a black bin liner and gloves and collected as much litter as I could from the roads around my house.

With the large increase of attendees from outside of the local area attending we are concerned about our own security. We do not want an increased amount of people walking across our front lawn because they are getting lost on the way to the event.

The noise from the festivals held in the warmer months is becoming increasingly annoying. This is because we have our windows and patio doors open when it is warm and can hear the music constantly.

Originally when we moved in we spoke to local people and they gave us the impression that there was a music event held once a year and this was a charitable event in memory of a family member who had sadly passed.

We respectfully decided not to complain and we still feel that we are happy to turn a blind eye and ear to one charitable event raising money and awareness for a good cause. However, we have since learnt that recently this is not always the case. That some events are now being run by different names - HogSozzle, BOB FSTVL and appear to be held for private profitable reasons. In this case I object to the ever increasing frequency and size of the events.

I object strongly to this getting out of hand and can foresee that someone could get injured or killed on the roads or a child in one of the houses locally hurt by the discarded broken glass or worse by coming into contact with the discarded items relating to drug use.

This page is intentionally left blank

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 10:03
To:
Subject: [External] FW: Wilkestock

Sent from my Galaxy

To whom it may concern

My name is Mrs , Formerly of , Frogmore Hill. SG14 3 .

I am writing this email in support of the festivals which take place at the home of the Wilkes family, Waterbridge, SG14 3RR.

For 8 and a half years, myself and my children had the pleasure of living next door to this wonderful venue. My children and myself have been active volunteers at all the festivals that have taken place on the site. The festivals are extremely well organised, always taking into account the local population and surroundings. The festivals are well managed, security is absolutely excellent. The organisers manage these festivals with dedication, love and expertise.

Living in cottages which backs on to the venue we never experienced any problems or causes for concerns, this was due to the diligence of the Wilkes family and the experienced team of security that they employ to police the festivals. The noise levels have never been an issue as the team ensure that the levels are monitored regularly, and music is ceased at the designated time, everytime as per their licence. The team have excellent procedures in place to manage these events, this is a great platform for local artists to perform and be enjoyed by the wider communities.

Parking is well organised and safely managed and monitored at all times day and night as is access to the site with train and taxi services being available too.

My son, my daughter and myself have always helped at these festivals, working in the ticket booth and behind the bar area. Working in the ticket booth I had the pleasure of meeting all the guests as they arrived from far and wide and the attendees were fantastic, polite, courteous and respectful, we never experienced any issues.

The festivals were born from a tragedy this family experienced, and whole local area felt this tragedy too, hence the reason that the local community fervently support these events.

The Wilkes family are respected members of the community. They are very active participants in keeping the local area clean and tidy throughout the year not only at the time of the events.

These festivals are in my opinion, well run, well organised, well managed and sympathetic to the location and local community.

I hope my comments above show how myself, my family and many of the locals feels about these events. Even though we no longer live next door we return each year to support these events.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 11 May 2021 11:27
To:
Subject: [External] Wilkestock license.

From , Frogmore Hill, Herts, SG143

I and my family have lived right next door to the festival site for nearly 4 years and we have never had anything but positive experiences. We are in our 50s and 60s, our children in their 20s and we attended each day without see any problems and felt very relaxed. Security was always very visible and people of all ages were enjoying the fantastic atmosphere and great music. When we were sat in our garden there were security and festival personnel constantly visible throughout the day and night. We brought a number of friends along of similar ages to ourselves and children ranging from early to late teens and they were all happy to let their children wander as they pleased. The festival has been very well organised with road closures and a one way system preventing traffic jams with plenty of parking. Many local businesses participate and benefit from the festival and local as well as international artists get to perform. Because the festival is a charity event it creates a great community atmosphere and has allowed us to get to know people we otherwise might never have met. Transport to and from the event for non locals from train stations via taxis is very efficient and provides safe access. First aid accessibility (for a blister, too much dancing for my daughter!) was great. The work done post festival to return the site to normal is exceptional, its an area we walk on and no trace is left! If the festival is cancelled it will be a blow on so many levels for the local community and the charities that receive funding from it. Most especially for us it would be sad to see an event cancelled that we, our children, their friends and many of our friends look forward to all year.

Sent from my iPad

From:
Sent: 07 May 2021 15:00
To:
Subject: [External] 21/0239/PLR | Review - Premises Licence | Not Available | Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR

Importance: High

Good Afternoon,

I would like to express my support for the Wilkestock event site, which is a stone's throw away from where I live in , Aston.

The event means a huge amount to myself and my family. I worked at the festival for the first time in 2011, my grandparents (believe it or not) attended in 2012, we stayed with them and walked to the festival and the family hasn't missed a year since.

Personally, I have had the pleasure in being involved as a trader (catering) and as a visitor, given the amount of live events we attend each year, this is by far one of the most well organised and enjoyable events in our calendar.

In recent years the capacity of the event has clearly increased, the routes into and out of the festival have evolved into what is now a one way system that runs past my house and again the staff are so accommodating, we have security at the end of our road and they are always on hand for any concerns. We see minimum disruption during the event weekends. On occasion I have had to drive to the site when part of the catering team and parked in their site carpark. This is always straightforward and without any hold ups. Generally the villagers walk to and from the site, which is easily accessible via the lanes.

Because its local, there are a large amount of attendees who are from the village or the neighbouring towns, every year we see familiar faces and are always met with a friendly team of volunteers, often working in exchange for a free ticket. I know this is a huge hit with the locals.

The festival has done a great job at maintaining its family feel despite the capacity increases and its always great to see the support it has for the local artists and organisations. This is a really important platform for up and coming artists as well as established ones and really shows off what Hertfordshire has to offer. There is so much there for children and its wonderful to see them dressed up getting involved. The security team are brilliant on site which is so important, there is definitely a strong emphasis on safety and control while the rest of us have a fabulous time.

Given the lack of events this past year, I think it's so important we keep these local events alive and I know myself and my family would throw our support to this event going ahead in a heartbeat.

Kind regards,

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 21:32
To:
Subject: [External] Wilkstock, Waterbridge, Frogmore Hill, Watton at Stone, Hertford

I'm writing to support the premises licence for Wilkstock, Hoggsozzle and other events held on-site at Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR.

I have submitted my support through the official channels but their comments section has a very limited character count and does not allow for me to express fully all the ways I feel Wilkstock, the event site and management team work hard to create engaging, well organised and safe events for everyone to enjoy. This is why I have opted to send this email as well.

I have known the licensee, management team, Festival/s and site for 6 years now having been introduced to them when I decided to hire the site back in 2015 for my Festival Wedding 2016.

I, myself have been working in the live events and charity sectors for the past 14 years and have experience in running Music, Arts and Skateboarding Festivals for a charity I used to run, project managing community festivals for local authorities, local charities and for the Bucks Music Trust of whom, I also work for. I have run large scale events in town centres and also at the Royal Albert Hall. I have also volunteered at Wilkstock Festival assisting them with the site and volunteer management. With this experience, I can honestly say that Wilkstock is a very well-run event that puts the safety of its staff and attendees at the forefront of everything they do. The event has been running for a good many year's and I know both from experience and from witnessing how's things are organised at events on-site that the experience the team have gained over those years is invaluable to them and in which they use to run events in a safe and well-planned manner.

In my volunteer role with the organisation in question, I was able to see and be involved in first-hand how staff, attendees and artists access the site, how they are directed to where they need to go to include parking (which is very well organised), camping and how to move around the site safely. This is done most efficiently and safely with the communication being clear and concise for everyone, which is why it works so well. I can also say how good their security team are, in which I have dealt with a good many different security companies over the years and the security team they use in their events are particularly good both at communication with management and the event team as a whole, communicating with attendees in a friendly and supportive manner but I have seen them deal with small incidents which were dealt with in a very professional way which meant things were dealt with safely and without escalation which is extremely important.

In terms of Health and Safety, I have always found the documentation they provide to be well planned, thorough, concise and to the point making it clear to understand what is expected from those working on-site and how we keep staff, performers, traders and attendees safe. I remember also being very impressed with their plans for emergencies, evacuations and access for the emergency services. This is exactly what you want from an event site!

The other point I would like to put to you is in sound management which is always something that comes up as can affect the surrounding environment and community. Mr Wilkes has spent a lot of time and money perfecting how this is managed and managed it is, effectively. This is done using

sound insulating materials to create the stage areas, this material (Straw bales & Tents) works as an excellent insulator and is well maintained by the management team. Sound is also monitored regularly, all sound engineers are briefed on sound limitations and safety, stage times are staggered, and careful consideration is taken on what times music on each stage ends to be the most considerate to neighbours whilst still being able to maintain a good level of event integrity for an event of this type.

In my opinion, it would be a great shame to lose this Festival and event site. A festival that has raised so much money for well-deserving charities which also have a very personal connection to the management team. A festival that supports not only large-scale successful artists but unsigned and local artists too, they do this so well that BBC Introducing has been involved which is a sign of how well thought of this festival is in the industry and how it puts Stevenage on the map! The events on-site not only support artists but also local businesses such as concessions and traders too but also local taxi firms, lighting, sound and staging companies.

The last point I would like to make is this, Mr Wilkes and the management team have worked incredibly hard, spent a lot of their own money to raise money over many years to build an organisation that runs a very successful Charity Music Festival, supports new and upcoming Festivals and events, perfecting how each one is organised to the best possible standard. Not to approve their licence at this stage would be devastating not only to them after all their hard work, but to the music, festival and live events industry which has already taken such a hard hit over the last year and a half, but it would be a massive loss to the local community, charity sector and musicians that rely on events here to grow and develop.

Let them have their licence, work with them in a positive way to ensure events on-site continue to be run effectively, safely and for the enjoyment of the many thousands of people that have been loyal attendees for so long and for those who wish to enjoy the events in the future.

Kind regards,

Management Services
Music Management, Projects & Events

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 19:15
To:
Subject: [External] Wilkestock, Waterbridge license representation

08.05.21

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to show my support for the Waterbridge event site.

I have had the pleasure of both volunteering and attending the site on a number of occasions and events.

Safeguarding and welfare are always at the front of my mind as a teacher and have always felt safe and at ease throughout. Security is always visible and so friendly and accommodating. The environment is so welcoming especially when so many of the locals are there to ensure an enjoyable experience.

My husband volunteers for one of the events and has often commented that the one way road system has really worked well to get people on and off the site efficiently.

I also run the team of volunteers for one of the festivals. My role involves managing all the different jobs and coordinating them on the day. One role involves litter-pickers, which are deployed at peak times alongside the paid litter pickers. Their role involves patrolling both the site and the car park, which supports the litter contractor who also monitor the litter in the surrounding areas outside festival grounds.

Having worked at the front gate of Wilkestock I have been impressed with how SRM Security handled difficult customers, sensitively and with the customers welfare in mind. I have seen them call taxis, and family and friends for customers that required that. Their ability to de-fuse difficult situations is outstanding.

I truly love volunteering for Tom Wilkes. I genuinely think that Tom is a good man, with a superb family, who work tirelessly to raise money and feel honoured to be part of his team.

I would be happy for you to contact me if you wish.

Kind regards,

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 May 2021 16:30
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [External] 21/0239/PLR | Review - Premises Licence | Waterbridge Frogmore Hill
Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR

For the attention of East Herts Council Team,

I am [REDACTED], Managing Director of WaveCo productions LTD. We have been trading for several years, and my personal career has spanned over 15 years in the live events industry. I have personally worked worldwide, at most of the UK's major festivals and at notable events such as the Queen's Jubilee, the Olympics and multiple music tours.

We provide the vast majority of sound, light and video production for all of Tom Wilkes events at Frogmore hill. We have developed a strong working relationship since 2010. Wilkestock is usually the last festival of the season and a staple in our calendar.

Wilkestock provides up to 20 of our staff a weeks work, multiple times a year, and it is essential that the arts and events industry makes a recovery after the devastating effects of the pandemic. We are keen to make sure that events continue here as people's lively hoods are at stake.

Not only do the festivals and events organised at Frogmore provide entertainment for thousands of people, but it's an incredible platform for the talented graduates of Hertfordshire University for which we have a strong connection and find a great stepping stone into the world of events and creative arts.

I have always considered the management of the events on this site to be well organised. [REDACTED] and Tom Work constantly throughout the year to make sure all eventualities are considered. They are truly committed to the improvement of the site and the experience of participants.

The festival site and surrounding areas are kept clean, we are usually the first onsite, and we have found everything in great working order with all facilities in place and up to industry safety standards, and we are usually the last to leave where the site is left as we found it.

The Traffic management is well thought out, giving suppliers and vendors separate access to the guests. Traffic wardens provide directions and ensure spaces are used to maximum effect.

Frogmore is in a great location for all the local communities, making it an accessible and affordable event for the community to participate in. There are buses, trains and taxis available to all the surrounding boroughs and beyond.

My general observations onsite are the security is enforceable of site rules but polite, the safety of the participants has never been in question, and I've never witnessed anything to suggest otherwise. Wilkestock is a favourite amongst our team of freelancers because the festival provides a safe and enjoyable experience, and this is obvious when walking amongst the audience.

We would be happy to provide any further comments or evidence to help this event go ahead this year and beyond.

Thank you

From:
Sent: 10 May 2021 12:32
To:
Subject: [External] Wilkestock Festival

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regards to the review on the Wilkestock premises licence.

I have been involved with Wilkestock for 6 years now. Having first visited Wilkestock as a customer, I fell in love with the atmosphere, the music and the whole experience. The next year I came back to volunteer, and the year after, and the year after that... For me in particular, Wilkestock was the place that made me fall in love with festivals and inspired me to work in the music events industry. Wilkestock facilitated my career by giving me invaluable volunteer experience, which later was a factor that helped me to get my first job in the industry. I have worked all sorts of roles at Wilkestock Festival, ranging from a car park attendant, all the way to managing the main stage. At the heart of everything Wilkestock does and of the utmost importance to us is our community's safety. From the moment people arrive, we do everything we can to ensure public safety - from thorough searches on entrance to crowd control when exiting. There is always a strong presence of security, staff and volunteers on site and in particular near the entrance/exit to facilitate safety where the roads are concerned - I notice every year that particularly great care is taken when customers are leaving the festival - lots of staff on hand to guide and very heavy traffic management, which is also helped by the one way traffic system that is implemented and works incredibly well to keep everybody safe.

Wilkestock may be a grassroots event, but everybody involved is nothing except extremely professional. We have experienced industry professionals running all aspects of the event, from H&S to stage production and everything in between. As someone who works in event production, I am familiar with having to keep up with all health & safety measures in most areas of my work. As the manager of the main stage at Wilkestock, it has always been made very clear to me the importance of all safety regulations and what I need to do to ensure that they are met. This includes checking the DB reader to ensure noise levels are appropriate, regular checks of wind levels, keeping the backstage area clear enough for a fire-truck to turn around in the event of a fire, and many more policies that are too long to list here. It is strictly professional personnel only backstage so that we can assure our performers, crew, and also the public are all safe. Having a job in live production, a lot of my knowledge is centred around health and safety. I am confident that the appropriate H&S measures are implemented not only backstage but also on the site in general. As somebody who regularly works many different festivals and events, I can safely say that Wilkestock is easily the safest one I work every year and one of the best thought-out and organised events.

As no doubt you are aware, the past year and a half have been absolutely devastating to the music industry worldwide. Events like Wilkestock are absolutely integral to the music industry. All the artists that tour worldwide have all started out playing grassroots events just like Wilkestock. Festivals like Wilkestock play an invaluable contribution to the grassroots music scene, providing great experiences for those wanting to break into the industry, from performing artists to people who want to work behind the scenes, and giving customers a weekend that they will never forget. The sheer number of people that we get coming back to the festival every year is testament to what an amazing event Wilkestock is and what a huge part it plays in our community. The event this year is absolutely crucial to help artists, industry people and the local community to get back on their feet after the extremely difficult times that we have faced recently, and all the while raising money for some incredibly great causes. I know there will be a lot of disappointed people if Wilkestock were not to return this year after such a long wait.

Kind regards,

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 21:36
To:
Subject: [External] 21/0239/PLR | Review - Premises Licence

I am writing to advocate premises license renewal at Waterbridge, SG14 3RR. For 8.5 years between the age of 12 and 20, (now 24) I lived next door to the site with an adjoined garden. I volunteered setting up the site and worked on the bar when I turned 18.

The festivals were well planned and ran without a hitch year after year. The organisers have a genuine interest in local stakeholders and go above and beyond to ensure the festivals are operationally and logically managed to minimise impact. I even remember them investing in excess Heras fencing to enclose our drive so that cars wouldn't park on it. This communal interest was also evident in the lineup and catering scheduling where the events provided a platform for local traders and artists.

The parking facilities were well signposted from all directions with good access for taxis. The opening hours of the entrance gate also allows for a staggered entry of festival goers - minimising traffic.

Furthermore, I was personally involved in building the hay-bail sound reduction walls for all late stages - which living next door - works.

That said, the music volume would be reduced and then turned off as per the aforementioned times (which was pre-agreed with all local residents via an information sheet - personally distributed by the organisers). The site itself, is well built, spacious and fully enclosed with fencing. There are security posts covering all potential access points ensuring good visibility throughout the stages and camping area. I also assisted in the daily clear-up of the site and surrounding area for litter, which, having attended similar festivals (and credit to the attendees) was always minimal.

To summarise; I have nothing but positive memories; assisting, attending and living next to the festivals and would strongly advise anyone to attend. The atmosphere and seamless organisation of the events are a testament to the hard work and charitable efforts of and the Wilkes family.

Best regards,

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 23:47
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 11:47 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Stevenage SG20

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 11:47 PM To whom it may concern.

I am submitting this document supporting the Wilkestock premises to continue trading and delivering these fantastic events. I am a 29-year-old sound and lighting technician and have worked at several the events held at the premises and cannot speak highly enough about them and the team that work so hard to deliver these events to a very high professional standard. These events give a fantastic platform for local bands and artists to showcase their music and have the chance to play on the same stage as some of their idols. Not only is this a fantastic opportunity for local bands but it is also an attraction for members of the public from the local area and families to attend such a safe and friendly event. On the occasions in which I haven't been working on these events I have taken my children myself and they did not stop talking about how much they enjoyed it for weeks after. Wilkestock has been shortlisted in competitions for best small festival which I think speaks for itself.

The event is held at a fantastic location and the ease of access to the site is second to none. The one-way traffic system that is implemented each year is full proof and ran very effectively. The event management team are fantastic and incredibly thorough with all aspects of health and safety and the security team follow this high standard also. The site is incredibly clean, and the attendees are very respectful of the area too.

If these events were to stop happening, I believe this would be such a loss not only to the local community but also to the workforce and local business that these events help to support, and I know for myself it would be such a shame to not be involved in what is one of my favourite events to work each year.

I do hope that my comments are read and taken on board, and I hope to see this site continue to produce fantastic events and continue their growth.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 22:33
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 10:32 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Codicote Hitchin SG48

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 10:32 PM I fully support that the live music events should remain. I have attended every year since the first concert, as I am a friend of the family. Myself & other members of my family have volunteered over the years with car parking duties & ensuring the site is free of litter. The events are extremely well organised & supervised by security personnel, who are trained in first aid. I have never witnessed antisocial behaviour & believe this small scale festival has such a friendly & safe ambience, that it ensures people of all ages want to attend. As it is in a rural location, adequate lighting units are in operation after dark, in public areas such as toilet blocks, campsites, car parks, entrances & food & beverage areas. The opportunity to further a career in music is how some have started after performing at a concert at the site. It also supports local businesses who sell refreshments to festival guests. Furthermore, the charities that benefit after all expenses are paid have always participated with

volunteers giving their time to ensure everyone has a safe & enjoyable time.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 21:29
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 9:28 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: South Circular Road Dublin D08 E

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 9:28 PM To whom it may concern,

I have enjoyed my time during one of the festivals held at Waterbridge, Frogmore. It was such a positive, friendly atmosphere with a good, interesting crowd.

It seemed to be well organised with a lot of effort made by the happy, helpful staff.

The venue was unique and exciting whilst maintaining a safe and clean environment for attendees.

I am Surprised and disappointed to hear the license is up for review as I felt the whole event was ran well and safely.

I hope future events continue to operate at this site. I would happily come back to attend

events held here in the future.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 21:05
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 9:04 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Newport TF10 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 9:04 PM I am a sixty six year old retired secondary school teacher. I have attended the Wilkestock Festival with my family on two occasions. I have also attended several similar outdoor music festivals elsewhere. In my experience Wilkestock has been a thoroughly enjoyable weekend's entertainment in support of worthwhile causes.
Throughout my two visits the car parking arrangements, security, marshalling and catering arrangements have been excellent. The festival site is thoughtfully configured affording good views of the stages whilst also minimising noise from the site e.g. main stage sound system was directed towards the sloping hillside of the site's owner.
The diligent organisation and strong management of Wilkestock Festival does much to help ensure it is a friendly and memorable occasion.

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 20:53
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 8:52 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: 10 Enfield En3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 8:52 PM
I support the events of wilkestock I attend the amazing charity festival every year and support what they do, When I first started going to the festival I only lived down the road, I now live in London and still make sure I attend the charity festival every year it's on, some of my friends also support this festival and help them raise funds by playing and volunteering for the weekend. I'm now 25 and have been going to this site for the last 6-7 years and each year it gets better. I think this charity festival is amazing in many ways one being the fact it's charity based, the fact many local businesses can also operate here with their little stalls and vans to also help build themselves while also helping the charity. I love the fact it's also a platform for artists and helps them go further when spotted on the day/weekend and gives them the support they need. The organisation of the festival is amazing, all the security are well organised and also very helpful! The layout of the charity festival is great the car park is also on site and well organised i.e parking places, parking attendants are very helpful and

everything is very well signed posted, the festival is very clean and tidy and the litter clearance is amazing there are always plenty people going round making sure the site is clean and tidy and generally there to help anyone that has lost anything or just lost in general, it's a great site to get to especially for cars, taxis or even a train ride it's very well organised ! I can say it's my favourite charity event of the year I love everything about this it ! They help so many people and always go above and beyond for everyone!

I always feel safe and know all my belongings and car will be safe for the whole weekend the security are always there watching and keeping an eye out for everyone, I also love the fact there are many activities for the children as well as adults! I love Wilkestock and fully suppo

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 20:48
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 8:48 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Stevenage Sg2 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 8:48 PM I fully support the festival to keep going. It is a place full of many happy memories for my wife and I. Also my god children when it is family day on a Sunday. The event is a great opportunity for new artist to showcase themselves and to also bring like minded people together to enjoy the music.
The security is spot on and the commitment from all parties that go into making the festival run smoothly and without issues is amazing. Year on year they ensure it is a safe environment, ensuring there is no trouble. On the Sunday children are allowed to attend and the experience for them cannot be imagined but experienced which is a beautiful thing. The effort that goes onto this little festival year on year is just amazing.
We have been going for many years and wish for this to continue

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 20:34
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 8:34 PM from

Application Summary

Address:	Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal:	Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:	

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	
Email:	
Address:	, Benington Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG2 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	14/05/2021 8:34 PM Dear Sir or Madam

I write in support of granting a license for Wilkestock and other events at Waterbridge, run by Tom Wilkes. I hope that you will grant the license because I have taken my family to Wilkestock for many years, and it is something that we as a family have enjoyed immensely. It is a family friendly event, and feels safe and extremely well run. The Wilkestock event raises a lot of money for charity, and in so doing gives musicians and bands a stage to play on, and gives the local families and music lovers a lot of pleasure in attending.

Having been for many years to Wilkestock I am very impressed by the manner in which it is run. The stewards and workers at the event are very helpful, they run the parking and entrance very efficiently, and the site is always clear of rubbish and tidy. I know that the fields where the parking and camping take place are cleared of any rubbish efficiently and the

farmers are happy to put their horses and cows back into those fields soon after the event for grazing.

It is an event that many locals enjoy, it is one of the nicest music events around, and is so good for the local and further afield musicians, for the local food and drink providers, and for many local businesses. It is a well placed event and is enjoyed by everyone, so I hope that you grant the license for these events to continue. Thank you for your time. Best wishes.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 19:50
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 7:50 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 9

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 7:50 PM We would like to say how much fun attending this festival is! On the whole attendees are very friendly & well behaved & just out to enjoy themselves. Signage as you approach the site is very good & the one way system onto & off of the site although seemingly lengthy, does seem to work well & to be much safer on the country roads. We have always been pleased to see a very visible security presence & when we have spoken to security personnel they have been polite & helpful. We have witnessed what seems to be well-being staff who are there to help if people need it & other staff who trouble shoot in a quick, professional & considerate manner. At the end of the evening all staff appear to join forces to ensure a quick, effective & safe exit from the site. We feel entirely at ease at Wilkestock festival & having had to miss it last year, we cannot wait for it to happen later this year!

NEED the help from Organisations such as Wilkestock and the Volunteers that help give their time and energy to make a difference. From a stage management point the music appeals to a verity of ages and encourages a mixture of people the sound levels are adhered to and safety in and around are paramount. There is always something new to learn in every situation and improvements to make. Meetings are held amount us all, allowing recommendations for improvements to be made. Long may Wilkestock continue!!! Many of us would be lost without it .

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 18:25
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 6:24 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Aston Stevenage SG2 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 6:24 PM I would like to register my support for Wilkstock festivals to continue. I am a local resident in my 50's and have helped out each year ever since the festivals have been running. My son also works for the Festival which is a much needed income for him as a university student. These are very well and safely organised events. They create a community wide connection and help local businesses to continue and for some thrive. Many Aston residents help out with the organisation of the festivals knowing the benefits of these events help worthwhile charities. There are plenty of helpers available to help with car Parking of which there is plenty, directing traffic, surveying the area for any assistance if required and monitoring the well-being of festival goers. My whole family attend as they feel very safe due to the organisation and we have never witness any disruption or negativity, it's such a friendly atmosphere enjoyed by many and it would be a terrible loss if they had to be cancelled. Obviously during the pandemic, the right choice was to cancel all events nationwide and the one thing, we as a village, missed the most was the gathering to organise and helping out at

Wilkestock. Please register my support for the festivals to continue.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 18:25
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 6:24 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Benington Stevenage SG2 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 6:24 PM I am writing in support of Wilkstock Charity music festival. I own farm land adjacent to the site and have two let cottages and a let farm house bordering the site. None of my tenants have ever complained of disturbance, inconvenience or litter during the whole time that the festival has been run. I let Mr Wilks use a meadow for camping without payment because the festival is for charity and it is always immaculate after the festival has finished as are all the surrounding areas. It would be a terrible shame if Wilkstock did not go ahead because it is a well loved and well run family festival which has raised nearly £100,000 for charity and has never caused any problems for those who live closest to it.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 18:23
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 6:22 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Radwinter Road Ashdon cb10 2lz

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 6:22 PM I support this application for the following reasons.
The event is over one weekend and has steadily grown over the years with a very loyal following. Many people including myself go year after year due to the excellent value and enjoyment it provides.
I am sure that there is an element of excessive noise for the few nearby residents, but when you balance the charitable contributions generated by the event, I don't think that this is significant enough an issue to refuse this application. Refusing this application will remove the viability of the event and the good achieved for the various charities, all of whom will have suffered over the last year or so.
I understand concern has been raised about pedestrian safety; the provision of a camp site shows that the event organisers have already considered this and provided a reasonable control measure as far as they are able to do so. The car parks are well organised and controlled by clearly identifiable marshals. Individuals can also arrange vehicular transport

away from the site.

Individuals must take some responsibility for themselves and plan around such hazards. Common sense tells any individual that walking along an unlit, narrow country lane without a torch is hazardous and indeed foolhardy. There is no way to prevent pedestrians choosing to walk along these routes, whether they are ramblers, walkers or festival attendees.

Many thanks

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 18:05
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 6:04 PM from

Application Summary

Address:	Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal:	Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:	Brad Wheeler

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	Mr William Chappell
Email:	
Address:	Great Sampford CB10 2

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	14/05/2021 6:04 PM I am writing in full support of events at Frogmore Hill. I have worked at the site for 3 summers. The events that are put on at the site provide me with paid seasonal work, allowing me to be financially stable at University. I have volunteered Wilkestock every year since 2015. The festival is responsible for many of my fondest memories growing up. Many of my family members attend the festival each year. The event is truly able to cater to all age groups and is incredibly family-friendly. The festival is beneficial to the community. Situated with brilliant train links, and taxi access to the site, the festival draws people from around the country, and the World! It provides local food vendors with a prosperous weekend. Charities such as 'Anthony Nolan' have been able to set up stalls, leading to a big uplift in donations. In 2019 I signed up to become a stem cell donor with Anthony Nolan, at Wilkestock! The festival also provides up-and-coming artists with a platform to gain exposure. Personally, at Wilkestock I have purchased albums following the festival on a number of occasions. Wilkestock also caters to artists who are just starting

off, giving them the confidence they need.

The festival itself is a Charity music festival with 100% of profits going to charity, benefitting wider society. Notably, the festival donates to Keswick Mountain Rescue, Bloodwise, and NAMT.

I have never experienced a case where safety could have been improved. Since working at the site, I have truly seen the lengths that are gone to ensure the safety of everyone at the festival.

The festival weekend is run incredibly well. One thing that struck me when I first began volunteering is the level of communication across the site. For inexperienced volunteers, there is always someone on hand to answer questions. This extends to fantastic parking facilities; easy access to the site; security; high-quality clean-up. Please don't shut it down!

Kind regards

From: publicaccess@eastherts.gov.uk
Sent: 14 May 2021 18:01
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 6:00 PM from Miss

Application Summary

Address:

Proposal: Review - Premises Licence

Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:

Email:

Address: BALDOCK SG7 6

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments: 14/05/2021 6:00 PM I have attended and volunteered at Wilkestock for many, many years. I first became involved when friends in the local community bought tickets, and I joined. The community spirit was evident throughout the weekend, so much so that I offered to volunteer the next year. Over the years, the Wilkestock family grew and it became a community event that more and more people looked forward to each year. I have met countless people who became friends, and have witnessed local people, both new and old to the area, form bonds with their neighbours through volunteering and attending events.

Events are always well organised, providing a safe and comfortable place for local people to get together and meet others.

Losing this site would be a huge loss to the local community. It has moved from strength to strength, only becoming more professional each year. There is a huge sense of achievement and pride from all I know that have worked these events. There has also been a great focus on personal and professional development, with Wilkestock giving opportunity to those who

are studying to work in the event industry to build on their skills in a supportive environment.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 17:58
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 5:57 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Stevenage SG2 8

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 5:57 PM Great site,
Well organised
Safe.
Needs to. Keep as is.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 17:44
To: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 5:44 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: High elms lane Watton-at-stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 5:44 PM I enjoyed Wilkestock's festival since I arrived in watton-at-stone 6 years ago.
I've been a part of the events supporting the cause as a participant and always felt safe .
During day times it happens that I went in the company of kids (between3 and 6 years old) and they loved it! Music and its related events is a part of my culture so I can't see the risk of crime in a festival more than in London streets.
Coming from a walking distance in daylights with buggies and families like at nights with friends was absolutely no trouble to reach home safely.
I also salute the management of the temporary car park as it's been impressively well organised (I've been on driving duty a couple of times, not drinking and bringing friends home) my car never been vandalised, damaged or even scratched like it will happen more

easily on supermarket's ones!!

Not once I find myself annoyed by any uncomfortable or risky situations.

Wilkestone is a great festival that shows an amazing security control; very respectable and professional. During the weekend you can witness their hard work to keep the wellbeing at his best on each levels;

to get in,

to stay in

and to get out!!

Bags search controls, surveillance to prevent improper or lewd acts...it's a summer festival , friendly and charitable,I had great memories of the it and I hope to be able to make even more.

NB

A festival is not a crime, crimes are individual's responsibility , please don't punish large groups of people who just want to enjoy a break, or can't afford bank holiday weekends away just for few unfair and unkind complains .

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 16:43
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 4:42 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Chatel 74390

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 4:42 PM I am a friend of the family & have volunteered at 3 events over the last 2 years of Wilkestock and Hogsozzle. I worked behind the main stage bar and helped with the set up and pack down of the events. Wilkestock has become a hugely popular family friendly event, with a mixture of ages attending to enjoy the 3 days of music provided by a mix of local & outside artists. It supports 2 charities, Bloodwise & Keswick Mountain Rescue, with all proceeds from the event being donated to the 2 organisations. The venue and events help promote small businesses & support the local & wider community, by offering a range of food & beverage services, artistic & creative outlets & hygiene facilities. The premise is in close proximity to outside businesses including accommodation, restaurants & taxi links. The site is well maintained & preserved, & managed with extreme care & respect for both those that attend, & those that live within close proximity. It's located well, with easy access to the local train station and taxi links. Car Parking is managed efficiently & safely & the team of security does a wonderful job of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all involved. The Wilkes family

has a passion for caring for the environment, with a large amount of thought and planning going into sourcing environmentally friendly products & managing waste efficiently. A huge number of volunteers come together each year to assist with the smooth running of these events. The venue & organised events provide many people with reliable seasonal work, a sense of purpose and something meaningful to be a part of. I have been continually impressed by the professionalism, planning & deep thought that goes into making the events run as smoothly, & safely as possible. The Wilkes family work tirelessly on the projects tied to their venue, & have a wealth of experience managing events. I would not hesitate to support them in all their endeavours.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 15:20
To: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 3:19 PM from Mr

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Radwinter Road Ashdon CB10 2

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 3:19 PM Wilkestock is a not for profit event that exists to raise funds for charity. This is a small scale festival that is well supported by locals and non-locals alike. I have attended the Wilkestock event on 3 occasions in the past 4 years and have always found that the staff take public safety and security very seriously.
In my experience the organisers actively encourage participants to camp over night and thus avoid travel at night-time.
The site is located in a field in a rural isolated location almost 2 miles outside of Stevenage. There are very few residential neighbours in the surrounding proximity to suffer from disturbance.
I recognise the concern over highway safety but this is a risk incurred from the behaviour of

private individuals contrary to the reasonable efforts from the organisers of Wilkestock to ensure public safety. There may be further steps that can be taken in consultation with the Hertfordshire Constabulary, and I would encourage such a pragmatic approach to be taken. I implore the Licensing committee to approve the renewal of a premises license.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 14:28
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 2:27 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: ML126

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 2:27 PM Ross MacEwan 30 years old sports coach
To whom it may concern.
I am writing in support of Wilksteock charity festival maintaining its license. I have worked at Wilkestock and seen firsthand the fantastic organisation and effort behind this festival.
Everything is clearly well organised from the moment you arrive. Parking is simple and easy. The ticketing and security check on entry was thorough and slick. The site itself is well maintained with great stages and bars.
The music is fantastic as is the general atmosphere. I am very surprised to hear that the license for a charitable music festival could be at risk.
When I attended wilkestock I gave my time for free and happily would again. The cause is

worthy. Everything was well run and therefore stress and hassle free. At no point did I feel unsafe. I enjoyed every moment.

Festivals like this provide great support to staff and musicians alike. Along with well thought out camping (hot showers & loads of bathrooms facilities) and security procedures I hope that wilkestock will be able to continue to operate and grow.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 14:25
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 2:25 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Great Sampford Saffron Walden CB10

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 2:25 PM I would like to offer my support to the above license. I have attended this event several times, not only with friends, but also family and children. I have always found it to be a wonderfully safe and inclusive environment for all age groups.
My son has worked at this event, firstly as a volunteer and latterly as paid crew. I first brought my daughter when she was 15, and I was confident that she was in a safe, well managed environment. It really is a family friendly event, the likes of which I haven't experienced before.
The security and all round management is second to none, and I have never witnessed any disorder or risk to safety. Additionally there is always a crew member in close proximity to assist with any queries or problems.
The campsite is well lit, safe and comfortable, with security guards on hand all the time. The cat park is large and well managed, making it easy and accessible. The site is kept clean and tidy by an army of volunteers and workers, and the food village offers a variety of reasonably

priced food.

Wilkestock is a fantastic platform for new and up and coming artists, as well as established and well known bands and DJs.

Lastly, and in my opinion, most importantly, this event is a non-profit charity event. over the last decade and more, Wilkestock has raised many tens of thousands of pounds for worthy charities. It would be an absolute travesty for the license to this well organised, safe, friendly, fund raising event to not be granted.

Yours sincerely

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 14:15
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 2:14 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Stevenage SG20

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 2:14 PM I have attended this event a few times now it is run very professionally and I can't fault the security on site. I have horses nearby on livery and have found that there is no disturbance at all to the horses you can't even here the live music. This is an excellent family event for both young and old and it would be very sad if this didn't continue to go ahead as previous years. I see no valid reason for this not to be granted.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 14:06
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 2:05 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Stevenage SG2 0

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 2:05 PM Fantastic family event that is conducted very professionally. I have kept my horse in the fields next door for many years and there has never been any issues - the security of the festival is amazing. It is a very safe festival that I have been to as a child and will continue to go to as an adult, and it's always a great experience and runs smoothly.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 13:57
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 1:56 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: , Kingsground, London SE9 5

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Petition
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 1:56 PM Hi,

I would like to support the events.
I have been playing at the Wilkestock festival with my band mates for several past years. I always had great times with the event and the local people.

Every time it has a friendly and welcoming atmosphere and never seen a trouble.
There are families, kids, elderly, young people and music players like us enjoying the nature and music together. I see the local people are really having a good time and seems like looking forward to enjoy it every year.

I do not bring my supplies as I would love to buy foods and drinks at the event site or local shops. I also use a taxi from Stevenage station as I have no car.

I always feel safe at the event and leave with peaceful mind.

Please keep this lovely festival.

Thank you.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 13:38
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 1:38 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Rectory Lane, Watton At Stone, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 1:38 PM I am a resident of Watton at Stone and have been attending the Wilkestock Festival since it begun. This festival is very well organised and has grown from humble beginnings, it is an event I have taken my children to since they were young and they always look forward to it. I understand the disruption of traffic etc is a nuisance for the local residents at the time, but this is occasional, any event in any area causes the same disruption! I was stuck in traffic queues on the A1m for 3 hours when Robbie Williams had his concert at Knebworth. The few events held at the Wilkestock site every summer are of great support to the local businesses, bands, DJ's etc. I sincerely hope to be attending Wilkestock 2021!

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 12:35
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 12:34 PM from

Application Summary

Address:	Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal:	Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:	

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	
Email:	
Address:	High Street Watton At Stone Hertford SG143S

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	14/05/2021 12:34 PM My name is , I'm 20 and I have been volunteering at Wilkestock for roughly 7 years now. Starting with my mum bringing me down, I was able to get involved with the art and design side of the festival with paintings and dressing the stages. As a young queer child, this was one escape and outlet where my creativity was supported by peers and adults where in other aspects of the community I wasn't. Through being able to nurture my creativity over the years whilst volunteering at the festival, I have been able to progress to Art Director, an opportunity which boosted my University Application and secured me a place at my first choice University. This valuable support and experience has shaped the student and creative I am, and year on year builds me as an individual. I have created so many happy memories at this site with my friends since we have been attending from such a young age and it has become a celebration every year, of ourselves and our diverse local community. My friends and I camp every year, being a group of girls they are always cautious of their surroundings and can be apprehensive, these feelings leave

when on the site. They introduce themselves to the security to familiarise themselves and the security team always reassures them, allowing them to feel safe and secure so that they can have fun. Due to us camping, we all tend to use to taxi links that the festival provide to get to and from the festival, an easy and reputable route.

I can only speak highly of this festival, from both a volunteers and a member of the public's perspective who attends. I feel comfortable to have a good time and that shows in all the memories created.

Many Thanks

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 12:32
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 12:31 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Brook Court Whitchurch Road Bristol BS13 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 12:31 PM To whom it may concern

I am writing to express my support for continued events at the Wilkestock event site.

I volunteered at Wilkestock in 2019, assisting with the front of house. This involved various activities such as assisting with the car park, registering acts, litter picking, co-ordinating taxi pick ups for egress and general problem solving!

As a member of front of house, I had a radio with a direct link to Tom Wilkes and who would always be on hand to ensure the event ran smoothly and safely, and any issues were addressed promptly. Security staff were also very helpful and attentive. I never felt unsafe both as a volunteer and as a member of the audience, even when working at the gate late into the night.

The Wilkestock management are very pragmatic and safety conscious, and so procedures were always in place to ensure a safe environment. I personally worked as a car park attendant, ensuring that cars were parked safely and orderly, and marshalling the the taxi rank at closing time to ensure that customers were safe and were able to get transport home.

In my experience Wilkestock is a very safe and well run family event which I am proud to be involved in. The hardworking team of staff and volunteers do their utmost to foster a fun and friendly environment which is safe and welcoming to all.

In light of this past year, local family events such as Wilkestock will be even more important and I look forward to being involved in the future.

Kind regards

Lawyer (FCILEx)

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 12:09
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 12:09 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: London Road Headington Oxford OX3 9

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 12:09 PM I was responsible for Crowd Management on the site until 2017, covering the main events of Hogsozzle and Wilkestock. I am qualified to Level 4 in Spectator Safety for Safety Officers, along with numerous other qualifications and most importantly, experience of 20 years in the outdoor events industry and sports stadia.

Every event I have been a part of at Waterbridge has been well managed, well planned and extremely well executed. The events provide paid seasonal work for an industry that has been hit extremely hard by COVID restrictions. We have always endeavoured to use the correct security and stewarding provider to reflect the events, and crime / anti social behaviour has always been an extremely rare occurrence.

I have worked and overseen the crowd management and safety aspects of festivals, concerts and sports events much bigger than those held at Waterbridge in my career, and would

suggest that the events held on this site are just as safe, if not safer, than many larger scale events I see around the UK, week in, week out.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 11:47
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 11:47 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Chequers Lane, Preston NR. HITCHIN SG4 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 11:47 AM My wife and I lived in Aston for a number of years and have kept in touch with many "Astonites" and continue to attend numerous social events.
Wilkestock was started many years ago to raise funds for a Lake District mountain rescue charity following a tragic family accident. It began in a small way but has grown over the years and is wholeheartedly supported by Aston folks .. volunteering their help over many months .. and particularly over the weekend.
This is a very well organised event with good security arrangements and it seems nothing is left to chance.
A very suitable location which also encourages new talent in the music industry and hosts other worthwhile charitable events.

I strongly support this application

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 11:01
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 11:00 AM from .

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR

Proposal: Review - Premises Licence

Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:

Email:

Address: Watton at Stone SH14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Councillor

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments: 14/05/2021 11:00 AM Wilkstock has become part of the local calendar and we agree that for those immediately adjacent to the event location it does constitute a nuisance in terms of disturbance and access. That being said the Watton at Stone Parish Council has never minuted a complaint or objection. Therefore the Parish Council has no objection to the lawful staging of this event. Personally, given the exceptional circumstances we have endured because of Covid, any event that can be staged safely should be encouraged.

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 10:23
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 10:23 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Orchard Aston, Stevenage SG27

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer objects to the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 10:23 AM Firstly, having to write this email brings a lot of confusion and disbelief in to what I am hearing.

Wilkestock has been part of the community and village for over 10 years, loved by everyone as it's a time to sit back a celebrate good music and even better people. At 22 I have been attending Wilkestock and the site since I was 10 years old.

I have known the Wilkes family my whole life and they are the most genuine & kind people, who are always making voluntary efforts and sacrifices to help and contribute towards the community.

The fact that Wilkestock is a Non-Profit festival, with all funds raised going towards charities very close to their hearts, makes it horrible to hear that the the festivals license is being

removed.

Wilkestock has been run and organised professionally for the last 12 years and is continuing to grow. This is also similar to BackOfBeyond festival which is hosted during prime summer in July. These two festivals brings communities together for only 6/365 days of the year and are celebrated by locals and the public from surrounding areas who have been attending for years.

These two festivals create opportunities for people to work and volunteer during the summer seasons, which promotes incomes for families and individuals in Hertfordshire. Not only this, there's opportunities for music artists to perform and grow their careers at these events, which is as extremely rare platform for people wanting to pursue a career in music.

The site couldn't be placed in a better area. There are huge benefits due to its accessibility to public transport, taxi links etc. The site offers a huge car parking area which is run smoothly by organisers and volunteers of the event. Security have always been very professional from start to finish and make life easier for attendees of the festival. This festival has always been safe for adults and children, the site has been well managed for over 10 years.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 10:05
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 10:05 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Ware SG127

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 10:05 AM I have been attending festivals at the above mentioned site for nearly 10 yrs now.
The event is organised in an extremely well thought out and considerate way. Organisers are always visible and available to answer questions.
The security is excellent, although in all the yrs I have been going I've seen very few incidents requiring their assistance. Far less than a normal pub.
The location is remote and a good distance from large residential areas. When leaving I have never noticed any excessive noise.
There is plenty of parking which is managed, the roads surrounding the event are well marshalled and clearly signposted. The taxi rank makes it easy to leave safely for attendees.
Overall a very safe and well organised event.
And raising money for a great cause.

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 08:45
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 8:44 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: HATFIELD AL10 9

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 8:44 AM I have attended Wilkestock Festival for the past 8 years, it has always been a great weekend and I have always felt very safe visiting. I have also volunteered on a few occasions and the production staff are lovely and very well organised. Considering access to the site is via a small country lane, I've never experienced traffic to be an issue, even when getting a taxi. They have a one way system which seems to run well. It's been great to see the festival thrive and grow over the years and is always the highlight of my summer!

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 08:31
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 8:31 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Broxbourne EN10 6

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 8:31 AM I have been attending this event for year and also DJ and its one of my favourite events that I look forward to every year. The community is great and security are amazing, I have never seen any trouble.
Always lots of parking and never overcrowded.
The system of event is very well planned out it would be devastating if this was cancelled after the year we all have had.

Kind regards

Sent: 14 May 2021 08:27
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 8:27 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: ., Newcastle BT33

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 8:27 AM Hi,
I would like to add my comments as I have been involved in Wilkestock since day one. Just a little bit of history. It was set up on the back of a climbing accident in the lakes to support the mountain rescue team who tried their best to save the injured climber. These rescue teams are volunteers who work off donations. The Wilkes family who's son was killed in the accident set this weekend up so all proceeds would go towards mountain rescue and another charity which affected them. The event is run by volunteers. I have been going to the festival for the last 12 years and it is always a highlight of my year and have always had an involvement in the running and am also a family friend. I have only ever had positive experience as well and getting a positive vibes from all attending. The Wilkes do their best to have security at the event and keep the crowd under control. I have never seen an violence at the event, the anti-social behavior is at minimum for such a large event and the clear up after is excellent.
I would encourage those who want to take this license away from Wilkestock to take with the

family and people that attend the event. The benefits that this festival bring to people who attend massively outweigh the negatives (whatever they are). I struggle to understand these people stance who are against some so positive for so many people especially in such a touch time when these events are so good for people mental health.
Regards

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 08:27
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 8:26 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: The Street Detling, Maidstone, Kent ME14

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 8:26 AM I am a long term friend of the family after attending university with Matt who's tragic death was part of what prompted the development of Wilkestock. I have participated in almost all of these festivals in the years since it started as both a volunteer and an attendee.

I have always been so impressed with the smooth running of the event, the effort the family and team go to contain everything over the weekend and minimise the negative impact on the surrounding area and residents. In fact, as a volunteer I have been part of this - with assisting in parking management and cleaning up in the days after the festival, it is always a priority. At the same time, the weekend offers great benefit to the local community with many attendees who I have spoken to over the years (including myself and the group of friends I go with every year) buying supplies, meals and using accommodation in the area.

I have witnessed as a volunteer the maintenance of security and the effort put in by the management team to ensure as much as possible is anticipated, then any issues or potential problems expertly managed and dealt with professionally and smoothly, I really couldn't commend this side of things highly enough.

I have always found Wilkestock to be such a friendly, community-spirited, family-appropriate event. I loved taking my son last time it ran and have always loved to see families enjoying themselves together, the opportunity for children to experience the artists, camping and performances in a safe and accessible environment...I just don't know where else you could find all that so accessible for families. I am excited for my son to form some really special childhood memories of annual attendance to Wilkestock.

I look forward to continuing to enjoy Wilkestock with my family, my sister's family, the close friends I usually attend with, the Wilkes family and the friends I expect to meet there, for many years to come.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 07:55
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 7:55 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: baldock sg7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 7:55 AM fAs a frequent patron of events held at the Wilkes Farm site in Stevenage I was deeply saddened to hear that the local authority are contemplating revoking the licence for future events planned at the venue.

As someone who loves live music and festivals it is absolutely ideal for those of us that cannot afford the time away from home (I have 3 small children, 1 with special needs) and the extortionate ticket prices to attend the bigger festivals. As the site is much smaller, it also feels incredibly safe, and doesn't induce the anxiety that attending a larger event can. I have always felt incredibly safe, with staff and security always being close by and visible. I have even taken my children along on the family days and they have had a fabulous time. Also being slightly older than the usual festival going crowd I have felt totally at home there, the events attract a real mixed, laid back clientele and I have even met other people there that I have stayed in contact with and developed real friendships.

The events support local musicians as well as local businesses and provide work to the many people involved in putting on an event of this nature. Given the pandemic and the effect it has had on the events industry pulling the plug on events like this is really not conducive to supporting these people that have been so devastatingly affected, and just seems to be an unnecessary further slap in the face to them. Surely as a community we should be supporting those locally that have been worst hit by the last year?

Although the site is slightly off the beaten track, I've always been able to get taxi's to and from the event with no fuss, I've never had to queue to get in and have never seen any violence or inappropriate behaviour which is more than can be said for a night out in Stevenage usually!! The crowd that these events attract seem to be really chilled, with everyone of the same mindset.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 01:44
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 1:44 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Sheering Lower Road Sawbridgeworth CM21

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 1:44 AM I am a wholetime firefighter within Essex and I have previously attended events held here on a non professional basis.
During my visits I have always been impressed with how the fire risks on site are managed.
Within my role as a firefighter we study previous unfortunate events and what we should look out for to limit the same events from happening again, so I have a good understanding how things can escalate quickly and what can be done to mitigate these. As part of my role I also inspect businesses on fire safety.
I have seen fire marshal's patrolling which adds reassurance that if the unfortunate happened it would be acted upon quickly and professionally. I have also seen firefighting media onsite which seems of a good standard for an event of this size.
One thing which pleasingly caught my eye was the path access around the site which is large enough for a fire engine to get within an acceptable distance to most parts of the site. In my opinion this usually seems to be overlooked a fair bit at other sites and events.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my previous visits knowing that it's safe and seems to be extremely well managed and I will be attending future events expecting the same level of detail in regards to fire safety and safety in general.

Kind Regards

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 00:12
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 12:11 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Dane End SG12 0

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 12:11 AM My name is , 27 years old I am a sales representative that has attended back of beyond and wilstock and I am against the license for frogmore fields being taken away. Not only is the venue great for local businesses and young up and coming artists and promoters. Events like back of beyond are opening up Hertfordshire to more business in hotels, taxis and local bars.
Furthermore to the above the events are well organised, have easy access to and from the sight with safety at the for front of the event. To remove the license would be a great shame

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 14 May 2021 00:09
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 14/05/2021 12:09 AM from Mr

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Frogmore Hill Watton at Stone SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 14/05/2021 12:09 AM We have lived on Frogmore Hill for 4 years and are happy for 3 events annually to be allowed.
We have had some niggles with the event and Tom Wilkes has worked with us to addressed the issues. The last event in September 2019 caused us no concern and had a security guard placed on our road (provided by event) and sound levels being acceptable and cut at a reasonable time.
The only recommendation I have is that the imposed one way system be managed (restricted by police or security), to stop drivers who believe the one system does not apply to them so can drive past the no entry sign - Tom Wilkes offered to add the control as part of the security.
Tom is now working with us to advise on any new developments.
I work as a senior manager in chemical industry which requires high safety standards and required to do frequent inspections- I have not seen any EHS concerns when visiting the

event.

I do not see a valid reason to stop the event which has been run for many years with any serious incidents.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 22:47
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 10:47 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: STANSTED CM24

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 10:47 PM Wilkestock music festival industry not only fosters artistic talent, provides opportunities for people to gain experience in a range of roles, and creates a much-needed sense of wellbeing for those that attend, it also makes significant contributions to charities, both locally and nationally.

I have attended and volunteered at the festival since it started. It has been a friendly and welcoming local festival. Since having children I have also taken them along to enjoy the family friendly festival. They have enjoyed hearing the local acts and experiencing the local community enjoying themselves. They have also seen mummy volunteering which has given them experience in doing something good for others.

As a volunteer I get to see first hand the organization and standards that surround this festival. Tom and his team work to the highest standards. All volunteer staff have a form of

training for their roles and commit to working alongside the strict festival guidelines. The safety at the site is paramount. There are a paid professional security team working throughout the weekend to ensure the strict guidelines are adhered to. They support the volunteers and also maintain the highest safety and security. It is due to this that the site is friendly, Welcoming and safe for both adults and families alike

The local artists, local community and organizers would be devastated if wilkestock's license was revoked. The festival gives people in the local community something to finally look forward to again and is remote so it's hard to see why this would happen!

I can not praise the wilkestock team highly enough for their approach to safety, Security and the welcoming ethos of the festival.

I strongly feel this should be allowed to continue and for the great works it does and also the benefit to both the local community and the music industry. Please save wilkestock!

Kind regards

From: k
Sent: 13 May 2021 21:58
To:

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 9:58 PM from t.

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Oval Road London NW1 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 9:58 PM I have had the pleasure of working with the Wilkestock crew and sponsored some of the past events.
It is a safe and inclusive environment, welcoming to all and a champion of emerging talent in the UK.
In these difficult times that the live music industry, artists and fans have faced, we need to continue to support festivals, especially ones like Wilkestock and all the charitable good that they do.
Giving back to the community, the industry, the artists and essential charities, it is imperative that it goes ahead.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 21:45
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 9:45 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Hertfordshire En8 0

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Petition
Stance: Customer objects to the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 9:45 PM Hello my name is , I am 21 and I've been connected with the site since 2018 when I attended the festival, there is so many positives when it became 2019, the access was really good traffic was well managed, I had no problems with car parking and some festivals I always struggle with parking, they were super friendly and overall the whole place was very well managed .. you can tell it's a very good business and it's managed very well .
I felt really safe there wasn't a moment I felt like something was wrong , everyone was organised and it just again was very well managed not a single person complained.
Overall it's just a great festival that's run by people who are good at what they do and are very organised, not a single bad word I have to say about that place it's the safest place I have felt!

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 21:44
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 9:44 PM from Mr

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Heathfield Road Hitchin SG51

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 9:44 PM One of the best little festivals going-absolutely no trouble at all and I've been going since it's inception-superb traffic links too-wish every festival was like this !!

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 21:31
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 9:31 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Cresselly Kilgetty SA68 0

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 9:31 PM I am writing to advocate premises license renewal at SG14 3RR. For 8.5 years between the age of 12 and 20, (now 24) I lived next door to the site with an adjoined garden. I volunteered setting up the site and worked on the bar when I turned 18. The festivals were well planned and ran without a hitch year after year. The organisers have a genuine interest in local stakeholders and go above and beyond to ensure the festivals are operationally and logically managed to minimise impact. I even remember them investing in excess Heras fencing to enclose our drive so that cars wouldn't park on it. This communal interest was also evident in the lineup and catering scheduling where the events provided a platform for local traders and artists. The parking facilities were well signposted from all directions with good access for taxis. The opening hours of the entrance gate also allows for a staggered entry of festival goers - minimising traffic. Furthermore, I was personally involved in building the hay-bail sound reduction walls for all

late stages - which living next door - works.

That said, the music volume would be reduced and then turned off as per the aforementioned times (which was pre-agreed with all local residents via an information sheet - personally distributed by the organisers).

The site itself, is well built, spacious and fully enclosed with fencing. There are security posts covering all potential access points ensuring good visibility throughout the stages and camping area. I also assisted in the daily clear-up of the site and surrounding area for litter, which, having attended similar festivals (and credit to attendees) was always minimal.

In summary; I have fond memories; assisting, attending and living next to the festivals and would strongly advise anyone to attend. The atmosphere and seamless organisation of the events are a testament to the hard work and charitable efforts of .

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 21:15
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 9:14 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Pirton Hitchin SG5 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 9:14 PM I have been attending and volunteering at Wilkestock since it began and I am absolutely shocked that Herts Police are asking for their license to be reviewed. In all the years I have been there, it has been excellently and expertly run. The festival has grown over the years, but that has only meant the management of the site, staff and members of the public has improved.
This festival is not run by a big organisation, it is a locally based, charity and family festival that raises thousands of pounds for such good causes, as well providing an important platform for new artists to perform and make a living. It's cancellation last year due to Covid was devastating for those who love attending, and I can only imagine how devastating it was for all those who spend hours of their own time and money organising it each year. It is something everyone looks forward to. It would be a huge detriment to the community not to allow the festival to go ahead.
As a volunteer, I see first hand the work and organisation that goes into managing the site to

ensure safety as the absolute priority and to ensure all licensing rules are adhered to. The website promotes taxi services and pick up/drop off points and these are clearly available to all who attend. The access arrangements are really well managed, as is the car park, which is large enough to accommodate all visitors. Security are present at all times, manning all exits and entrances, as well as areas within the site itself. These are security staff from reputable security companies who are brought in and paid to do that job, not volunteers. They are strict, as they should be, in ensuring the site rules are adhered to and that people can enjoy the festival safely.

The site is relatively remote, and the festival is on for 3 evenings of the year, so I would struggle to see how the noise impacts can be that significant to warrant a license review. I hope you will see sense.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 21:09
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 9:09 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name: r
Email:
Address: Wilton way Hertford Sg13

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 9:09 PM The organisation of every festival I have attended at Frogmore has been incredible. Car park access and foot is easy and managed well. I always feel safe with security and staff being aware and known.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 20:47
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 8:46 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: St. Albans AL2 2

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 8:46 PM Good Evening,
I would like to share a few words with you, in support of Wilkestock Festival. Working within Live Nation as a music professional, as part of a Venue Management Team, i feel i would recognise a bad event when i saw one. Wilkestock is certainly not one of those. This festival is not like your run of the mill music event. Every year- Sunday is known as the family day, meaning customers can join us from all walks of life. This alone, brings me to the level of public safety. With such a day being held, the event organisers always seem to go above and beyond- wherever you are on the site (throughout the weekend), you can always see security, wandering and static. These again, are not your every day security guards and instead of being intimidating, just add to the welcome vibe, and the feeling of being well looked after. Along with this, i have quite often seen medics wandering the site- and have always noticed that the medical area is well sign posted- as are the water points!

From the moment I step on site on the Friday, to when i leave at the end of Sunday, i have never once questioned my safety. To delve further into that, some festivals i attend always seem to me, a bit loud. However, at Wilkestock there are always staff walking round the various stage areas with a DB meter (I stopped one to ask, one year) to ensure no noise levels are exceeded. This made me feel like we were more than just money on the gate to the organisers, but genuinely cared for as humans.

Furthermore, when attending festivals, you expect to be a victim of, or hear of, theft on site. I have never once heard of such a thing at Wilkestock, nor have i ever been a victim of while on site.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 20:11
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 8:10 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: High Street WATTON-AT-STONE Herts SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 8:10 PM I support the WILKSTOCK event which is held every September. I am local to the area and both my sons attend every year. A lot of hard work goes into this event and a lot of money is raised for worthwhile charities. Volunteers offer their services as they know it is a great event for families and adults. Parking and access is well organised. There is no disruption to the local area - would be great to see everyone having a good time especially after the past year. Gives local acts an opportunity to showcase their talent.

THOROUGHLY SUPPORT THIS EVENT

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 20:05
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 8:04 PM from

Application Summary

Address:	Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal:	Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:	

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	
Email:	
Address:	long ridge aston stevenage sg27

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	13/05/2021 8:04 PM I am in the nearby village and love Wilkestock. we have never had a problem with this event/ or related to this event. The opposite, its a real community experience, many people from the village and locally join in as support/helpers and many including myself attend and enjoy it. i am in my 50's and have taken my sister, her children when they were younger, my mum and local friends over the years. security is always excellent and appropriate. we hear very little noise from our house, some years not at all and it has never been intrusive or gone on too late. there is always plenty of space, lots of places to sit or chill out. plenty of clean loos. it is well planned to avoid choke points and overcrowding. its probably the best run music festival i have been to. parking is nearby and plentiful. the 1 way systems avoid road problems and the camping site looks well organised and spacious. the site is always properly cleared up afterwards regarding the infrastructure and litter etc. we like to come together for a small, local, family run festival dedicated to raising money for charity and honouring in a positive way, a young life cut short.

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 20:02
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 8:02 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Acorn Hill Stannington Sheffield S6 6A

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 8:02 PM I am writing in support of The Wilkestock festival and other events held at this unique venue. Having grown up in the local area I have been to Wilkestock several times. It is a brilliantly organised family friendly festival. It has always felt safe and well managed, I think the venue is a great asset to the local area. There has always been plenty of parking and it has been safe to leave vehicles overnight. There has always appeared to be a lot of security around the site. I have enjoyed being at the festival with my friends and parents, and I hope to be able to go to future events at this venue with my young daughter.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 19:43
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 7:43 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Broadmeads Ware Sg12

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 7:43 PM I have been djing locally for over 10 years now and have been playing for the Dog and Whistle for many of them. I have attended and played at all back of beyond events. I have also played many times at the frogmore site and it all it's events have always been very unique and brings a great place for local communities to get together and enjoy music.
I am very saddened to hear that the site may have it's licence taken away as this would be such a disappointment for our local community . There are not many places like this around.
Every event I have been to there has been very well organised with plenty of security and staff who are well informed and make sure everyone is having a good time safely. I have never witnessed any trouble at the site and there are always good clear routes in and out for the events. Also plenty of cabs throughout the duration and nice sized well organised car parking areas.

This site closure would not only be a blow for the local community but also to local businesses that work with in the festivals and local artists who use this site as a platform to reach like minded people.

Please please do not take away opportunity for local businesses and artists especially at a time when we need help the most!

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 19:25
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 7:25 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Munden Road Dane End Ware SG12

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 7:25 PM I am 23 and have been working for Dog and Whistle pub and events venue for 7 years between studies and this has included the Back of Beyond festival in 2018 and 2019.
This festival is a great achievement and was greatly enjoyed by all who attended and were involved in the running of it. It is a great platform for smaller and upcoming artists and benefits the local and wider community greatly, giving local people an exciting event and business opportunities and bringing new people into our area. There were a few issues during the first year such as the lighting in the carpark leaving it less safe than it could have been and the lack of taxis. However, these issues were addressed and improved upon in the following year with increased access to taxis and well managed parking and vehicle access. Security was sufficient and clearance of litter at the end of the event minimised the environmental impact of the event and any potential damage to the local environment.
There are many local people who would be disappointed to see this event leave the

community so I support this premises license.

Regards,

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 19:14
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 7:13 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Colney Heath Lane St Albans Herts

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 7:13 PM Wilkestock Festival is possibly the best run small festival that I've been involved with and an event that takes its public responsibility extremely seriously. It has a special community feel and has become an important event in the local area, particularly for local musicians.

I work in the music industry and Wilkestock was an important part of my professional development. As a volunteer in 2017, it was the first time I'd worked at a festival, before moving up to manage a stage and then running Artist Liaison for the Main Stage more recently. This experience helped me to build a career within music and I now work for an independent record label as a Campaign Manager, running release campaigns and signing artists.

Over the years, Wilkestock has had exceptional line-ups with a combination of reputable

national artists, alongside exciting local acts. The experience for emerging local artists to perform on the same stages as headliners such as The Fratellis, Razorlight or Slaves is an invaluable experience for them. It helps them to develop their craft and learn how professional artists operate. In addition, the networking opportunities for artists just being around pro-level teams is incredible for them.

Finally, the festival has always taken its legal and license responsibilities extremely seriously. Noise levels were continuously monitored to ensure the festival was not being disruptive to the local area. In the same way, the noise curfew restrictions were always adhered to. From personal experience, we regularly shortened the lengths of artist sets if they were running late to make sure that we would end on time with good contingency on top. Additionally, on-site security were always present and professional, ensuring that people were safe and following rules

Overall, the festival has a positive impact on the local community, always adheres to regulations and is fully deserving of the renewal of their license

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 18:22
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 6:21 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Joslyn Close Enfield London EN3 6

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 6:21 PM Hi, i am 24 and a DJ/Artist. I attended both BOB festivals in 2018 & 2019.
I am in support of the licence as its a great platform for young artists, local talent & local businesses.
The safety of the festivals was superior to anything i have seen and the management was on it with litter clearance and made everything easy to access for the customers.
Overall my experience was great and i am fully in support.
Kind Regards,

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 17:50
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 5:49 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Sherwoods Road Watford WD19

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 5:49 PM Dear Sirs/Madams,
My name is and I Support the events held at Frogmore Hill SG14 3RR.
I have known the organiser for several years and am currently a seasonal employee . I have witnessed first hand, the dedication and efforts put in to ensure the events run safely, efficiently and are entertaining.
There are multiple reasons why I support the events:
- Wilkestock is a charitable festival for a great cause.
- Venue is aiming towards becoming carbon neutral.

- Events held provide a platform for up and coming artists to showcase their talent.
- Supports local communities and business' via food / drink / clothing vendors / transport
- Events are an occasion for people of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy themselves for better wellbeing
- Events and preparation Provides people like myself with employment

After being on employment benefits due to Covid and Brexit, The events provided me with a job and an opportunity to be part of something that is beneficial to the communities, and the charities that it aids.

While working on site, I have observed the safety measures that are already in place such as accessibility, fire safety equipment, and more fire exits/meeting points. Security has also been set in place to ensure the safety of the visitors by installing security cameras, safety barriers, visible signage, portaloops, drinking water and one way road systems. Staff, neighbours and members of the local community all join in the effort to create a positive, safe environment for events to be held.

There are continuous steps made to maintain and improve site safety and site security. I believe Wilkestock and other events held here have an overall positive effect to the local and greater community. It would be such a loss not to continue the events held at such a unique and exciting venue.

many thanks,

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 17:02
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 5:02 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name: Mr
Email: Not specified
Address: Chantrey Road Brixton SW9 9

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 5:02 PM I have been going to and playing at Frogmore hill for 8 years to both Hogsozzle and now Wilkestock. It is the only festival that I still go to as the vibe and culture there cannot be matched. It is small, intimate, well run and responsibly managed.
In all the years I have been I have never once seen an issue with noise/rubbish/policing/stewarding. The atmosphere is always calm and polite.
it is a wonderful experience that I encourage everybody to enjoy if they have the opportunity and a great tragedy to be cancelled

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 16:51
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 4:50 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Waterdell Lane St Ippolyts SG4 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 4:50 PM Wilkestock is a great festival where I've always enjoyed going with friends and family, mostly in part due to the small and safe environment which is always well organised, and let secure and family friendly. It is a great local event that everyone looks forward to every single year, and supports local musicians and artists for a good charitable cause. Camping, parking, access to the site and other amenities are always well organised and tidy. Access to the bar is professional, I've attended for multiple years in a row and never seen any issues around safety with the bar or alcohol related violence etc. this event is a really great place for everyone in the community, and supports local culture.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 15:56
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 3:56 PM from Mrs Claire Willis.

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: , Grange Road Widmer End High Wycombe HP15 6

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 3:56 PM I've known the licensee, management team, Festival/s and site for 6 years and been working in the live events and charity sectors for 14 years. I've experience in running Festivals for a charity I used to run, project managing community festivals for local authorities, local charities and for the Bucks Music Trust of whom I also work for. I have run large scale events in town centres and also at the Royal Albert Hall. I have volunteered at Wilkstock Festival assisting them with the site and volunteer management. With this experience, I can honestly say that Wilkstock is a very well-run event that puts the safety of its staff and attendees at the forefront of everything they do. Here I was able to see and be involved in first-hand how staff, attendees and artists access the site, how they are directed to where they need to go to include parking (which is very well organised), camping and how to move around the site safely. This is done most efficiently and safely with the communication being clear and concise for everyone, which is why it works so well. Their security team are particularly good both at communication the event team and with attendees in a friendly and

supportive manner, I have seen them deal with small incidents in a very professional way, safely and without escalation which is extremely important. Mr Wilkes has worked incredibly hard, spent a lot of his own money over many years to build an successful Chairtable organisation supporting new and upcoming Festivals and events, perfecting how each one is organised to the best possible standard. Not to approve their licence at this stage would be devastating not only to them after all their hard work, but to the music, festival and live events industry which has already taken such a hard hit over the last year and a half, but it would be a massive loss to the local community, charity sector and musicians that rely on events here to grow and develop.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 15:40
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 3:39 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Skipton Close Stevenage SG2 8T

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 3:39 PM I have been to this Charity Festival on several occasions and have always felt extremely safe and secure to say the least with the security measures in place. I have never seen any trouble there in any way whatsoever. Children are catered for very well indeed and it has been a wonderful event to attend in every way which is great for the local community and local bands. I have never seen any traffic jams on my way there and with all profits going to charity, cannot be faulted and is always a positive thing. It has been getting better and better every year and I was looking forward to attending it again. This event and the huge support of community and music in this area was even strong enough to help me make an easy decision to move to Stevenage from Potters Bar a few years ago. It was the best decision I ever made and hope this does not make me change my view on that decision! I'm in utter shock still at this even being a possibility?!?!? Please East Herts don't make me want to go back to Hertsmere.....

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 14:59
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 2:59 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Lingfield Stevenage Sg15

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 2:59 PM Great festival and site and all for a great cause, I've never seen any trouble and is run well with plenty of security. Good for the community to have live music.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 12:36
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 12:36 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: five acres Harlow Essex CM18 6

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 12:36 PM I have been going to the charity festival for many years. It is one of the best small family festivals around. we always feel safe and secure at the festival, there's plenty of security, I don't see any trouble, kids are catered amazingly and unlike Standon Calling I have not seen drug use or people mindlessly drunk. It is a great festival for local bands and the community, you've never seen traffic jams when going there, the profits go to charity. This is how Glastonbury started and the same with the Isle of Wight. DO NOT REVOKE THEIR LICENCE.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 12:22
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 12:22 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name: Mr
Email:
Address: Blenheim Way Bragbury End Stevenage SG2 8

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 12:22 PM Cultural events such as music and live acts have suffered enough throughout Brexit and the Pandemic, and these venues both outdoors and indoors are a necessity for not only social interaction but for mental health reasons too.

I a member of the public and a business owner is in keen support of festivals, living near the Wilkestock and the Knebworth events, and have NEVER had any problems with getting around the roads when the event is taking place. The sound is also at a level that is not a distraction nor an annoyance. The festival also brings in money to the local area, an area, I may add, that has also suffered from the aforementioned factors financially.

The overspill of festival-goers, into the local towns such as Stevenage and Hertford, has also a bump in takings financially on the days these are held. And that comes from experience as a shop owner of a retail business for over 15 years.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 11:59
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 11:59 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Bushby Avenue Broxbourne EN10 6

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 11:59 AM To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for the continuation of the license at the aforementioned site.

I attended the Back of Beyond festival in 2018 and 2019 and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience on both occasions. This is a unique event to Hertfordshire which always manages to attract a high calibre lineup as well as providing a platform for local artists . On my first visit there were some issues with access to the site and difficulty booking taxi's but this was soon forgotten once inside. On my second visit you could really see how the organisers had made improvements and resolved the teething problems from year one.

On both occasions I have found the event to have a safe friendly atmosphere and have

always been impressed by the cleanliness of the site. I look forward to attending future festivals and to see how it has developed.

After an incredibly tough year for our hospitality and events sector I would hope to see my local council supporting this type of event and the positive impact it has for our local community.

Of course should you wish to contact me directly with further queries please do not hesitate to do so

Kind Regards

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 10:24
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 10:23 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Meadow Gardens Widford sg12 8

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 10:23 AM I'm a 47 year old man and have been attending multiple festivals at this site, including Wilkestock for many years and Back of Beyond (on the two years they have ran it). I am shocked to hear this licence is up for review?

I found all the festivals to be very well managed and organised from start to finish. The site itself was fantastic, litter free and lots of friendly marshalls and security.

The traffic management was great. But my only gripe was taxis being a little hard to get at the end of the eve, but with a little patience we managed to get one in the end.

In short, this site brings a much needed place for artists to perform and gives people like myself (and friends) local events to look forward to every year and I cannot see what the issues are to warrant a review?

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 09:32
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 9:32 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Hooks Cross Stevenage SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 9:32 AM I would like to express my support of the premises licence for the Wilkestock festival site. As the neighbouring land owner, I have never experienced any negative effect from any Wilkestock-related events. The road management means the impact on the neighbouring properties is minimised. The events appear to be professionally managed with on-site security managing admission and behaviour - we've never experienced any anti-social behaviour from the events held at the site. My land is immediately adjacent to the festival site and fortunately I've never experienced any littering or debris from the site; the management and clear up appears to be thorough and quick. To date, it hasn't affected the running or management of the farm at all, with any additional traffic from attendees causing very minimal disruption to everyday farm activities.
In addition to the farm, we also run an on-site equestrian and livery business and none of the events have appeared to disturb or affect the horses at all. From our perspective, it's a professional and well-run event and we fully support and encourage it for the funds it raises

for charity.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 00:56
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 13/05/2021 12:55 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Yardley, Letchworth SG6 2

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 13/05/2021 12:55 AM I've been going to Wilkestock Music Festival for over 10 years. I've never had trouble parking or witnessed any traffic jams, the event has always been safe and secure, lots of security and stewards, no bad attitude that i've ever seen. I've been with friends with their kids as well, we go most years!
It's such a shame that this would be happening with a well loved and 10+ years old festival? The festival has evolved and has gotten better and better over the years. This is a charity event as well and gives back to the community, i've seen so many local bands playing here alongside the big touring (famous bands) which is a huge incentive for local up and coming musicians.

From:
Sent: 12 May 2021 22:16
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 12/05/2021 10:16 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Harvey gardens Loughton IG10 2

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 12/05/2021 10:16 PM My name is I have attended the Frogmore hill site on two occasions in 2018 and 2019 both times were for the festival Back Of Beyond. On both occasions I was quite surprised at just how well the festival was run. I felt very safe on site with plenty of security visible at all times, getting too and from the festival was no trouble at all and well sign posted. I would just like to point out also on passing through the local town just how bustling it looked and I'm sure the local business benefit a great deal with all the extra trade, whether it be the local super market or cafe of which I popped into myself. I also noticed no rubbish littered around the surrounding area which I thought must be down to how well the back of beyond organisers brief their staff in making sure everybody respects not only the festival site but the green spaces surrounding it.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 12 May 2021 19:34
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 12/05/2021 7:34 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Aston End Road Aston Stevenage SG2 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 12/05/2021 7:34 PM My Name is , I am a resident of Aston and have supported this incredible music Festival since it first began.
I have both performed on the stage and have volunteered as a helper for the last few years.
Having performed I can conform that it is a wonderful opportunity for local and national music artists to showcase their talents.
In my experience it has always been a lovely family festival that has always felt like a very safe environment.
Having worked on the gate I was always so impressed with the amount of families with young children that were not only welcomed but encouraged to attend by the family ticket

policy.

I have never experienced any bad behavior at the festival, in fact the atmosphere is so positive.

The parking is always well organised and so well managed. For those travelling by train the taxi system works brilliantly and undoubtedly generates incremental income for the local taxi firms.

From my experience of helping on the gate I was always so impressed with the overall management of the event and also the security firm used were incredibly professional, friendly but so effective too.

The opportunity, not only for up and coming artists to perform but also for all the independent food and drink companies that are only able to exist because of these kinds of events in incredible.

Overall, Wilkstok is a very well run and incredibly highly regarded local music festival. It is highly regarded by both the festival goers and the villages a lot of whom fall into both camps.

Clearly the fact that all the profits go to charity is also a major positive in it's favour and these charities would undoubtedly be worse off if the event were not to take place.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 12 May 2021 17:54
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 12/05/2021 5:53 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: long ridge Aston Stevenage sg2

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 12/05/2021 5:53 PM I am 75 years old and have attended Wilkstock regularly over the last 5 years. It is a very well organised event bringing the village and wider community together. It always feels safe and never overcrowded. The food, toilet and entertainment areas are clearly marked and more than adequate. Security is always present. It brings a lot of pleasure to all age groups in the community. The local vendors get work and publicity, many bands both established and new get a live audience and a chance to perform on stage. This is so important after a shutdown year. I am retired but help regularly on the gate checking tickets as well as attending performances in the arena. The attendees are well behaved and security is always present. I am really looking forward to the event this year. The plan is that there will be no covid restrictions during this event and we really need to get out in the fresh air and meet people again.
The community needs this event especially this year.

From:
Sent: 12 May 2021 16:15
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 12/05/2021 4:15 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address:

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 12/05/2021 4:15 PM This festival provides a great platform for local musicians, an opportunity for a family friendly festival and raises money and awareness for good causes. In my time attending I have always found they've been courteous to mitigate any effects on local traffic, noise pollution etc.
It would be a great shame to see them lose their license to put on events here.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 12 May 2021 15:05
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 12/05/2021 3:04 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: fore street hertford SG14 1

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer objects to the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 12/05/2021 3:04 PM My name is [redacted], owner of The Dog and Whistle Pub and Back of Beyond Festival, age 40.
I have a long standing relationship with Tom Wilkes and the Frogmore Fields Site for the past 6/7 years.
I attended Back Of Beyond in 2018 & 2019 where we held my Festival and I have also attended Wilstocke.

Benefits/What they do well on the festival site
- it offers a great platform for local up and coming DJ's, food vendors, promoters, entertainers, merch sales

- the management and organization of the site is top quality with great access to sight, lots of parking which is also well managed, easy access and great taxi links, easy access to train stations in Hertford and Stevenage.
- Security presence is great on the site and top quality on game days
- litter clearance is a high priority with the site cleaned and cleared as it was found after a festival.

Any Further points you would like to go over with me don't hesitate to give me a call

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 11 May 2021 21:54
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 11/05/2021 9:54 PM from

Application Summary

Address:	Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal:	Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:	

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	
Email:	
Address:	Terminus Road Eastbourne BN21 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Petition
Stance:	Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	11/05/2021 9:54 PM Although I am not a local resident, I have had the pleasure to be invited to DJ at five previous Wilketsock festivals at this site. It has always been a great experience due to the high level of professionalism of the festival organisers. Security staff have always been organised, polite and friendly. The car parking and camping have always been organised and safe, and probably the cleanest and most well-maintained toilet and shower facilities I've experienced at any festival. The actual festival has always been family-friendly, and enjoyed by all age groups (I'm a 56 year old dj). There's always a fun & friendly atmosphere, a superb selection of live acts and dj's... providing many local artists their first festival exposure. The bars are always professionally staffed, serving ales, and lower-alcohol content level beers, served in recyclable beakers, which customers are encouraged to use multiple times (or swap at the bar for a clean one)... details which are proof of organisers that care. An environmentally-aware festival, supportive of local talent, and one that donates so much to carefully selected

charities should be a source of pride to the local area.
It is for all these reasons that I am fully supportive of the granting of this licence, and could only recommend that it is granted.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 11 May 2021 21:00
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 11/05/2021 9:00 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Station Road Watton at Stone Hertford SG14 3

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 11/05/2021 9:00 PM We're writing in support of the premises license for the Wilkestock charity festival site. Having lived in Watton since the festival started, we can vouch for the professional set up of the event. Whilst we now live in Watton village, prior to this we lived for a number of years in High Elms Lane, less than a mile from the site, and never experienced any negative effects from either Wilkestock or other events taking place on the site, aside from some perfectly acceptable background music during the allowed hours. There has never been any problem with traffic; the road management around the area ensures the site is safely accessed with off-road parking ensuring no inconvenience to the neighbouring area. The security on site is extensive and professional - well connected, responsive and quick to disperse any challenges (of which we've personally seen next to none, aside from the occasional hay bale climber). The site is always well managed - in the approach to the events there is always careful consideration of the set up both in and around the festival site, and post-event the clear up operation is swift and poses no impact on the neighbours (my parents

still live in High Elms Lane so we speak from personal experience). I actually work on the neighbouring farm [REDACTED] and therefore observe the event set up and running from a professional standpoint as well; there has never been any impact on the running of the farm and you should see from other supporting correspondence that the land owner is in full support as well.

Aside from the positive practical and professional aspects of these events, it would be a great shame, given the current climate, to deprive the charities that benefit from the vital funding they receive, given how well managed the events are.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 11 May 2021 20:02
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 11/05/2021 8:01 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Town Lane Benington SG2

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 11/05/2021 8:01 PM The event is safe. Parking available. Security making sure people are behaving. Never had an issue every year I have been

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 11 May 2021 19:35
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 11/05/2021 7:34 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Runcie Close St Albans AL4

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 11/05/2021 7:34 PM , 36 years old, Assistant Head Teacher, Hertfordshire.

I began volunteering at the festival events on this site in 2018. The festivals are well organised, friendly and foster a sense of community pride by bringing people together. As a volunteer there is rigorous training on how the festival site works and the laws and procedures in place that must be abided by. The festivals provide advertising for local businesses and give opportunities to have stalls at these events. They also give local artists a platform to promote their music.
Logistically, the site is extremely well managed and organised by Tom Wilkes, from the ease of access on arrival to the taxi links available to travel safely to the nearest station. There is directional signage on the festival site and on the local roads. Neighbours are consulted and able to give feedback with any issues they may foresee. Feedback is taken seriously and changes are made when necessary, in order to ensure the safest possible event. Following

the festival, the land and local roads are meticulously cleared of any litter. Tom Wilkes oversees every festival with care and diligence and is always available to respond to any issues that may occur on site during the event. He works closely with local police, as well as implementing bespoke on site security measures, including extensive CCTV coverage and a wide physical presence of qualified, well briefed security. His personable, supportive management and oversight of the festival means that I always feel safe. Some of the events operate on a not for profit, charitable basis and as a volunteer, I speak to many festival attendees, who comment that they are glad to participate and contribute. It is clear that time and care has been taken to plan for every eventuality, should it occur. I love volunteering, as the events celebrate and promote the local community positively, and I fully support the premises licence.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 11 May 2021 19:25
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 11/05/2021 7:24 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email: Not specified
Address: High Street Bildeston IP77

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 11/05/2021 7:24 PM Wilkstock is an amazing charity music festival that involves the local community as either spectators, performers or helpers. It allows local artists, like my sons band to have a platform alongside great artists like Chas and Dave! The parking, camping facilities and rubbish collection are second to none. We have recently moved to Suffolk but are looking forward to attending this event for years to come, tent at the ready, please don't let this wonderful event end!

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 11 May 2021 11:20
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 11/05/2021 11:20 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Aston End Road, Aston, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG2 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 11/05/2021 11:20 AM My wife and I have known the Wilkes family socialy since we moved to the Aston 26 years ago.
Tragedy struck when their eldest son Matt was killed while climbing in the lake district, and the family sought fitting ways to mark his life. Andy, the father, ran many sponsored marathons, raising funds for Penrith Mountain Rescue, and cancer charities, and the boys had the idea of putting on a concert featuring the amateur bands to raise money too. I even helped out building that first stage from old tyres and plywood. Thus Wilkestock began. I have lent a hand every year since.

From those faltering beginnings (with some early misjudgements), Tom Wilkes, with the backing of the family and dozens of friends and supporters, has built the knowlege, skills and professionalism to run an impressively organised, well managed and popular event. A

staggering amount of time, effort and financial commitment is required to stage Wilkestock and the other activities. I know the economics of outdoor events must be fragile, and I believe the other dates are critical in offsetting the financial risk.

As an event, Wilkestock has matured with the age of those both running it and those attending. At the start I witnessed the difficulties in containing teenage excess, but many of those 'kids' are now bringing their own children along. It is currently a very multi generational event, and definitely fun for all. It also provides an opportunity for local talent and revenue for local business.

I know Tom has gone out of his way to address the concerns of local residents. The noise is controlled, traffic diverted, transport facilitated and security professionally managed. I find it hard to believe there can have been any reasonable grounds for complaint in recent years. I'm sure Wilkestock still enjoys the support of the whole village.

Of course the charities have good reason to hope the events continue too.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 11 May 2021 11:19
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 11/05/2021 11:19 AM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone SG143

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 11/05/2021 11:19 AM I and my family have lived right next door to the festival site for nearly 4 years and we have never had anything but positive experiences. We are in our 50s and 60s, our children in their 20s and we attended each day without see any problems and felt very relaxed. Security was always very visible and people of all ages were enjoying the fantastic atmosphere and great music. When we were sat in our garden there were security and festival personnel constantly visible throughout the day and night. We brought a number of friends along of similar ages to ourselves and children ranging from early to late teens and they were all happy to let their children wander as they pleased. The festival has been very well organised with road closures and a one way system preventing traffic jams with plenty of parking. Many local businesses participate and benefit from the festival and local as well as international artists get to perform. Because the festival is a charity event it creates a great community atmosphere and has allowed us to get to know people we otherwise might never have met. Transport to and from the event for non locals from train stations via taxis is very

efficient and provides safe access. First aid accessibility (for a blister, too much dancing for my daughter!) was great. The work done post festival to return the site to normal is exceptional, its an area we walk on and no trace is left! If the festival is cancelled it will be a blow on so many levels for the local community and the charities that receive funding from it. Most especially for us it would be sad to see an event cancelled that we, our children, their friends and many of our friends look forward to all year. Please allow the event to continue.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 10 May 2021 12:15
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 10/05/2021 12:15 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: route de la villaz st jean d'aulps, France 744

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 10/05/2021 12:15 PM I support Wilkestock Charity Music Festival, I run 2 stages (Homegrown & VIP) at the festival and manage around 40 DJs each year for the last 4 years. I am 40 years old and originally from the UK but I travel from France where I now live each year to volunteer my services to the amazing Wilkes family plus support their heartfelt charity initiative. Not only do ALL Profits go to charity but so many people give up their time to support this and make the festival happen each year. On my stages I have a 50/50 lineup male to females to change the gender imbalance of the music industry, not many festivals can say the same which is why it is so important to keep the license for Wilkestock. I also provide a platform for up-and-coming DJs to empower their music careers. Most of my lineup are local artists plus ones who have played for me year in year out giving up their time for free, including established headliners. In addition to this, it also provides Jobs all year round to locals. Each year the security has

been upgraded and the full focus of the event management team is the safety of the attendees.

All rubbish is also recycled and you can see the team doing this in person every night and morning of the festival.

For attendees/artists/staff, there is a clear travel map of how to arrive at the festival to ease any traffic issues for the locals plus allocated parking with easy access to the campsite or festival entrance. Taxis are also available with a taxi rank giving the day ticket goers a safe ride home.

For Security, I have never worked with a better security offering. They are friendly and 100% professional.

Every year this festival provides a great outlet for local artists and is loved by many as a great little festival suitable for the whole family. If you came to Wilkestock this year you would return every year after and understand why it's important to get behind them and support the festival moving forwards.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 08 May 2021 18:50
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 08/05/2021 6:49 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: , Benington Road, Walkern, Hertfordshire SG2 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 08/05/2021 6:49 PM Also forgot to add I live on walkern road and there is no difference in traffic when the event is on at all

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 07 May 2021 23:53
To:
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 21/0239/PLR

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 07/05/2021 11:52 PM from

Application Summary

Address: Waterbridge Frogmore Hill Watton At Stone Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 3RR
Proposal: Review - Premises Licence
Case Officer:

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:
Email:
Address: School Lane Aston Nr Stevenage SG2 7

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public
Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:
Comments: 07/05/2021 11:52 PM For years our family has been involved with many festivals within the grounds at water bridge Frogmore Hill. We live locally and have found the festivals are run with huge attention to detail and care for not only the attendees but also to the local community. A substantial amount of meticulous forward planning by Tom Wilkes and his family in all areas such as security, ticketing, timelines, site maps, sound levels, customer flow etc., ensures the festivals run smoothly so that all concerned have an enjoyable and relaxed experience with minimum disruption to the local area. In addition the annual Wilkestock charity family friendly festival selflessly raises significant funds for charity-. Along with many other locals ,we also enjoy regularly supporting by volunteering at some of these events. Whereby our day jobs as teacher and a local government education manager ,are exchanged for that of box office administrators, car park attendants and litter pickers! Our daughters and their friends have also enjoyed attending events here over many years.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 May 2021 10:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [External] Wilkestock

Dear East Herts

This letter is in support of Tom Wilkes's music events. I own [REDACTED] Farm which is on the western side of Benington Parish. The farm adjoins the meadow at [REDACTED] Farm where the events are held. I also live in Benington.

These events cause very little disruption or disturbance to the quiet enjoyment of my farm or house.

Furthermore they have been run for the last 12 years with minimal trouble.

They are much enjoyed by many people in the area. Including my late teenage and early 20's children. Its not my idea of fun but I do derive pleasure from seeing them all enjoy themselves.

I understand in excess of £70,000 has been raised for Keswick mountain rescue over the years.

I appreciate that some local householders would rather these events did not take place. However, I do feel that given the crowded nature of Hertfordshire it would be impossible to find a site in the county for an event of this nature that did not upset someone. Given that it is only one or two weekends a year I do not consider these festivals to be an intolerable burden.

From:
Sent: 12 May 2021 09:54
To: Housing & Health Services - Community Protection
Subject: [External] Wilkestock festival

Dear sirs,

As gen. sec. of the Association of festival organisers I monitor the work of our members on a regular basis.

WILKESTOCK organised by Tom Wilkes is one of our members and has had several years of successful festivals , raising considerable sums

for local and national charities through the staging of the festival.

The event I believe has a fine record of Health and safety for it's staff and customers and provides paid work for both local and national companies.

In turn it brings finance into the local economy as well as it's charitable profits.

The festival movement in the UK is strong and resilient and although has suffered like most industries in the pandemic the festival

Organisers are making every effort to get back to winning ways for everyone's benefit. Clearly 2021 will be a tough year but Tom is prepared to play his part in helping the local

Businesses get back up and running.

Festivals will always attract a very few people who don't always see the bigger picture, but of course have the right to complain.

What our industry needs are people like Tom Wilkes to stage events that have the wider community at heart and provide not only entertainment but

Culture, socio-economic benefit and an escape from daily life.

WILKESTOCK is just that and I would hope the Licensing authority will provide the appropriate permissions without too many restrictions.

Should the reader need further info please do not hesitate to contact me as below.

Yours sincerely

-

-

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 11:02
To:
Subject: [External] Wilkestock Charity Music Festival
Attachments: IMG_0768.jpg; ATT00001.txt

Please find the attached letter.

Regards

[REDACTED], Aston, Nr Stevenage. Hertfordshire SG2 7 [REDACTED]
Tel: [REDACTED]

30th April 2021

To whom it may concern

Music Festivals at Aston

We have lived at [REDACTED] for over 50 years. We have known the Wilkes family since they moved to Aston and have fully supported their festivals, especially given the circumstances that started them off. The festival is a fantastic way to remember a young man whose life was taken too soon.

We had no concerns about the festival expanding and becoming a commercial interest. For an event that has happened a few times per year we have seen no disturbance from increased traffic or pedestrians walking to and from the festival. We have around 20 businesses and have received no complaints from our tenants.

The organisers have supplied litter pickers, so any litter dropped is quickly picked up. Occasionally we do have festival goers walk past the farm but these have not been a problem.

Where we are situated we can hear music from Knebworth house events (3 miles away), so the noise we hear from the festival is minimal compared to this.

The events that have taken place are well organised, good natured and safe. The family keep us informed with everything that is happening.

We feel this event has many positives for the local community and we encourage our children and grandchildren to attend this great family event.

We fully support the festivals continuing a few times per year and look forward to 2022, especially as so many wonderful events have had to be cancelled due to Covid-19.

If you would like to speak to us about our experiences please call us on [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From:
Sent: 13 May 2021 10:32
To:
Subject: [External]

hi

I worked many times as a DJ at this venue and its by far my favourite.

I've djed all over the world and I can hand on heart tell you this place is one of the best. The back of beyond parties are so we run, friendly and well organised and I've never ever seen any trouble.

Not only do I work as paid artist I've also worked at the charity events and they are amazing. These events are for all ages and theirs such a mix people. It's a real community party.

It just makes no sense to not let them keep their licence.

I hope the right decision is made.



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