

Notice of Meeting



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Licensing Sub-Committee

Tuesday, 16th November, 2021 at 10.00 am

in Council Chamber, Council Offices,
Market Street

Members Interests

Note: If you consider you may have an interest in any Application included on this agenda then please seek early advice from the appropriate officers.

Date of despatch of Agenda: Monday, 8 November 2021

FURTHER INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

If you require further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents mentioned in the reports, please contact Jo Watt/Gillian Steele.

Further information and Minutes are also available on the Council's website at www.westberks.gov.uk



To: Councillors Adrian Abbs, Rick Jones, Tony Linden and Graham Pask

Agenda

Part I

Page No.

- 1 **Election of Chairman**
 - 2 **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest from Members.
 - 3 **Schedule of Licensing Applications**
- (1) **Application No. : 21/00812/LQN - Newbury Real Ale Festival, Northcroft Lane, RG14 1RS** 5 - 342
- Proposal:** Application to review the license.
Location: Newbury Real Ale Festival, Land between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club, Northcroft Lane, RG14 1RS
Applicant: Andrew Wyper

Sarah Clarke
Service Director: Strategy and Governance

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Stephen Chard on telephone (01635) 519462.



Licensing Sub-Committee Report

Review: Newbury Real Ale Festival, Land between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club, Northcroft Lane, Newbury, RG14 1RS (21/00812/LQN)

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|-----------------------------|---|
| Type of Application: | Application for the review of a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 |
| Parish: | Newbury Central |
| Ward Member: | Councillor Andy Moore and Councillor Martha Vickers |
| Case Officer: | Emilia Matheou (Licensing Officer) |
| Portfolio Holder: | Councillor Hilary Cole |
| Service Director: | Eric Owens |

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To set out the background information pertaining to this application for the review of a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Members are asked to decide, on consideration of the application and representations, whether further steps are required and appropriate in relation to premises licence 15/01127/LQN, to promote the licensing objectives. If not, the existing licence and conditions would remain in place as granted.
- 2.2 If Members consider that action is appropriate, Members are asked to decide whether or not to:-
 - (a) Issue an informal written warning to the licence holder and/or to recommend improvement specific to the licensing objectives within a particular period of time (this is an informal step outside of specific statutory powers, but can be considered in accordance with Statutory Guidance);
 - (b) Modify the conditions of the licence;
 - (c) Exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
 - (d) Remove the "Designated Premises Supervisor" (DPS) from the licence where one exists;
 - (e) Suspend the licence for a period of up to three months;
 - (f) Revoke the licence.

Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee are asked to make a decision at the end of the hearing after all relevant parties have been given the opportunity to speak and the hearing has been brought to a close. Members must give full reasons for their decision.

3. Background

3.1 Every premises that provides one or more of the licensable activities has to firstly obtain either a premises licence or a club premises certificate from the local licensing authority. That licence or certificate sets out the extent of the premises operation including the permitted times for the licensable activities and the established licence conditions.

3.2 Newbury Real Ale Festival has a premises licence, see Appendix 1, for the following licensable activities:

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|----------------------------------|---|
| <p>Performance of Live Music</p> | <p>Friday: 15:00 to 19:30 Saturday: 12:00 to 22:00</p> <p>Activity will take place both indoors and outdoors.</p> <p>Further Details: Live bands/ individuals will perform within 2 dedicated areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sound stage located between the former nursery building and the cricket club: and • a marquee to the south of the site (which will be fully enclosed). <p>The sound levels for both will be controlled by the onsite sound engineer who will be present throughout the event and will ensure that the levels are appropriate, do not compete with each other and therefore do not give rise to any noise pollution of nuisance to local residents.</p> <p>Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival.</p> |
| <p>Recorded Music</p> | <p>Friday: 15:00 to 19:30 Saturday: 12:00 to 22:00</p> <p>Activity will take place both indoors and outdoors</p> <p>Further Details: Recorded music will potentially be played between music acts.</p> <p>Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival.</p> |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Supply of Alcohol | Friday: 15:00 to 19:30 Saturday: 12:00 to 22:00 Activity will take place both indoors and outdoors Further Details: Recorded music will potentially be played between music acts Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival. |
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3.3 The hours the premises is open to the public under the licence are listed as:

Saturday: 12:00 to 23:30

Further Details: Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival.

3.4 In addition to the relevant mandatory conditions under the Licensing Act 2003 and secondary legislation a number of additional conditions were attached to the licence when the licence was issued in August 2015. These conditions are included in Appendix 1 to this report.

3.5 The conditions include:

- A register of door staff will be completed and an incident register shall be provided to record all notable instances occurring at the premises.
- The organisers of the event (the committee) will also be on site at all times.
- An acoustic consultant will be available throughout the event to undertake regular checks on the perimeter of the site to ensure that the music levels are within an acceptable level and are not causing a potential nuisance to local residents.
- The performance / playing of live and recorded music will cease at 10:30pm at the latest.
- 7 — 10 days prior to the event, a leaflet drop to the surrounding local residents will be undertaken to provide them with information on the event (including the finishing time) and providing contact details for a member of the organising committee both before and during the event.
- All staff shall be trained in the requirements of the Challenge 21 policy.
- Entrants to the event will be given a coloured wristband and different coloured wristbands will be given to Under 18's.
- Any person under the age of 18 shall be accompanied by a person over the age of 18 years whilst at the licensed premises.

- The sale of alcohol is to take place through the pre-purchase of tokens (at the event only).
 - The Premises Licence Holder shall produce an initial Noise Management and Community Liaison Plan (NMP) at least 56 days prior to the commencement of the event. The final NMP shall be submitted to the Licensing Authority for agreement no later than 14 days prior to the commencement of the event. No alteration to the NMP after this date shall be made by the Premises Licence Holder except with the written consent of the Licensing Authority.
 - The final NMP shall contain the methodology which shall be employed to control sound produced on the premises, in order to comply with the premises licence. The NMP must include all of the arrangements for preventing public nuisance and consultation with the local community and shall include:
 - a) An inventory of all sound systems to be used on the site.
 - b) A schedule of contact details for those who are responsible for the sound systems.
 - c) A list of stages together with, a schedule of their location, orientation and shut down times.
 - d) Management command and communication structure /methods for ensuring that permitted noise levels and finish times are not exceeded.
 - e) Publication and dissemination of information to the public and arrangements for provision and staffing of a hotline number for dealing with complaints
 - f) Action to be taken by the Event Organiser following complaints.
 - At least 7 days prior to an event the Premises Licence Holder shall provide to the licensing authority a telephone number for contacting the licence holder or a nominated representative during the course of an event.
 - Noise levels from music and assessment methods shall be agreed in writing with the Licensing Authority no later than 14 days in advance of the event.
 - Noise levels from music shall be assessed at locations to be agreed in writing with the Licensing Authority no later than 14 days in advance of the event.
- 3.6 Once granted the licence exists for the life of the business or operation concerned. There is no regular review or renewal of these licences. However, should any particular premises operation give rise to cause for concern in relation to the licensing objectives then a review of the premises licence or club premises certificate can be sought.
- 3.7 Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee are asked to determine this application as the Licensing Authority has received a valid application for the review of a premises licence under section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 for this premises.
- 3.8 The application states that the review relates to the licensing objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.
- 3.9 The Licensing Authority may only consider aspects relevant to the application that have been raised in these representations.

3.10 Where an application for a review has been received and accepted by the Licensing Authority, and the concerns have not been resolved through mediation between all parties, leading to the withdrawal of the application, the Licensing Act 2003 requires that these applications should be determined by the Licensing Authority's Licensing Committee. The Licensing Act 2003 allows for applications such as this one to be delegated to a Sub-Committee.

4. Application

4.1 The Licensing Authority had received an application to review the premise licence for Newbury Real Ale Festival from Mr Andrew Wyper.

4.2 A copy of the application is attached as Appendix 2.

4.3 The licence 15/01127/LQN was granted to the licensee Newbury and Thatcham Hockey Club in August 2015. As above, the original licence is attached at Appendix 1.

4.4 A plan showing the location of the premises is included in Appendix 1. This year the Newbury Real Ale Festival took place on Saturday 11th September 2021. Licensable activities took place under the premises licence, namely live and recorded music and supply of alcohol. The stage faced Newbury town centre this year. The weather was bright, sunny with little wind. Following the event five complaints were received by Environment Health regarding the elevated noise levels from the event. Prior to this, since the premises licence was granted in 2015 Environmental Health received two other complaints about noise arising from this event. These two complaints occurred in 2015.

5. Outline of the Grounds for Review

5.1 The reasons given for applying for a review are set out in full at Appendix 2. The applicant has, in summary, commented that the event encourages criminal behaviour and disorder. It constitutes a public nuisance because of excess and continuous noise levels throughout the day and late into the evening. The applicant states that he believes the event is potentially harmful to children because of excess alcohol intake around the children in attendance, and abusive language being used within earshot of children resident in the area. He states that the noise emanating from the event also disrupts the sleep of younger children in the vicinity of the event.

5.2 The applicant is also concerned that the event is bigger than it used to be when it first started a few years ago and has also become louder, with live and recorded music being played for long and continuous periods. The applicant has provided a comment about the future expansion of the event which was included in a Newbury Weekly News article (see Appendix 2b) in support of the representations he has made.

5.3 He reported that a resident of Bewicks Reach had discovered an individual urinating next to the communal bin rooms at around 5.30pm on the 11th September 2021. The individual claimed to have attended the beer festival and been desperate for the toilet.

5.4 The applicant checked noise levels from the boundary between his property and the event on the day of the event. He found that typical levels were around 60-80 dE but were sometimes higher which he believed could constitute a potential risk to the hearing of residents and an even greater risk to the hearing of those closer to the source.

- 5.5 He also commented that in addition to the potential damage to hearing, continuous noise levels of this type were disruptive to the lives of residents during the event and interfered with residents' rights to enjoy their properties.
- 5.6 The applicant noted that children also attended the event and he was of the opinion that the excess alcohol consumption of some attendees, along with language used, was inappropriate for children.
- 5.7 He commented that attendees leaving the event could be heard shouting aggressively and sometimes using inappropriate language in earshot of his children (aged seven and nine) in their own living room. He stated that his children had been unable to fall sleep until the event had finished.
- 5.8 The applicant had contacted the organisers by email on Friday 10 September 2021 asking when music would be expected to cease and was informed that the last song was expected to finish at 9.30pm with everyone to have left site by 10.30pm. However, the music did not finish until 10.00pm. He noted that he had received an apology by email on the Sunday morning about this.
- 5.9 He was concerned about the large numbers of inebriated people in a residential area and he therefore believed that Northcroft Park is no longer a suitable venue for an event. The applicant stated that although the event is billed as a family event, it is an event dedicated to consumption, often in excess, of alcohol.
- 5.10 The applicant included an email relating to a previous event to his application (see appendix 2a).

6. Notification to Premises Licence Holder

- 6.1 A copy of the review and enclosure(s) were sent by the applicant to the registered address of the premises licence holder on 19 September 2021. Licensing Officers also sent the application to the licence holder via email on the 24 September 2021. Licensing Officers also forwarded the information on to the responsible authorities on behalf of the applicant. A copy of the notice attached at Appendix 1a was placed at the site.
- 6.2 The Licensee has put together a bundle of documents that they would rely on during their presentation and these are attached at Appendix 3.

7. Consultation

- 7.1 The 28 day consultation period inviting representations about the application ran from 24 September 2021 to 22 October 2021. Responsible Authorities, Ward Members and the Parish Council were advised by email on the 24 September 2021. The application has been advertised in accordance with the regulations, with the required notices displayed by the Licensing Authority at the premises subject to review, and at the Council Offices in Market Street, Newbury and on the Public Protection Partnership website.
- 7.2 The Council received 232 responses to the consultation from persons/organisations who are not Responsible Authorities. Of those responses received, 193 were valid "relevant representations" in the context of the review application and in accordance the Licensing Act 2003 and Statutory Guidance. Only these 193 written representations can be considered when determining the application.

7.3 The representations have been broadly grouped into support for the review and support for licence holder respectively.

7.4 There are 16 representations in support of the review which are included in full at Appendix 4. The supporters for the review are all local residents. The supporters for the review's comments were varied. They were concerned that the event was turning into more of a music festival than a beer festival, the noise level was in excess of previous years, they had concerns about the amplification of the music and the location of the stage, the music had overrun, people leaving the event had been seen urinating in nearby properties, concerns about accessibility of emergency services should residents need them, impact on sleeping patterns of local children, it was not an appropriate event for a residential area and some of the lyrics from the musicians were not acceptable for a family event.

There are 177 representations in support of the licence holder which are included in full at Appendix 5. The supporters for the licence holder are a mixture of local residents, individuals who attended the event, individuals who have worked at the event and representatives of organisations who are associated with the event including charity, sponsors, security provider. The reasons for respondents supporting the event were also varied. Supporters commented they had not witnessed any anti-social behaviour or disorder, it was a family friendly, safe and secure environment, volunteer staff are well briefed, there were sufficient numbers of security personnel, they had no issues with excessive noise or any disturbances and the clean up on the following day was effective.

7.5 In addition the Licensing Team also received some information from one of the supporters of the licence holder in the form of a survey generated and disseminated by Community Matters which asked people to put forward their response to the application to the Council to review the license for the Real Ale Festival. As well as responses to the points made in the application, the survey also included a request for ideas on how to improve the festival for the local community.

7.6 The survey generated 285 responses and the full document is attached at Appendix 5a. Of those that responded 83% had attended the event at least twice, 53% had taken children to the event, 96% stated that they did not think the event was harmful to children, 97% did not think the noise emanating from the event constituted a public nuisance and 98% did not think the event encouraged criminal behaviour.

7.7 Suggestions for improvement included having toilets at the exit and more toilets available in general, printing information on the tickets about being considerate when leaving and make announcements about that during the event, giving consideration to the orientation of the stage, an earlier finish to the music, having quieter music towards the end of the event programme, return to being a beer festival and not a music festival, more lower alcohol beer on offer, only allow over 18s into the event and have family friendly areas away from the beer tent.

7.8 A representation was also received from Environment Health which supported the review of the licence. The comments from Russell Davidson, Environment Health Officer, on behalf of Environmental Health as a Responsible Authority, are set out in Appendix 6. He noted that there were specific conditions set out in the existing licence to limit noise and reduce disturbance to neighbouring properties.

- 7.9 He had met with the licensee and sound crew on the day before the event and noticed that the stage this year was facing Newbury town centre which was different to the previous event in 2019 and different to what was detailed in the previously submitted and accepted 2021 Noise Management Plan (NMP) which he had reviewed. During the visit he was also introduced to the person (James Hollamby) responsible for sound and stage arrangements which was not the person specified in the NMP.
- 7.10 A noise limit of 65dB (A) Leq 15 minutes was agreed with James Hollamby with the compliance point being the façade of a block of flats known as Bewicks Reach, Northcroft Lane, around 238 m opposite the main stage. In addition someone from Mr Hollamby's staff would be monitoring the noise levels from the rear boundary of the event site.
- 7.11 Noise monitoring took place from 6.30pm to 10pm on the day of the event. Readings taken during the music set starting at 6.30pm were continuously above the agreed noise limit with a maximum noise level of 71 dB(A) Leq being monitored. Following contact with James Hollamby the noise levels were reduced but the noise limit was not reached.
- 7.12 During the final act, which started at 9pm noise monitoring at the compliance point indicated a Leq level of 77dB(A) and James Hollamby was contacted again by text. Russell Davidson then tried to access the site to speak with the DPS but was unable to. Noise monitoring therefore continued at the compliance point until the set finished at 10pm. This was different to what was detailed in the NMP which had specified that although the Premise Licence permits music to 10pm a target finish time of 9.15pm, latest 9.30pm was given. Noise level was continuously above the agreed noise limit with noise levels being measured at 9.35pm of 73 dB(A) Leq15mins and at 9.50pm of 69.6 dB(A) Leq15mins.
- 7.13 Russell Davidson contacted Sara Duffield after the event and the content of those discussions are detailed in his report.

8. Responses Received from Responsible Authorities:

Fire Authority – None

The Chief Officer of Police Thames Valley – None

Environmental Health – see paragraphs 7.8 to 7.13

The Local Enforcement Agency for the Health and Safety at work etc. Act 1974 – None

The Weights and Measures Authority/Trading Standards – None

Children's Safeguarding Board - None

Public Health - None

Home Office Immigration - None

Planning –.None

The Licensing Authority – None

9. Options

- 9.1 The Home Office’s Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (April 2018) must be taken into account when determining this Application.
- 9.2 Members are asked to consider, after taking all the relevant representations both oral and written into account, and having due regard to the licensing objectives, whether or not it is appropriate to take any action in relation to the premises licence (and conditions attached thereto), and, if so, whether or not to revoke or amend the existing licence in accordance with the options available to them as set out at paragraph 2.2 above.
- 9.3 Members will need to provide the reasons for their decision(s) in the decision notice.
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Background Papers:

- (1) The Licensing Act 2003, appropriate Regulations, Statutory Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003
 - (2) The Council’s Statement of Licensing Policy Licensing Act 2003
 - (3) The Council’s Constitution
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10. Appendices

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|---------------|---|
| Appendix 1 – | The current premise licence |
| Appendix 1a – | The Notice |
| Appendix 2 – | Application to Review the Premise Licence |
| Appendix 2a – | email about previous event |
| Appendix 2b – | Information about future events |
| Appendix 3 – | Licensee’s Bundle |
| Appendix 4 – | Supporters of Review |
| Appendix 5 – | Supporters of Licence Holder |
| Appendix 5a – | Survey |
| Appendix 6 – | Environment Health Submission |

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West Berkshire District Council

Culture And Environmental Protection, Environmental Health & Licensing, Council Offices, Market Street,
Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5LD
Tel: (01635) 519184 Fax (01635) 519172

Licensing Act 2003 Premises Licence

Uniform Ref: 15/01127/LQN

Premises licence number 15/01127/LQN

Part 1 - Premises details

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

Newbury Real Ale Festival
Land Between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club
Northcroft Lane, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 1RS

Licensable activities authorised by the licence

Performance of Live Music
Recorded Music
Supply of Alcohol

The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

Performance of Live Music

Friday: 15:00 to 19:30

Saturday: 12:00 to 22:00

Activity will take place Indoors/Outdoors : **Both**

Further Details: Live bands / individuals will perform within 2 dedicated areas, a sound stage located between the former nursery building and the cricket club and a marquee to the south of the site (which will be fully enclosed).

The sound levels for both will be controlled by the onsite sound engineer who will be present throughout the event and will ensure that the levels are appropriate, do not compete with each other and therefore do not give rise to any noise pollution of nuisance to local residents.

Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival

Recorded Music

Friday: 15:00 to 19:30

Saturday: 12:00 to 22:00

Activity will take place Indoors/Outdoors : **Both**

Further Details: Recorded music will potentially be played between music acts

Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival

Supply of Alcohol

Friday: 15:00 to 21:00

Saturday: 12:00 to 23:00

Alcohol On/Off Premises: **On Premises**

Further Details: Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival

The opening hours of the premises

Saturday: 12:00 to 23:30

Further Details: Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival

Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol whether these are on and/ or off supplies

On /Off Sales : **ON**

Part 2

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

Newbury And Thatcham Hockey Club
Clubhouse, Henwick Worthy Sports Ground, Henwick Lane, Thatcham, Berkshire,
RG18 3BN

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

Mrs Sara Louise Dufield
[Redacted]

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

10/01019/LIA West Berkshire Council

Date: 21st August 2015

Signed:

[Redacted]
Authorised Officer

Licence granted 12/08/2015

Annex 1 - Mandatory conditions

Premises - Supply of Alcohol

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.

The Licensing Act 2003 (Mandatory Licensing Conditions) (Amendment) Order 2014 (in force 1 October 2014)

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.

(1) 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.

(2) For the purposes of the condition set out in paragraph 1 –

- 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 rate 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) "valued added tax" means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994
- (3) Where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 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.
- (4)
- 1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 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.

Premises - Door Supervision

1. Where a premises licence includes a condition that at specified times one or more individuals must be at the premises to carry out a security activity, the licence must include a condition that each such individual must be licensed by the Security Industry Authority.
2. But nothing in subsection (1) requires such a condition to be imposed-
 - a) in respect of premises within paragraph 8(3)(a) of Schedule 2 to the Private Security Industry Act 2001 (c.12) (premises with premises licences authorising plays or films), or
 - b) in respect of premises in relation to -
 - i. any occasion mentioned in paragraph 8(3)(b) or (c) of that Schedule (premises being used exclusively by club with club premises certificate, under a temporary event notice authorising plays or films or under a gaming licence), or
 - ii. any occasion within paragraph 8(3)(d) of that Schedule (occasions prescribed by regulations under the Act).
3. For the purposes of this section-
 - a) security activity means an activity to which paragraph 2(1)(a) of the Schedule applies, and
 - b) paragraph 8(5) of that Schedule (interpretation of references to an occasion) applies as it applies in relation to paragraph 8 of the Schedule.

Annex 2 - Conditions consistent with the operating Schedule dated 13/07/2015

General

Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

1. A register of door staff will be completed and will include the following information:
 - The name, home address and SIA registration numbers, of all door supervisors, working at the premises.
 - The date and time that the door supervisor commenced duty and finished work, countersigned by the Designated Premise Supervisor or Duty Manager.
 - A record of any occurrence or incident of interest giving the names of the door supervisors involved.
2. An incident register shall be provided to record all notable instances occurring at the premises.
3. The organisers of the event (the committee) will also be on site at all times.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

1. An acoustic consultant will be available throughout the event to undertake regular checks on the perimeter of the site to ensure that the music levels are within an acceptable level and are not causing a potential nuisance to local residents.
2. The performance / playing of live and recorded music will cease at 10:30pm at the latest.
3. 7 – 10 days prior to the event, a leaflet drop to the surrounding local residents will be undertaken to provide them with information on the event (including the finishing time) and providing contact details for a member of the organising committee both before and during the event.

Protection of Children from Harm

1. All staff shall be trained in the requirements of the Challenge 21 policy the identification & recognition of drunks and the correct procedure to be followed when refusing service.
2. Entrants to the event will be given a coloured wristband and different coloured wristbands will be given to Under 18's.
3. Any person under the age of 18 shall be accompanied by a person over the age of 18 years whilst at the licensed premises.
4. The sale of alcohol is to take place through the pre-purchase of tokens (at the event only).

Conditions agreed with Environmental Health 06/07/2015

1. The Premises Licence Holder shall produce an initial Noise Management and Community Liaison Plan (NMP) at least 56 days prior to the commencement of the event. The final NMP shall be submitted to the Licensing Authority for agreement no later than 14 days prior to the commencement of the event. No alteration to the NMP after this date shall be made by the Premises Licence Holder except with the written consent of the Licensing Authority.
2. The final NMP shall contain the methodology which shall be employed to control sound produced on the premises, in order to comply with the premises licence. The NMP must include all of the arrangements for preventing public nuisance and consultation with the local community and shall include:
 - a) An inventory of all sound systems to be used on the site.
 - b) A schedule of contact details for those who are responsible for the sound systems.
 - c) A list of stages together with, a schedule of their location, orientation and shut down times.
 - d) Management command and communication structure /methods for ensuring that permitted noise levels and finish times are not exceeded.
 - e) Publication and dissemination of information to the public and arrangements for provision and staffing of a hotline number for dealing with complaints
 - f) Action to be taken by the Event Organiser following complaints.
3. The Premises Licence Holder shall ensure compliance with all aspects of the Noise Management and Community Liaison Plan. The Premises Licence Holder shall also make sure any traders on site comply with the Plan.
4. At least 7 days prior to an event the Premises Licence Holder shall provide to the licensing authority a telephone number for contacting the licence holder or a nominated representative during the course of an event.
5. Noise levels from music and assessment methods shall be agreed in writing with the Licensing Authority no later than 14 days in advance of the event.
6. Noise levels from music shall be assessed at locations to be agreed in writing with the Licensing Authority no later than 14 days in advance of the event.
7. The sound systems shall be operated to ensure compliance with conditions 5 and 6 at all times.
8. The Premises Licence Holder shall appoint a responsible person to assess and record details of assessments made, to ensure compliance with Conditions 5 and 6.

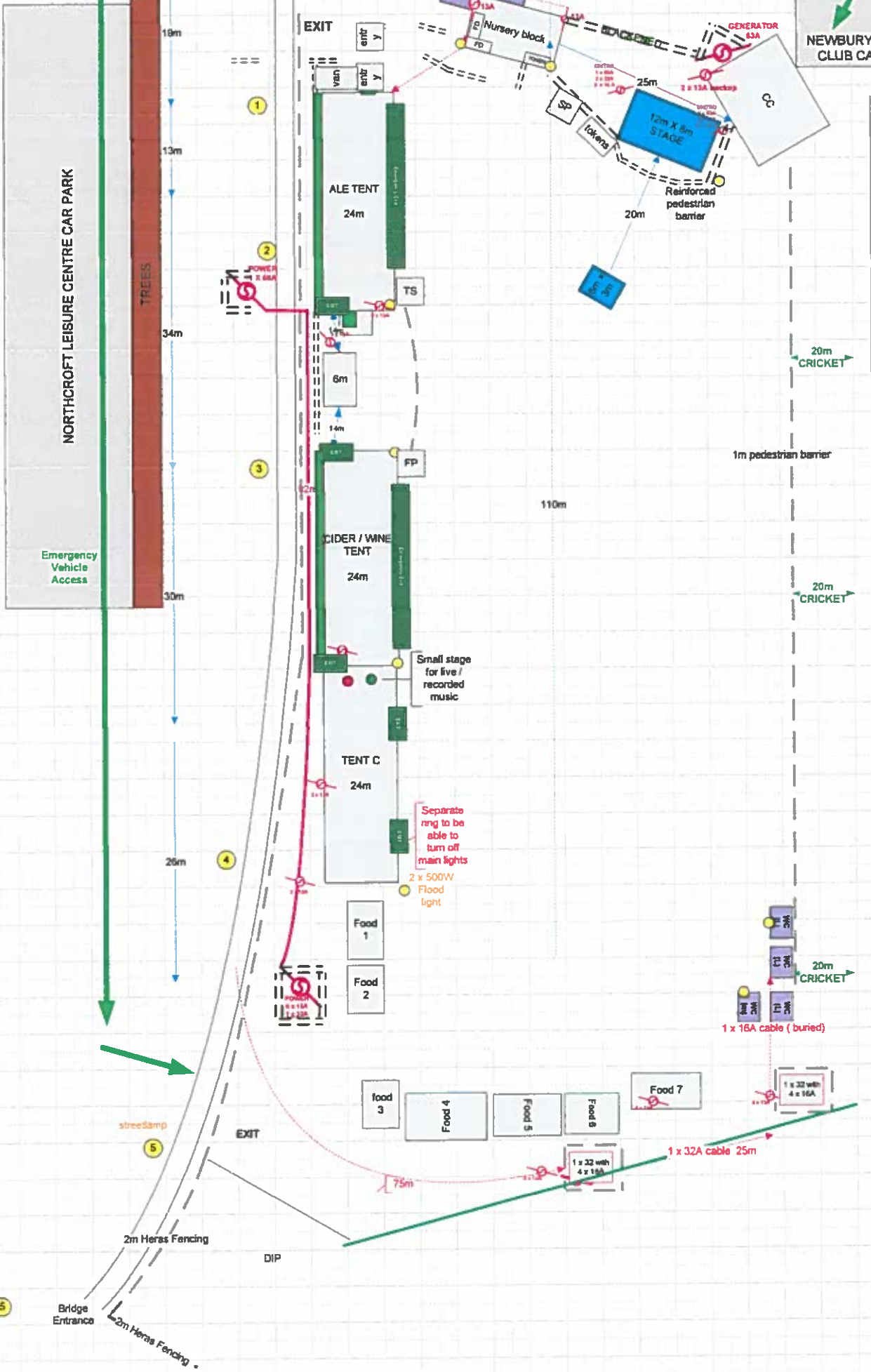
Annex 3 - Conditions attached after a hearing by the licensing authority

None

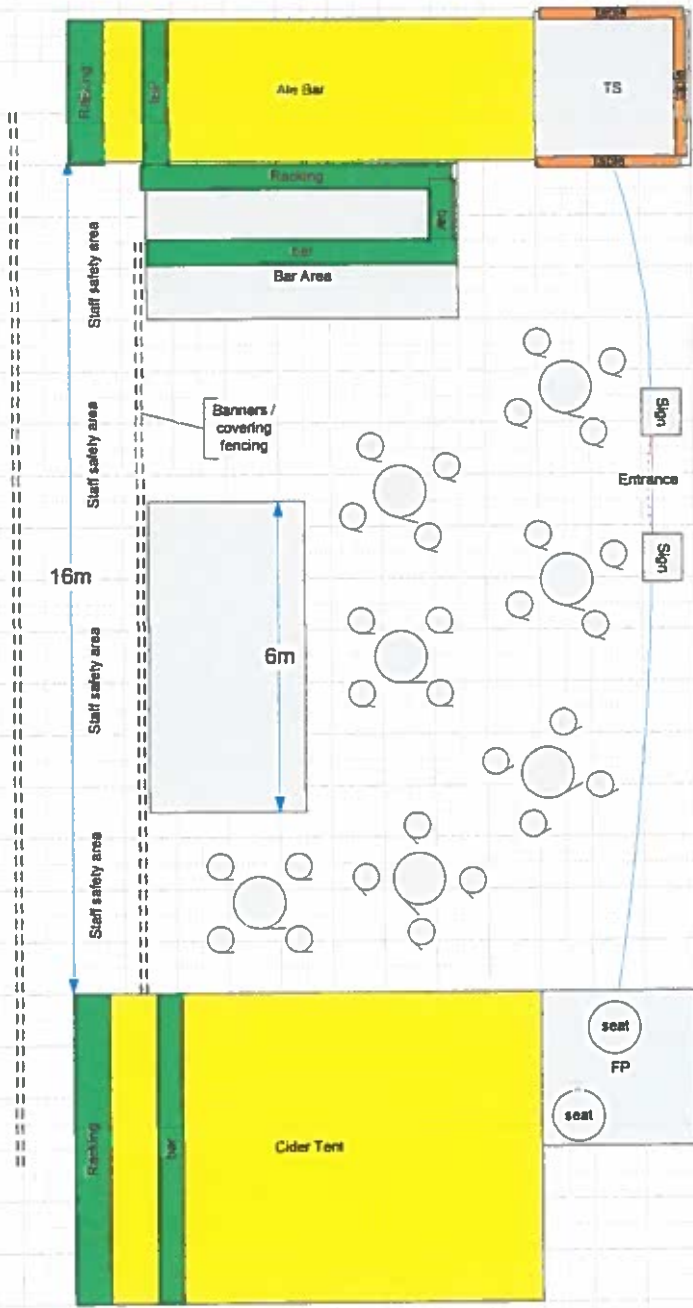
Annex 4 - Plans as submitted 13/07/2015

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rev 1

Emergency Vehicle Access
NEWBURY CRICKET CLUB CAR PARK

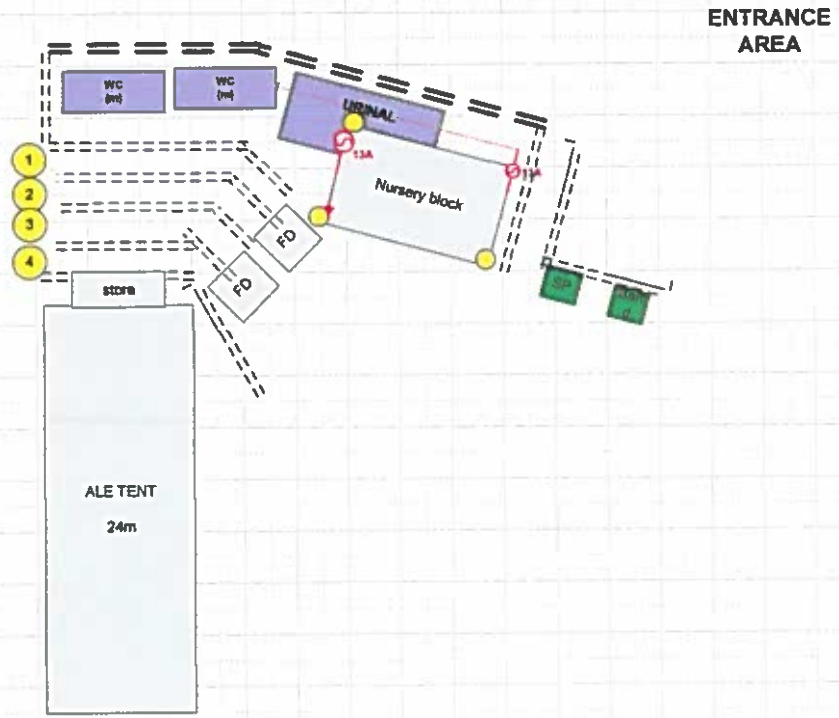


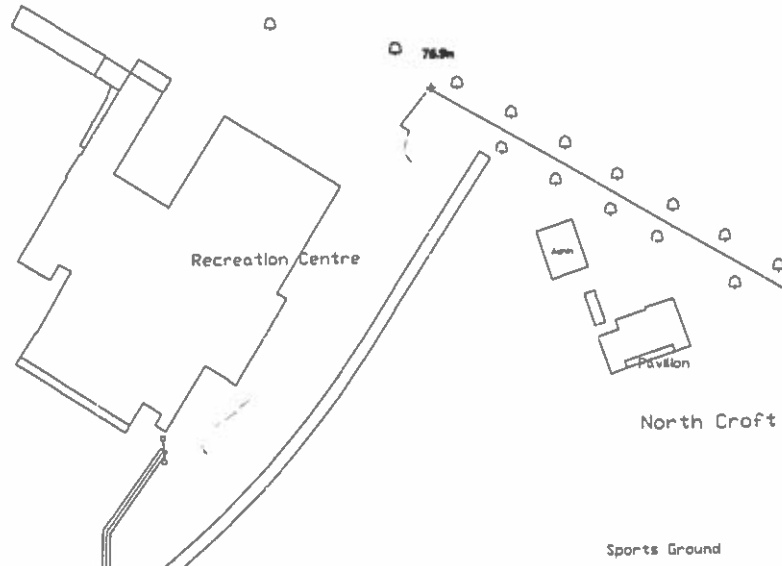
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**SPONSORS
AREA**

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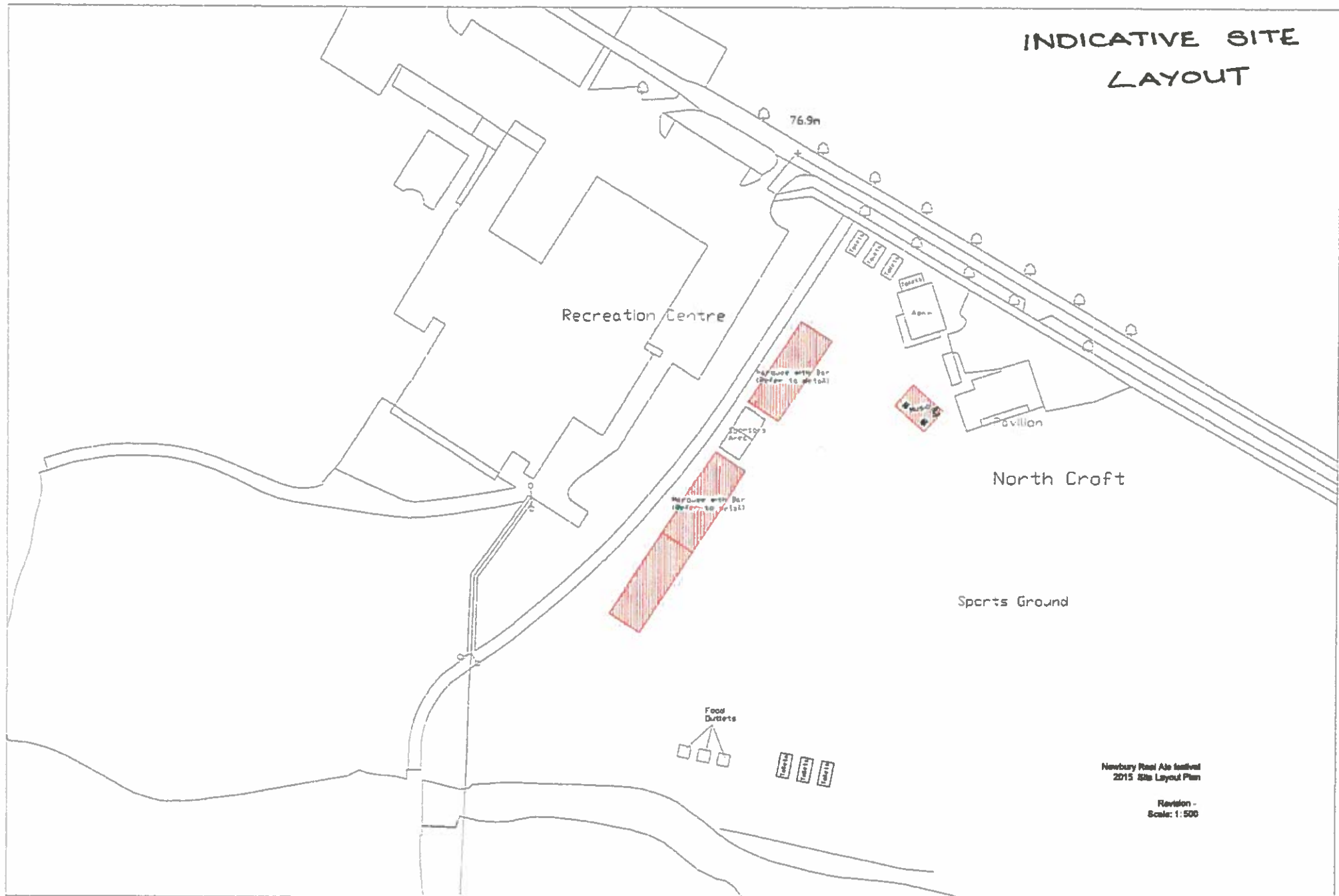




Newbury Real Ale Limited
2012 Proposed Site Layout Plan

Revision -
Scale: 1:500

INDICATIVE SITE LAYOUT



Newbury Road Ale Festival
2015 Site Layout Plan

Revision -
Scale: 1:500

West Berkshire District Council

Culture And Environmental Protection, Environmental Health & Licensing, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury,
Berkshire RG14 5LD

Tel: (01635) 519184 Fax (01635) 519172

Licensing Act 2003 Premises Licence Summary

Uniform Ref: 15/01127/LQN

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Premises licence number | 15/01127/LQN |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|

Premises details

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

Newbury Real Ale Festival
Land Between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club
Northcroft Lane, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 1RS

Licensable activities authorised by the licence

Performance of Live Music
Recorded Music
Supply of Alcohol

The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

Performance of Live Music

Friday: 15:00 to 19:30

Saturday: 12:00 to 22:00

Activity will take place Indoors/Outdoors : **Both**

Further Details: Live bands / individuals will perform within 2 dedicated areas, a sound stage located between the former nursery building and the cricket club and a marquee to the south of the site (which will be fully enclosed).

The sound levels for both will be controlled by the onsite sound engineer who will be present throughout the event and will ensure that the levels are appropriate, do not compete with each other and therefore do not give rise to any noise pollution of nuisance to local residents.

Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival

Recorded Music

Friday: 15:00 to 19:30

Saturday: 12:00 to 22:00

Activity will take place Indoors/Outdoors : **Both**

Further Details: Recorded music will potentially be played between music acts.

Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival

Supply of Alcohol

Friday: 15:00 to 21:00

Saturday: 12:00 to 23:00

Alcohol On/Off Premises: **On Premises**

Further Details: Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival

The opening hours of the premises

Saturday: 12:00 to 23:30

Further Details: Licence limited to a single consecutive Friday and Saturday in September for the purposes of the Real Ale Festival

Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol whether these are on and/or off supplies

On/Off Sales : **ON**

Name, (registered) address of holder of premises licence

Newbury And Thatcham Hockey Club
Clubhouse, Henwick Worthy Sports Ground, Henwick Lane, Thatcham, Berkshire,
RG18 3BN

Name of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises the supply of alcohol

Mrs Sara Louise Dutfield

Date: 21st August 2015

Signed:


Authorised Officer

Licence granted 12/08/2015

The Licensing Act 2003 (Premises licences and club premises certificates) Regulations 2005

Notice

Ref No: 21/00812/LQN

Name of Applicant: Andrew Wyper

Name of Premise: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Address of Premise: Land at Northcroft Sports Centre
Northcroft Lane, Newbury,
West Berkshire RG14 1RS

The applicant has made an application under section 51 of The Licensing Act 2003 for the review of the premises licence which is in force at the premises.

The grounds on which a review is being sought:
The undermining of the licensing objectives of The Prevention of Crime and Disorder, The Prevention of Public Nuisance and The Protection of Children from Harm.

You are advised that the above application has been received by the Council. The full application may be viewed by appointment at;

Public Protection Partnership (Licensing)
West Berkshire District Council
Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD

Email: licensing@westberks.gov.uk

Anyone likely to be affected by the application or responsible authority may make representations in writing to the Licensing Authority at the above address **no later than 22 October 2021.**

Representations **will not be accepted** after this date.

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is an unlimited fine.

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Rec: MSO 20.9.21
Rec: Theale 20.9.21

[Insert name and address of relevant licensing authority and its reference number (optional)]

**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 Andrew Wyper

(Insert name of applicant)

**apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the
premises described in Part 1 below (delete as applicable)**

Part 1 – Premises or club premises details

| | |
|---|--|
| Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description Land between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club, Northcroft Lane | |
| Post town Newbury | Post code (if known) [REDACTED] |
| Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known) Miss Sara Louise Dutfield Newbury And Thatcham Hockey Club Clubhouse, Henwick Lane, Thatcham, Berkshire, [REDACTED] | |
| Number of premises licence or club premises certificate (if known) 15/01127/LQN | |

Part 2 - Applicant details

I am

Please tick ✓ yes

- 1) an individual, body or business which is not a responsible authority (please read guidance note 1, and complete (A) or (B) below)
- 2) a responsible authority (please complete (C) below)
- 3) a member of the club to which this application relates (please complete (A) below)

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

Please tick ✓ yes

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

Surname

First names

I am 18 years old or over

Please tick ✓ yes

Current postal address if different from premises address

Post town

Post Code

Daytime contact telephone number

E-mail address (optional)

(B) DETAILS OF OTHER APPLICANT

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

(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

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

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

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

Please tick one or more boxes ✓

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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

1. The event encourages criminal behaviour and disorder.
3. The event constitutes a public nuisance because of excess and continuous noise levels throughout the day and late into the evening.
4. The event is potentially harmful to children because of excess alcohol intake around children in attendance, and abusive language being used within earshot of children resident in the area. In addition, sleep of younger children is disrupted by the excess noise.

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

The event is bigger than it used to be when it first started a few years ago and has also become louder, with live and recorded music being played for long and continuous periods.

Evidence for grounds for review:

1. A resident of Bewicks Reach discovered an individual urinating next to the communal bin rooms at around 5.30 p.m. on 11. September. When confronted, the individual claimed to have attended the beer festival and been desperate for the toilet.
3. I checked noise levels using the NIOSH app on an ipad from the boundary between my property at RG14 [REDACTED] and the Northcroft Lane West car park at RG14 1BN on the day of the event. Typical levels were around 60-80 dB but sometimes higher and for long continuous periods between the early afternoon and 10.00 p.m. I refer to NIOSH guidelines advising ear defenders be provided to workers at 85 dB, with assessment at 80 dB and I suggest that continuous noise levels as recorded can thus be considered to constitute a potential risk to the hearing of residents. Furthermore, levels must have been higher within the park area and thus constitute an even greater risk to the hearing of those closer to the source. Even if attendees may be deemed to have willingly accepted the risk of hearing damage, those not attending the event certainly have not. I note that the area is close to multiple residential properties. In addition to the potential damage to hearing, continuous noise levels of this type are disruptive to the lives of residents during the event and interfere with residents' rights to enjoy their properties.
4. Children also attend the event, and I would submit that the excess alcohol consumption of some attendees, along with language used, is inappropriate for children. Attendees leaving the event could be heard shouting aggressively and sometimes using inappropriate language in earshot of my own children (ages 7 & 9) in their own living room. In addition, my children were unable to sleep until after the event finished at 10.00 p.m. which I think is unacceptably late for children of this age.

This event has caused excess noise and disruption in previous years, and I contacted the organisers by email on Friday 10 Sept asking when music would be expected to cease. I received a response that same day informing me that the last song was expected to finish at 9.30 p.m. with everyone to have left site by 10.30. However, music did not in fact finish until 10.00 p.m. I did receive an apology by email on Sunday morning.

I have previously registered concerns about this event and do not believe that live music, especially at this volume, is acceptable in a residential area. I also do not think it is acceptable for large numbers of people to be inebriated in a residential area.

I attach previous email correspondence from 2018 between then Councillor James Fredrickson and myself and refer you to the request he subsequently made to Mark Edwards, Head of Highways at West Berks Council, for footfall management to be reviewed. This seems not to have happened.

I believe Northcroft Park is no longer a suitable venue for an event, which although billed as a family event is in fact clearly an event dedicated to consumption, often in excess, of alcohol.

For the above reasons, I appeal against this licence.

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

Please tick ✓ yes

If yes please state the date of that application

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

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

Licence holder only
as I have no details
of responsible authorities

Please tick ✓

yes

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

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

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 4)

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

Signature

.....

Date 14.09.21

.....

Capacity Applicant

.....

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6)

Post town

Post Code

Telephone number (if any)

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

Notes for Guidance

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

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Fw: Beer festival

From: wyperajw@aol.com (wyperajw@aol.com)

To: andrew.wyper@yahoo.com

Date: Saturday, 18 September 2021, 13:59 BST

— Forwarded Message —

From: James Fredrickson <james.fredrickson@westberks.gov.uk>

To: wyperajw@aol.com <wyperajw@aol.com>

Cc: Mark Edwards <Mark.Edwards@westberks.gov.uk>; lindsey.finch@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk <lindsey.finch@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk>

Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2018, 11:01:13 AM GMT+1

Subject: RE: Beer festival

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for contacting me. Given the content of your email - I'm cc'ing both the Council's Head of Highways (Mark Edwards) and our Thames Valley Police Contact - Lindsey Finch. Having attended the event myself multiple times - I fully appreciate the impact that the footfall and congestion has on the surrounding area.

Mark - whilst the event is over for this year - we should look at reviewing parking arrangements (and associated footfall management) to mitigate the impact on the surrounding estate.

Lindsey - in light of the provided car registration - just want to make you aware of this in case this ties in to any ongoing activity the police may be taking.

Best wishes,

Cllr James Fredrickson
Victoria Ward
Lead Member for Economic Development
07901 947 387

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

From: wyperajw@aol.com [mailto:wyperajw@aol.com]

Sent: 09 September 2018 13:44

To: James Fredrickson <James.Fredrickson@westberks.gov.uk>

Subject: Beer festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Good morning James,

I would like to raise a complaint about the Newbury beer festival and would appreciate if you could either pass this on or deal with it yourself.

In recent years, I have tolerated the noise of this annual event at Northcroft but in the last two years it has become ever bigger and noisier. In fact, the organisers boast of this. Noise is my main concern. As the event has grown, the crowds have moved closer and closer to my garden - I live directly adjacent to the car park between Bewicks Reach and the park itself. I am also concerned though by the terms of the licensing. It is marketed as a 'family event' yet the drunken behaviour and swearing is anything but family oriented and I object to the licensing on these grounds.

Perhaps more worrying, I have watched today as the organisers disassembled the equipment. A BMW has just gone by my window accompanied by a loud clattering noise. His trailer was stacked full of metal poles and similar and one batch

of these had tumbled out onto the pavement. Had these hit a passerby, they would probably have killed them. Fortunately they didn't but he didn't seem too bothered about safety. The police are obviously too busy to worry about such minor matters and prefer nowadays to appear after the event, when something horrific has occurred. It is an example though of the lack of professionalism at such events. The registration number by the way was KJ53 WWB if you have any way of making a complaint to the organisers.

I wonder if you could look into my concerns and advise how to have this event stopped in future before it gets out of hand.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,
Andrew Wyper,
Bewicks Reach

This email and any attachments to it may be confidential and are intended solely for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed. Any views or opinions expressed may not necessarily represent those of West Berkshire Council. If you are not the intended recipient of this email, you must neither take any action based upon its contents, nor copy or show it to anyone. Please contact the sender if you believe you have received this e-mail in error. All communication sent to or from West Berkshire Council may be subject to recording and or monitoring in accordance with UK legislation, are subject to the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and may therefore be disclosed to a third party on request.

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Fiona and Jon Barrett, from Hermitage, with their children Scarlett (7) and William (5) at this year's event. Ref: 37-1721

The 2021 festival has only just taken place in Newbury, having been cancelled last year because of Covid.

On its Facebook page, the festival says it hopes to expand the scale of the event next year.

Privacy

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LICENCE REVIEW

Newbury Real Ale Festival, Land between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club
Northcroft Lane, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 1RS

INDEX

1. Event Overview
23. Risk Assessment Overview
30. Noise Management Plan
43. Noise Level Record
44. Excerpt from Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts
45. Image of Noise Thermometer
46. CDC webpage on NIOSH App
47. Letter from Kit Malthouse MP
49. Letter from NTIA

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Event Overview

Background Information

The Newbury Real Ale Festival event will take place on the Northcroft Playing Fields, between Newbury Cricket Club and Northcroft Leisure Centre. In 2021 the licensed premises will include 5 professionally erected marquees.

Three of the marquees will contain bars for the provision of alcohol. The fifth marquee will provide a low key entertainment venue and a smaller bar area for the provision of a limited selection of alcoholic drinks. A professionally erected sound stage will be sited on the grass area facing Northcroft Leisure centre for the provision of live music.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Contents

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Page 3: | Entertainment / Trade Stands / Contractors |
| Page 4: | Exhibitors / Audience Profile & Attendance Document Control & Record Management Evaluation and Revision Control |
| Page 5-6: | Roles and Responsibilities – Event Management Roles and Responsibilities - Emergency Management |
| Page 7: | Command and Control Communication Health Safety and Welfare Competence, Training & Awareness |
| Page 8-10: | Event inspection checks (<i>illustrative sample</i>) |
| Page 11: | Security & Stewarding Young Workers & Volunteers Access and Egress Control |
| Page 12: | Temporary Structures Fire Precautions First Aid / Medical Provision |
| Page 13: | Food & Refreshments Sale of Alcohol / Bars Glass Management |
| Page 14: | Waste Management Utilities Sanitary Accommodation |
| Page 15: | Traffic Management Crowd Control |
| Page 16: | Displays & Exhibits Insurance Event notices and Licenses |
| Page 17-19: | Incident Prevention and Emergency Management |
| Page 20: | Crowd Evacuation Process / Cancellation |
| Page 21: | Stock Depletion / Event Run down Plan |
| Page 22: | Lost Children / Vulnerable Persons Process |
| Page 22: | Contact List |
| Site Layout: | <i>See separate document</i> |

Rev 0

Page 2 of 22

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Entertainment

The main sound stage will be provided by a professional events company and will be constructed prior to any members of the public coming onto the site. The stage is fully enclosed on 3 sides and will be fenced to the front with pedestrian barriers prohibiting public access.

- The stage will be located at the southern end of the site, shielded by the Cricket Clubhouse, nursery building and marquees. The angle of the sound stage has been deliberately positioned to maximise the distance (min 300m) between the stage and any residential area.
- Following consultation with the providers of the sound system and the events infrastructure supplier, controllable projection speakers will be used to ensure that the music is played into the central areas of the site. This will provide containment to mitigate the effects upon the residents of West Mills, Russell Road, Northcroft Lane and Goldwell Park, particularly from low frequency noise.
- Regular checks on the perimeter of the site will be conducted in order to ensure that the music levels are within an acceptable level and are not causing a nuisance to local residents. The *Livewire* sound team employed for the Newbury Real Ale Festival have experience of current procedures and have successfully organised and monitored live music events to the satisfaction of West Berkshire Council during 2015 and 2016.

The performance / playing of live and recorded music will cease at 10pm **at the latest** to ensure that there is no unacceptable disturbance to the neighbouring properties within anti-social hours.

The general times of music will be as follows:

Main Stage: 12 noon – 9.30 pm (latest)

Trade Stands

Two small 3x3m gazebos will be erected by our charity partners..

Contractors

All contractors are providing a specified service and have been involved in the festival for at least the past 5 years. The majority of contractors will not be on site during the event itself. Copies of the public indemnity insurance of all contractors have been provided to the organising team and passed onwards to the insurance underwriters for the event.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Exhibitors

Not applicable

Audience Profile & Attendance

The event is tailored towards adults, who meet the legal age and behavioural requirements to drink alcohol. The organising committee are, however, keen to ensure that the event is open to the community as a whole, including families and are proud that over the past 10 years there have been no issues raised in this respect.

Accompanied children are, therefore, permitted, although no specific children's entertainment or activities are provided. It is, however, acknowledged that such a broad range of people at an event, in particular where alcohol is involved, may give rise to some concerns regarding safety, in particular of children. Full details of the measures proposed to protect children from harm are provided within the approved licence application and will be implemented in full throughout the duration of the event.

Document Control and Records Management

Incident and accident records are maintained by the security and first aid team in association with the general manager / licensee and are held for a period of 6 months after the event. Access to the record will be provided to any responsible authority as requested.

Evaluation & Revision Control

This document, the site layout and risk assessments are issued under controlled revision status

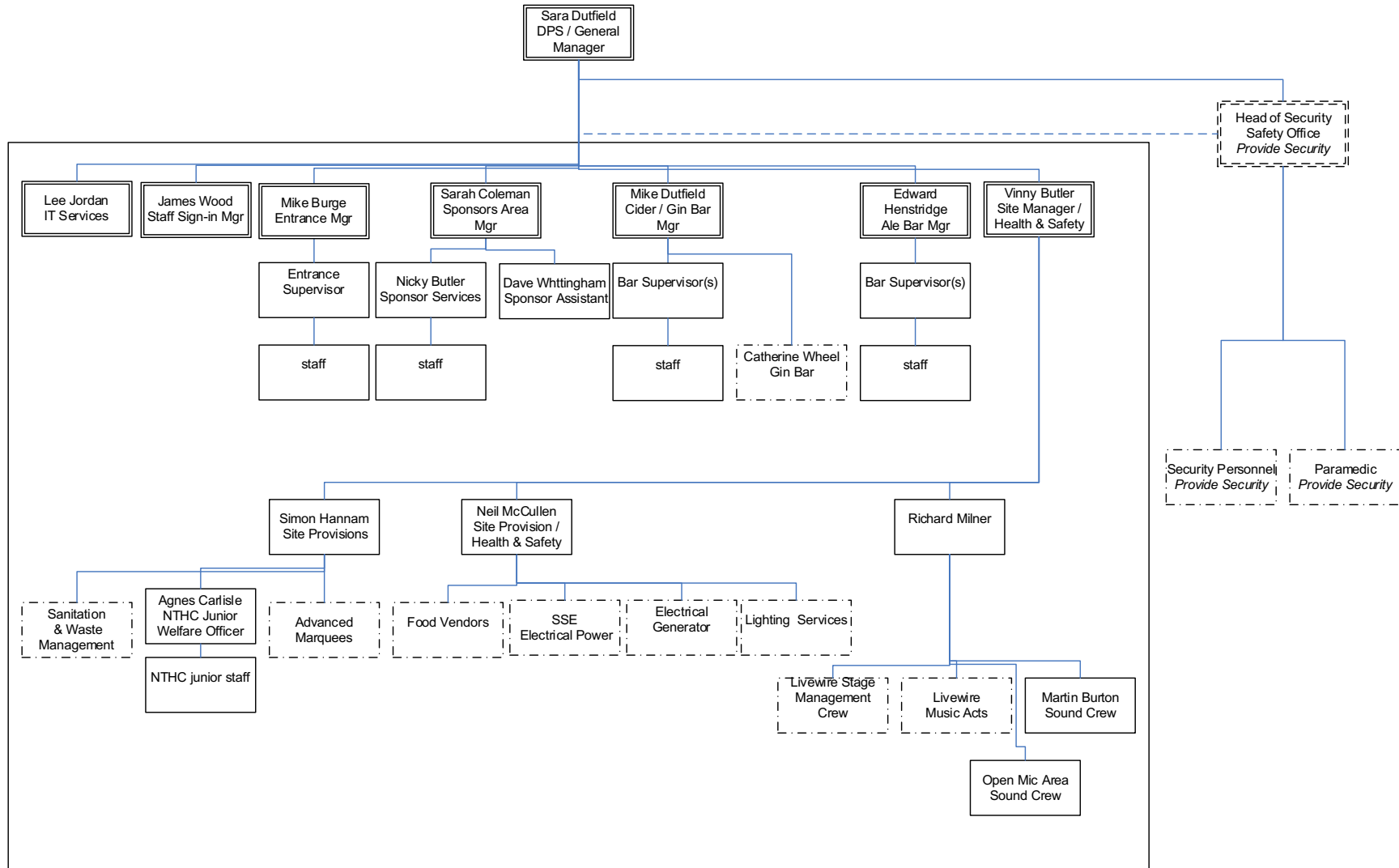
Full and details risk assessments have been carried out prior to the event, identifying any risks that exist during the set up, operation and take down of the festival. Where controlled measures can be put in place they will be and all operatives will be made aware of safe work practices when on site. Copies of the risk assessments are available upon request to all responsible authorities and to any contractors on site.

Roles & Responsibilities

The organising team take on a series of roles during the course of the event, which are set out on the organisation chart below. In the absence of the General Manager, the Ale Bar Manager will assume executive decision making responsibility.

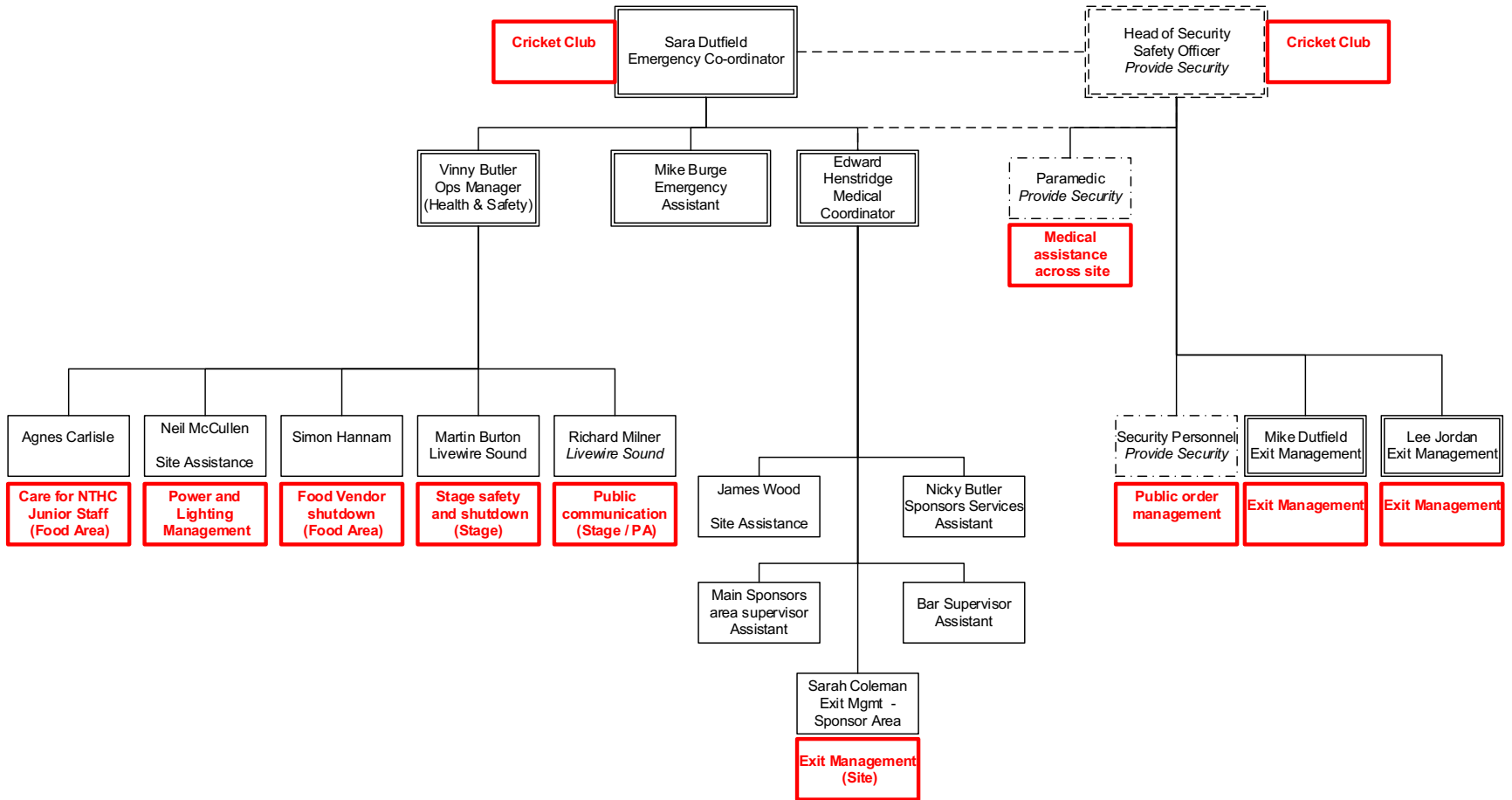
Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Event Management Structure



Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Emergency Management Structure



Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Command and Control

The control is sited at the main front entrance, where the duty manager and head of security will be stationed. In the event that this location becomes inaccessible, it will be moved to Tent C (refer to plan)

Communication (radios, phones etc etc)

The security teams use radios to communicate with each other and the General Manager. The other management team are contactable via mobile phone or direct dialogue

Event Health, Safety & Welfare

Risk Assessments

As per licence application

Competence, Training & Awareness

Marquee Erection / Disassembly: Carried out by Advanced Marquees who have specially trained staff for the tasks

Low height Racking Scaffolding: Constructed by BJ Champion Scaffolders who hold occupational qualifications and health and safety awareness for the structures.

Temporary Stage: Constructed by Livewire Sound who have specially trained staff for the tasks.

Electrical Connection: Carried out SSE Contracting, who manage the power utilities installations within West Berkshire

Lighting Installation: Performed by certified personnel in installing temporary electrical distribution

The Event Details re Health & Safety

Set up Build/Breakdown - As per risk assessment

Working at Height - As per risk assessment

Safety Signs - As per risk assessment. Full and detailed signs will be placed around the site provided information as well as highlighting prohibited actions (such as smoking inside the marquees)

Lifting Operations - As per risk assessment

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Event Inspection- checks to be conducted before, during and after the event (*illustrative but not exhaustive*)

| | Pre-event | | During event | |
|---|------------|---------|--------------|---------------|
| | Applicable | Checked | Applicable | Hourly checks |
| Signage | | | | |
| No smoking signs up | X | | | |
| Entrance price and general information signs up | X | | | |
| | | | | |
| Sound Checks | X | | X | |
| Marquee safety | | | | |
| All exits clear, including around back | X | | X | |
| Check back area is clear both sides | X | | X | |
| No seats around exit areas | X | | X | |
| No trip hazards | X | | X | |
| No slip hazard - bar area | X | | X | |
| No slip hazard - main area | X | | X | |
| Emergency lights work (check Fri night) | X | | | |

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Event Inspection - checks to be conducted before, during and after the event (cont)

| | Pre-event | | During event | |
|---|------------|---------|--------------|---------------|
| | Applicable | Checked | Applicable | Hourly checks |
| Fire Safety | | | | |
| Fire extinguishers in place | X | | X | |
| Fire extinguishers not touched and in date | X | | X | |
| No combustible materials on marquee | X | | X | |
| No fire risks | X | | X | |
| Flammable safety certificate available | X | | | |
| Food Vendors – all flames contained No deep fat fryers / frying pans out of vans | X | | X | |
| Electrical safety | | | | |
| No drinks / liquids near electrical equipment | X | | X | |
| No exposed lightbulbs | X | | | |
| No loose wiring | X | | X | |
| Main electrical | X | | X | |
| No wires trailing forwards | X | | X | |
| electrical installation / PAT certificates available | X | | | |

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Event Inspection - checks to be conducted before, during and after the event (cont)

| | Pre-event | | During event | |
|--|------------|---------|--------------|---------------|
| | Applicable | Checked | Applicable | Hourly checks |
| Safety & Security | | | | |
| Security personnel OK | | | X | |
| Music not overbearing (check at agreed location) | | | X | |
| First aider available | | | X | |
| First aid kit easily accessible and replenished | X | | X | |
| Bar staff briefed on requesting ID for age, even if wristband in place | | | X | |
| Bar staff briefed to refuse if no wrist band | | | X | |
| Outside area | | | | |
| Litter under control | | | X | |
| Litter bins available and with space | X | | X | |
| No groups of underage with alcohol (incorrect / no wrist bands) | | | X | |
| Toilets are relatively clean / toilet roll available | X | | X | |
| Lighting is sufficient in main areas and around toilet | X | | X | |
| Dispersal | | | X | At close-down |

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Security & Stewarding

Security

Security is being provided by *Provide Security*, who have managed the event for the past 10 years. Staffing is in accordance with West Berks Council licencing requirements and has been discussed with the Head of Security prior to the event

Cash Handling

A plan has been agreed between the event management and the head of security and will be put in place throughout the event. No tickets will be on sale on the day of the event and electronic payments will be facilitated and recommended.

Stewarding

Organisers wear different coloured outfits to other staff, with “organiser” on the back and are readily identifiable to all.

Young Workers & Volunteers

As this is a community event Newbury & Thatcham Hockey club junior members provide assistance as follows:

1. Assisting door staff (laying brochures / glasses onto tables), under the direction of responsible adults. At no times do the junior members handle cash and security personnel are permanently posted in this area
2. Serving customers at the Hog Roast Stall, under the instruction and guidance of the professional catering team and managed by senior members of Newbury and Thatcham Hockey Club. No juniors are involved in the food preparation or cooking process.

All activities are performed in accordance with the Newbury & Thatcham Hockey Club Child Welfare Policy, supervised by the Junior Welfare Officer.

Access and Egress Control

Searches will be conducted on both attendees and bags according to the procedure agreed between event management and *Provide Security*. No individual will be permitted entry if found to be in possession of either alcohol or weapons. Should any weapons be discovered, Police shall be informed immediately. The entire area is fenced with 2.3m Heras fences.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Temporary Structures Marquees

- 1 off 24m x 9 m marquees will be erected onsite (Craft beer tent)
 - 1 off 18m x 9 m marquees will be erected onsite (Ale Tent)
 - 1 off 18m x 9 m marquees will be erected onsite (Cider Tent)
 - 2 off 12m x 9 m marquees will be erected onsite (site office and band area)
 - 1 off 24m x 6m marquee will be erected in the sponsors area
- 1 off 6m x 6m gazebo is erected at the site entrance

Several 3m x 3m gazebos exist on site for various uses, none of which are licensable activities, nor pose any health or safety issues.

Other Temporary Structures

A temporary soundstage is erected in the Northcroft Field, protected with Heras Fencing and stage barriers. This stage has been successfully used on at least 10 occasions. This is certified to a wind strength of 30mph / gust strength 35 mph. Based on weather forecasts and conditions on the day, a decision will be taken to use this structure.

Supplier: Livewire Sound

Should the erection of the stage become unfeasible, the live music will be moved into Tent C (see plan).

Fire Precautions

LPG will be used by food vendors for direct cooking and heating purposes. All gas canisters will remain locked and the catering area is a restricted area

Each catering unit is obliged to provide appropriate fire extinguishing equipment for the type of apparatus being used and food being cooked.

All food vendor stalls are checked as part of the safety checklist.

First Aid/Medical Provision

A full trained, licenced and active paramedic on site at all times, based in the first aid area by the site entrance. In addition, the security team are trained and certified in basic first aid; as are selected personnel. In the event of an incident occurring that requires additional or more specialised assistance, the emergency services will be called, as appropriate

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Food & refreshments

All food outlets have provided public liability insurance which has been passed to the festivals insurance underwriters prior to the issue of the insurance policy. A copy of the festival insurance will be maintained on site and available for inspection by a responsible authority if requested.

Sale of Alcohol

Please refer to the licence application.

Only attendees with wristbands can be served. Wristbands cannot be reused and there are 3 points where age and suitability to consume alcohol are assessed

1. Site entrance, where the wristbands are issued
2. At the entrance to the marquees / spot checks by security and senior staff
3. By the bar servers

In all instances, a *Challenge-25* policy is adopted.

A3, A4 and A1 Signs are displayed along the bar – **No wristband = No service.**

All bar staff are given a verbal and written induction before they are permitted to enter the bar service area and sign that they understand and agree with these rules.

The license conditions are strictly complied with.

Bars

As per site layout

Glass Management

Each individual is provided with a half pint, dimpled tempered glass tankard. These are used in order to minimise the quantity of alcohol consumed in one occasion, to create an enhanced image of respectability in the eyes of the attendees and to minimise environmental waste. The structure of the glass is designed to prevent fracture.

High visibility signs exist to instruct customers to leave their glasses on site at the end of the event for recycling, or to put them safely in their bag. This is reinforced in the late afternoon / evening by inspection from security and organisers.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Waste Management

Services

Water

Non-drinking water is used for cooling the ale, or for washing.

Drinking water is provided in the form of bottles at a nominal fee, or free upon request, subject to availability / stock levels in full accordance with the approved premises licence

Power

There are 3 sources of power, as indicated on the site plan

1. Underground SWA cable to a distribution box, installed and temporarily commissioned by SSE Contracting
2. 2 x 100kVA, 63A silenced diesel generator
3. 1 x 40kVA, 63A silenced diesel generator
4. 13A permanent single power outlets from the surrounding buildings

All power sources are fully enclosed.

All power outlets are either “Commando”- style connectors or housed in weatherproof boxes (min IP44)

The power layout is designed to provide power redundancy, prioritised as follows:

1. Marquee Lighting
2. Site Floodlights
3. Stage
4. Food outlets
5. Music

All marquees have battery-illuminated emergency exits, automatically activated in the event of power failure.

Sanitary Accommodation

2 blocks of temporary toilets which are fully flushing and have running water provided, and 10 “portaloo” cubicles are located on site, which will be supplemented by alcohol gel for hand sanitation. The average waiting time in the past 3 years has been 3-4 mins, max queue 8 mins. Regular checks will be undertaken of the block to ensure that they are clean and that supplies are available.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Traffic/Vehicle Management & Crowd Control

Traffic Management

This is an alcohol-related event and car driving / parking is not encouraged or advertised. The festival is a member of *DrinkAware*. All contractors, food vendors and suppliers are prohibited from entering the site after 11am, on the morning of the festival or leaving until 7pm and only then with appropriate supervision. Vehicular access to the site will be restricted by the Heras fencing around the perimeter and by the vehicular barrier into the site, which is controlled by the event management team. There are 8 municipal car parks within 200m of the site area.

Crowd Control

The main objective of the Newbury Real Ale Festival is to provide a safe environment and an “open” feel. However, in the interests of safety and security, it is necessary to control entry to the site.

Entrance

From Newbury Town Centre / Speen – the site uses the boundary fencing of Northcroft park / Northcroft Lane, in order to control the entry of customers.

From Russell Road area / “Monkey Bridge”

The site boundary is fenced using 2m high Heras fencing, to direct customers towards the front entrance. This permits the professional security personnel, stationed at the egress point, to perform an initial assessment of the attendees and ensure that no alcohol is being brought onto the site.

Site entrance

1m high pedestrian fences are used to direct customers towards the entrance points. This area is staffed by professional security personnel, who assist the flow of personnel.

In the event of congestion developing, additional entrance booths will be opened.

Bar areas

The bars are designed and constructed to prevent collapse.

In the event of the bar areas becoming congested, the security team will revert to the controlled access entry plan.

Stage

The stage is protected by reinforced crowd surge barriers and a safety gap. It is then protected by Heras Fencing on all other sides.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Displays & Exhibits

Lightweight PVC / fabric banners are secured to the sides of the marquees and to the perimeter of the site using multiple cable ties in such a way that they are not able to flap in the wind. All signs posted at height are performed in accordance with the site risk assessment

During the 28 days prior to the event, information / advertisement posters will be erected at selected locations across the Newbury area. The Newbury Real Ale Festival recognises its responsibility to maintain a pleasant environment and commits to removing all signage within 7 days of the festival date.

Insurance

Currently being finalised in order to comply with current requirements

Event Notices and Licences

As per licence submission

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Incident Prevention and Emergency Management

Actions taken to prevent an incident (some will be included in the plan) but will include weather checks etc

Adverse Weather – what if it rains?

In 2021, in order to minimise the risk of Covid-19 virus transmission, event guests will not be permitted to congregate inside the marquee areas.

All electrical equipment is protected by RCD devices.

No cooking equipment involving fat is permitted unless under hard / weatherproof cover (i.e. van) and with appropriate fire-fighting equipment.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Security and Safety Threats

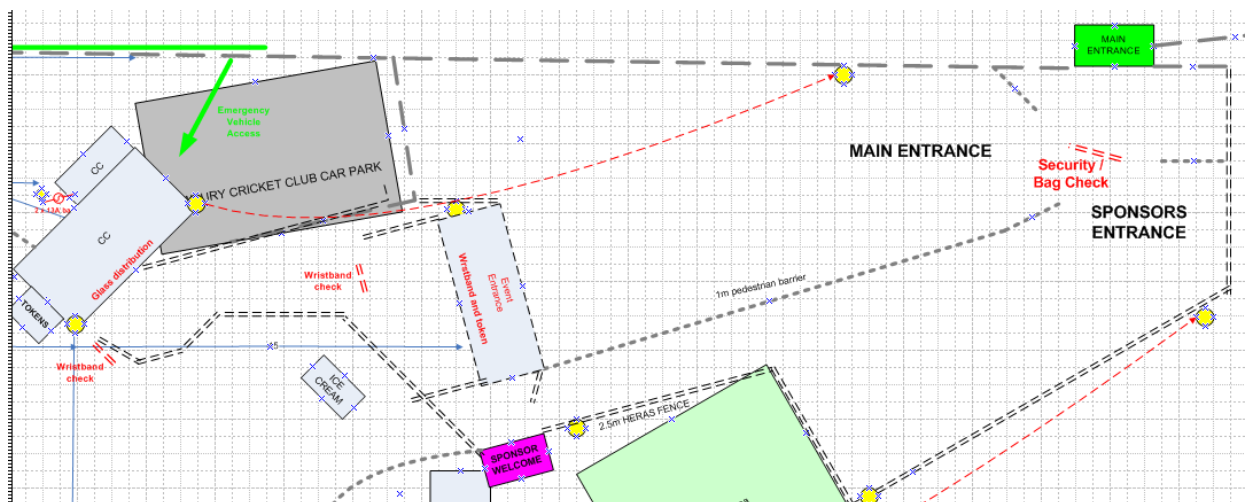
Threat from an individual person to another individual person

A member of the security team will be informed and the security staff will assess and address the situation as considered appropriate.

Threat from an individual source to the event

- There is only 1 access point - between the Northcroft Street entrance and Event entrance

Clear signage will exist to state that random security searches will take place. The first point of assessment will be immediately performed at the site entrance.



- Identified risk – suspected device

Upon notification, the management team will convene immediately with the head of security and swiftly decide upon the most appropriate course of action.

Should a suspected device be found on site, the perimeter fencing will be opened by the event organisers and security team allowing evacuation away from the suspected hazard.

An announcement from the sound stage will be made to evacuate the site.

Note: A risk assessment has been performed in collaboration with *Provide Security*. Given the robust perimeter fencing and limited access points, a visible professional security presence at the site entrance performing appropriate searches shall offer the greatest mitigation against threats to a concentrated population.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Crowd Evacuation Process

The access / egress points of the site will allow the maximum capacity to be evacuated safely to public areas within 4 minutes. Should it be deemed necessary by the management and security staff to expediate the matter, the perimeter site fencing will be opened by organisers towards Northcroft Leisure Centre.

Bar managers will evacuate the bar areas with the assistance of portable megaphones. In accordance with the fire regulations sufficient emergency exits will be provided within the marquees to evacuate the maximum capacity numbers within 2 minutes 30 secs.

The site fencing will be opened by organisers either towards Northcroft Leisure Centre or towards the cricket pitch / Northcroft Road.

Staff will evacuate from behind the bars – as above. Junior Staff will be guided by the responsible adult

The bar managers will ensure an orderly evacuation of the bars into the field. Junior Staff will be guided by the responsible adult

Musicians will evacuate towards the main field.

Cancellation

Prior to the event: A communication will be made on local radio stations, the festival website, the Newbury News website and signs will be erected at the site entrances. The event management will stay on site throughout the advertised event times to inform anyone that turns up unaware of the cancellation.

During the event: Public will be evacuated in line with the procedures set out above

Online purchase Refunds: Reimbursements will be credited to customers directly.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Stock depletion / Event run down plan

The objective of the Newbury Real Ale Festival is to provide for a defined number of people consuming an estimated quantity of produce. This is a complex scenario, but a consistent pattern of consumption has emerged over the past 10 years, allowing the organisers to plan accordingly. In unlikely circumstances, however, there is a possibility that stocks of ale and cider will run out either temporarily or permanently. To manage this eventuality the following plan has been devised.

- Stock checks every 20 mins by bar supervisors
- “traffic light” signs over the bars relating to stock availability, updated directly by the bar supervisors following their stock checks
- Hourly meetings between general manager, Ops manager and bar managers
- Contingency stocks are held in the sponsors area
- At 3pm a decision is taken whether to order extra contingency stocks
- In the event of a complete stock depletion tokens temporary areas will be set up to refund customers of any complete sets of 4 tokens back at the original purchase value.

The event early run down plan is as follows:

- Entrances are temporarily suspended.
- Token sales are temporarily suspended. This simply prevents people from purchasing more tokens.
An additional stock check and management meeting convenes after 1 hour and then a final decision will be taken to stop token sales permanently.
- The entertainment venues will continue until the advertised times, or the event will close early.

Should it become apparent that the stock is depleting and that the event will run out prior to the advertised times, the event management will determine the most appropriate way to end the event, ensuring that there is not a mass exodus of people into the town centre.

Nevertheless, in order to ensure clear and unambiguous communication, information will be supplied to the police using the supplied URN.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Event Overview

Lost Children/Vulnerable Persons Process

The site is fenced around all sites with all points of access and egress monitored and managed by the trained security staff.

In 2019, a plain white wristband will be offered to parents bringing children to the event, so they can write the number of their mobile telephone number.

Upon notification that a child is missing, or that a child has been found without a parent an announcement is immediately made by the event compere giving a description of the child and what they are wearing.

Should a child be reported as missing, the security teams shall be mobilised to perform a structured search, coordinated by the head of security. Given the numbers of security staff in place, this can be undertaken without any compromise to the safety and operation of the entrance / exit or general site.

Any children found are taken to the main entrance area, awaiting their parents. The child will be cared for by event staff but will not be left alonewith a single person. The compere will announce the child's name to the crowd and repeat the call until the guardian(s) have been located. The contact number on the child's wristband will also be called. If the child remains unclaimed after 1 hour, police will be contacted.

Contact list

A contact number will be provided for any members of the public outside the event with any concerns.

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Site Location: Northcroft playing field (Newbury) | |
| Organisation: Newbury Real Ale Festival | |
| Date of Assessment: 15/07/2021 | Signed: V. Butler |
| Assessment Review Date: 15/07/2022 | |

| Hazard | Who might be harmed? | Is the risk adequately controlled? | What further action is necessary to control the risk? |
|---|---|--|---|
| Site Establishment, Erection and removal of structural elements (marquees) | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Isolate area of works, display warning signs and physically prevent access to adjacent areas. ● Work to approved method statement within site health & safety plan ● Provide adequate welfare. ● Provide separation of pedestrians on site – wherever possible. ● Safe working at height. ● Correct erection / dismantling of marquee. ● Establish separation of traffic and pedestrians on site ● Ensure sufficient and relevant PPE is available for use by operatives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Site health and safety plan. ● Site induction. ● Site rules. ● Delivery instructions. ● Pre-order meeting with suppliers. ● Method statement for erection and dismantling of marquee. ● Erection and dismantling of marquee by competent trained personnel. |
| Site Establishment, Erection and removal of structural elements (stage) | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Isolate area of works, display warning signs and physically prevent access to adjacent areas. ● Work to approved method statement within site health & safety plan ● Provide adequate welfare. ● Provide separation of pedestrians on site – wherever possible. ● Safe working at height. ● Correct erection / dismantling of marquee. ● Establish separation of traffic and pedestrians on site ● Ensure sufficient and relevant PPE is available for use by operatives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Site health and safety plan. ● Site induction. ● Site rules. ● Delivery instructions. ● Pre-order meeting with suppliers. ● Method statement for erection and dismantling of stage ● Erection and dismantling of stage by competent trained personnel. |

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|--|-----------------------------|
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| <p>Temporary Electrical Installation</p> <p>(cabling, lighting and stage)</p> | <p>All volunteers, visitors, members of the public</p> | <p>Provision and use of work equipment regs 1992, Electricity at work regs 1989, Memorandum of guidance to the EAW regs 1989 (HS@25), HSE Guidance Notes: GS27-Protection against electric shock, GS37-Flexible Leads, Plugs and Sockets, Low Voltage Electricity (Safety) Regs 1989, British Standards HS4343-Industrial plugs, sockets & couplers for AC & DC Supplies. Part P Certification No. RG-A-A020A01 (NAPIT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Temporary supplies will be planned to take into account foreseen load requirements, environmental conditions, progress of work and compatibility/maintenance of equipment. ● Competence of electrical subcontractors will be checked before contracting work. ● The installation will be certified before being brought into use. ● Supply and distribution units must be lockable and the keys kept safe. ● Control signs warning of electrical hazard will be displayed on supply units conforming to safety signs regs. ● Fire extinguishers (carbon dioxide) will be available adjacent to distribution units. ● Rubber gloves to BS697 and rubber mats to BS921 are to be used for live work. ● All cables will be routed so as to prevent damage to cables and avoid tripping hazards. ● Permit to work system or other suitable means of control to be used when work on live systems is necessary ● Operatives will not be permitted to work alone on live systems. ● Only competent electricians are authorized to install or modify temporary supplies; certification will be obtained after modification. ● Systems will be monitored for physical damage. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Qualified operatives only with relevant knowledge of electrical regulations and specific safety training by IEE/NICEC. ● Site health & safety plan. ● Site induction. ● Site rules. |
|---|--|--|--|

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|--|---|---|---|
| Temporary Power supply (diesel generator) | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Certified before being brought into use. ●Supply and distribution units must be lockable and the keys kept safe. ●Control signs warning of electrical hazard will be displayed on supply units conforming to safety signs regs. ●Fire extinguishers (Class B - foam) will be available adjacent to the generator. ●All cables will be routed so as to prevent damage to cables and avoid tripping hazards. ●Ensure earth rod is appropriately fitted ●Ensure adequate protection exists to prevent tampering | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Qualified operatives only with relevant knowledge of electrical regulations and specific safety training by IEE/NICEC. ●Site health & safety plan. ●Site induction. ●Site rules. |
| Material storage and manual handling | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <p>Manual handling operations regs 1992.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Loads must be lifted in the correct manner, avoiding the use of makeshift arrangements. ●Cylindrical objects such as barrels will be stabilized using chocks or wedges. ●Material stacks will be limited in height to ensure stability. ●Supports/shelving must be adequate and suitable for stored items. ●Drums and containers will be marked clearly to indicate contents ●Secure storage will be provided for all hazardous substances to prevent access by unauthorized persons. ●Storage areas will be inspected regularly to ensure stability and to ensure that the physical precautions are in place. ●Deliveries shall be requested to have self unloading capabilities ●Use of alternative materials or a variation of size/weight of individual components ●Carry out particular assessment using the prescribed form if necessary. ●Promote safe lifting techniques. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Verbal instructions and training will be given to operatives as necessary to ensure good housekeeping standards are maintained on site ●Site health & safety plan ●Site induction ●Site rules ●Basic lifting training ●Delivery instructions. ●Pre-order meeting with suppliers. |

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| Fire | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fire emergency exit routes must be established adequately signed and kept free of obstruction. ● Security measures must be taken to restrict access to the site work areas, especially out of working hours. ● Smoking restrictions will be enforced, adequately notified and signed where flammable materials are, or likely to be, present ● Use of naked flame appliances must be controlled. ● Temporary electrical systems must comply with IEE standards ● Changes in electrical systems made necessary will be reviewed by a competent person to ensure that necessary precautions have been taken to accommodate changes by way of design review when necessary and the provision of adequate fire arrangements. ● An emergency fire and evacuation procedure must be produced. ● Exit routes will be clear of obstruction ● Cooking must take place on a stable surface. ● Cooking with oil must be performed in an enclosed space, separated from the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All site operatives and volunteers will be trained on fire and evacuation procedures on induction training. ● Operatives using highly flammable materials or working with naked flame will be trained in appropriate fire prevention measures ● Site health & safety plans ● Site induction ● Site rules ● Fire extinguishers for electrical and naked flames correctly sited. ● Training in use of fire extinguishers ● Smokefree regs 1st July 07 |
| Nuisance, antisocial behaviour and welfare. | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prevention of under age drinking ● Prevent excessive drinking ● Control of violent or antisocial behaviour ● Noise control ● First aider and first aid kit available ● Access to telephone ● Prevention of trip hazards ● Prevention of overcrowding/crush injuries ● Provide free movement to and from bar and seating areas ● Provision of adequate welfare. ● Monitoring of dispersal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Competent trained bar staff ● Identifiable, competent trained first aiders and equipment ● Qualified door staff ● Management responsible for continual assessment of hazards / nuisance ● Site health & safety plan ● Site induction ● Site rules |

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| | | ●Publicity | |
| Vehicle movement and parking | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | ●Control of parking during the event | ●Adequate signage highlighting local amenities /not at event |
| Food safety | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Food hygiene rules adhered to ●Provision of suitable washing facilities for catering staff. ●Quality of food and beverages checked ●Anyone involved in the preparation and serving of food to wear face masks and gloves/ ●Anyone involved in the preparation and serving of food to wear face masks and gloves/ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Competent trained catering staff ● |
| Safety in Serving Drinks | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Provision of suitable washing facilities for staff. ●No crossover of queues ●Anyone involved in the serving of drinks to wear face masks and gloves/ ●Drinks to be decanted from an intermediate vessel into the glass – no direct serving | ●Competent trained bar management |
| General hazards | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Reduce risk from sharp or abrasive objects. ●Prevent risk from falling objects ●Ensure adequate lighting to prevent risk of collision ●Operatives will not be permitted to work alone ●Prevent risk from fatigue ●Hired in entertainment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Site health & safety plans ●Site induction ●Site rules ●Entertainment, check references and obtain a copy of their insurance's |
| Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●PPE regs 1992, head protection regs 1989, CSHW regs 1996. ●provide sufficient quantity of suitable equipment for use as designated in other risk assessment ●PPE kept in clean and wholesome manner for issue when necessary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Site health and safety plan. ●Site induction. ●Site rules. |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Management will monitor the use of PPE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Delivery instructions. •Toolbox talks |
|--|--|---|---|

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| Hazard | Who might be harmed? | Is the risk adequately controlled? | What further action is necessary to control the risk? |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Covid – 19 Transmission Risk | All volunteers, visitors, members of the public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PPE Face masks and gloves mandatory for anyone serving drinks ● PPE gloves mandatory for anyone picking litter ● PPE kept in clean and wholesome manner for issue when necessary ● Management will monitor the use of PPE ● Queues minimized ● Suitably Available space for social distancing – “2m distance” possible ● Regular toilet cleaning schedule ● Regular litter collection and disposal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Site health and safety plan. ● Site induction. ● Site rules. |

The Newbury Real Ale Festival exists for the local community. It is the sole intention of all organisers and musicians to provide an event that is enjoyable and safe for all the residents of Newbury and the surrounding area.

This Noise Management Plan contains the methodology which shall be employed to control sound produced on the premises, in order to comply with the premises licence. It includes all of the arrangements for preventing public nuisance and consultation with the local community and shall include the sections specified by the license recommendations, as agreed with the Environmental Health Dept., West Berkshire Council.

The event takes great pride in setting a serious target of zero complaints and proactively looks to achieve this target every year through a combination of excessive noise prevention measures, having a dedicated noise assessment team and working in partnership with all relevant statutory and community organisations.

The date of the event is Saturday 11th September 2021.

2 a) Inventory of all sound systems to be used on the site.

Main stage (used between noon-22:00 latest – target finish 21:15)

12 x FBT Muse 210a Line Array Mid/Hi Element
8 x FBT Mitus 218 Dual Subwoofer
2 x Flying Frames WF3082
2 x 32A to 4 x 16A Distro
2 x 16A to 32A powercon
4 x 16A to 20A powercon
2 x 8pole 4mm 8core to 4 x 2pole 4mm 2core
1 x Soundcraft SI Impact Mixing desk
2 x QSC GX5 Monitor amplifiers
4 x HK Audio Pro 15 Monitors
PA Tower
2 x Alspaw 6.5m 750kg Line Array Tower

Accoustic Monitoring

VLIKE Digital Audio Sound Level Meter (30dB to 130dB range, accurate to 0.1dB)

2 b) A schedule of contact details for those who are responsible for the sound systems.

Richard Milner – *Livewire* *telephone:* +44 (0)7824 496119
e-mail: Richmilnero@yahoo.co.uk

Martin Burton – *Livewire* *telephone:* +44 (0)7876 394868
e-mail: martin.burton@vodafone.com

Livewire are responsible for the supply, maintenance and management of the sound stage and broadcast equipment. Furthermore, they are responsible for managing the sound balance of the music acts.

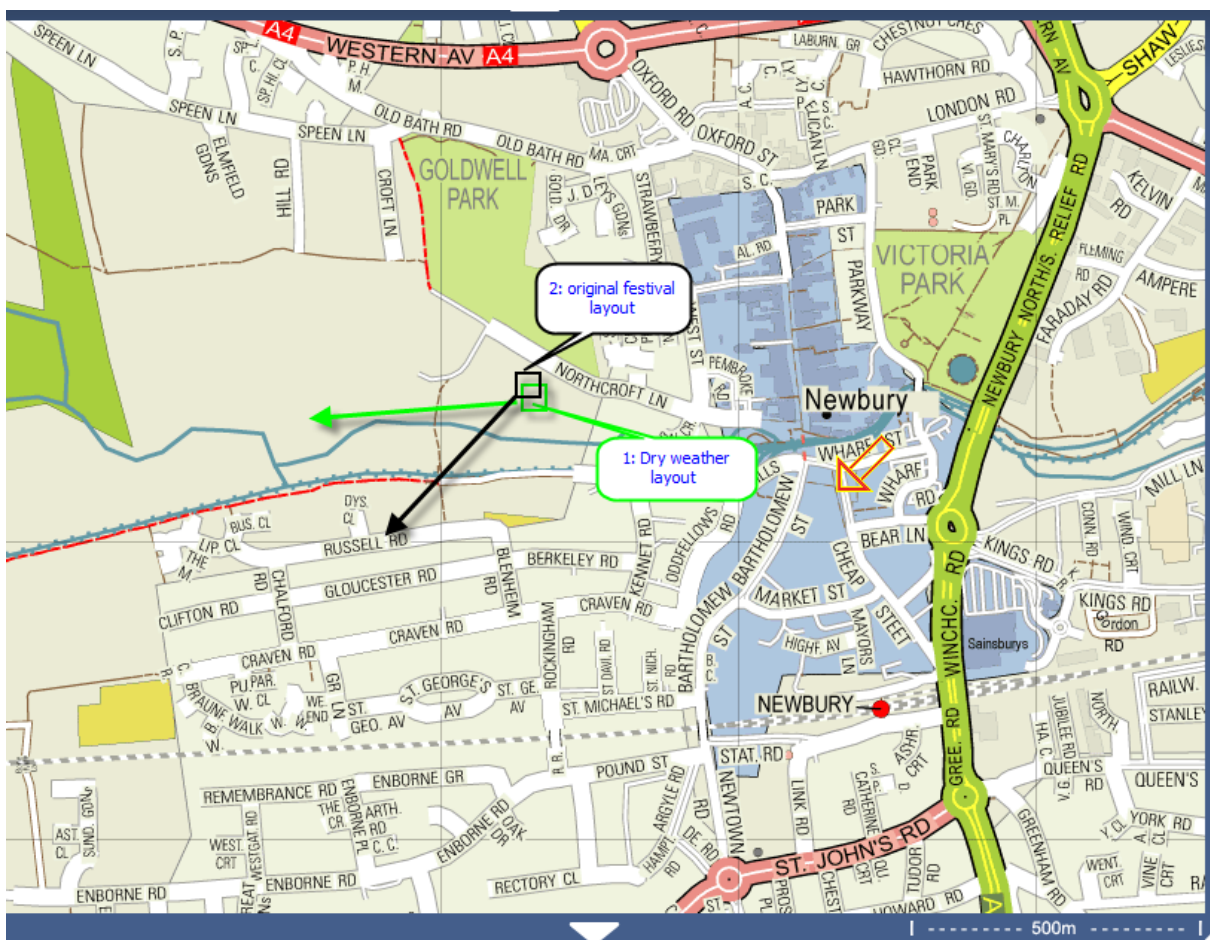
2 c) A list of stages together with, a schedule of their location, orientation & shut down times.

2 sound systems will be used:

1- Open air main stage Start: 12:00 Finish time: Target 21:15, latest **21:30**

The licence for recorded and live music has been set at 22:00. Note: the last live music act will commence by 20:00 and it is fully intended to cease all music by 21:30 at the latest.

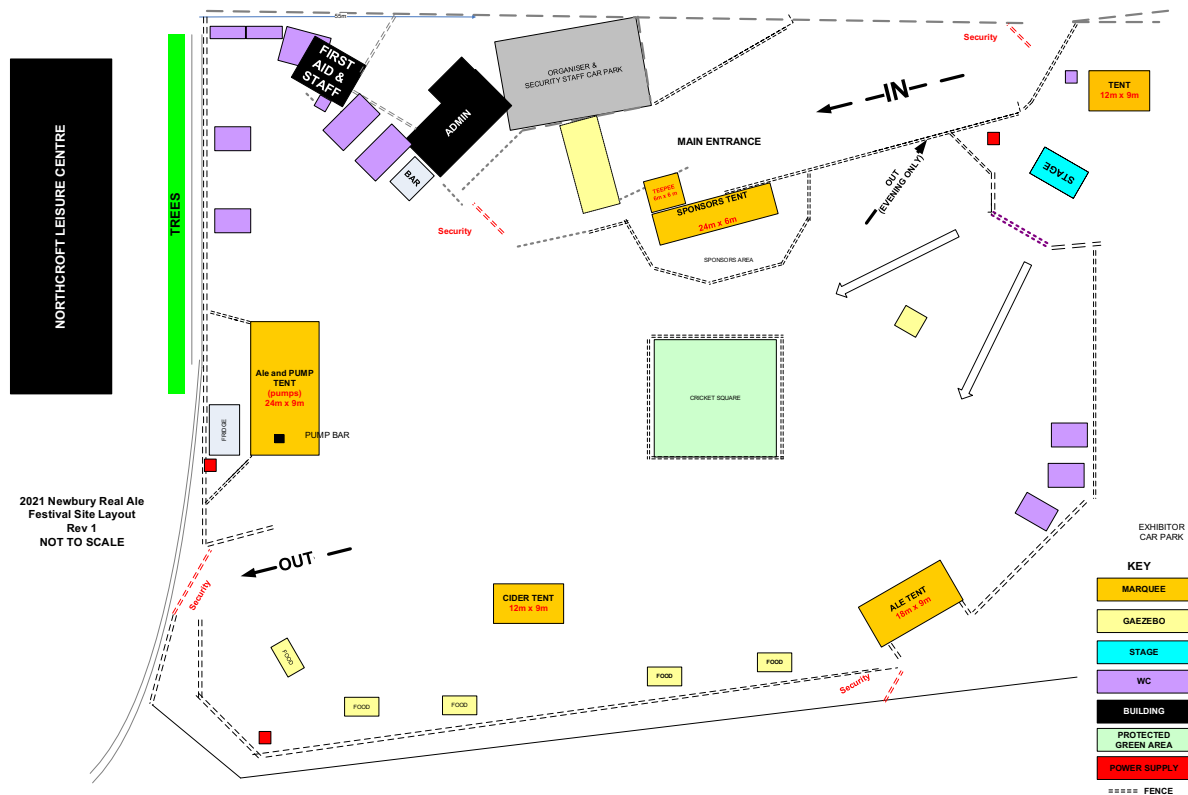
There will be 2 possible layouts used, selected on the day of set up according to weather conditions during set up and the weather and wind direction forecast for the weekend.



Layout / Orientation 1: This provides the most effective sound dispersion, broadcasting into open space and using the trees and the Northcroft Leisure Centre building to absorb sound.

Newbury Real Ale Festival – 2021 Noise Management Plan

The stage is deliberately positioned to project towards the middle of the Northcroft pitch, with the aim of using the natural environmental features of the local area to ensure “self-regulation”. The target noise level is to be able to hold a normal conversation at the marquees (marked in yellow)



As shown in the following schematic, the directional sound system shall be positioned so that the sound shall project towards Northcroft Leisure Centre. The selection of this layout, together with an improved sound system shall significantly improve noise dissipation:

- 1) If the sound is too loud or has projected too far, the acoustic soundwaves made by the drum beat will ricochet off the Northcroft Leisure Centre wall. This causes an echo effect, making it impossible for the bands to play. This method has been used for 5 years and has proven successful in proving immediate feedback to the sound crew during the sound check process, allowing suitable adjustments to be made to ensure clear sound quality and acceptable noise levels.
- 2) There is a small stage located in the marquee in front of the leisure centre, suitable for playing acoustic music. If the sound from the main stage is too loud, then it overwhelms the sound from this stage and makes it impossible for those acts to perform. Immediate feedback is then given by the marquee sound team to the main stage in order to ensure minimised sound conflict for customers.

The location of sound assessment will be tailored to the source of noise. This is detailed in the following pages.

2 e) Management command and communication structure /methods for ensuring that permitted noise levels and finish times are not exceeded.

The controls agreed with West Berkshire Council have been included in the document Newbury Real Ale Festival 2021 - Power Staging and Music Requirements. This document is referred to in a legal contract for sound equipment and professional services provided by *Livewire*.

Please refer to the Licence application for full details of the organisational chart. In summary, the chain of authority is as follows, in descending order:

1. Sara Dutfield – General Manager / DPS

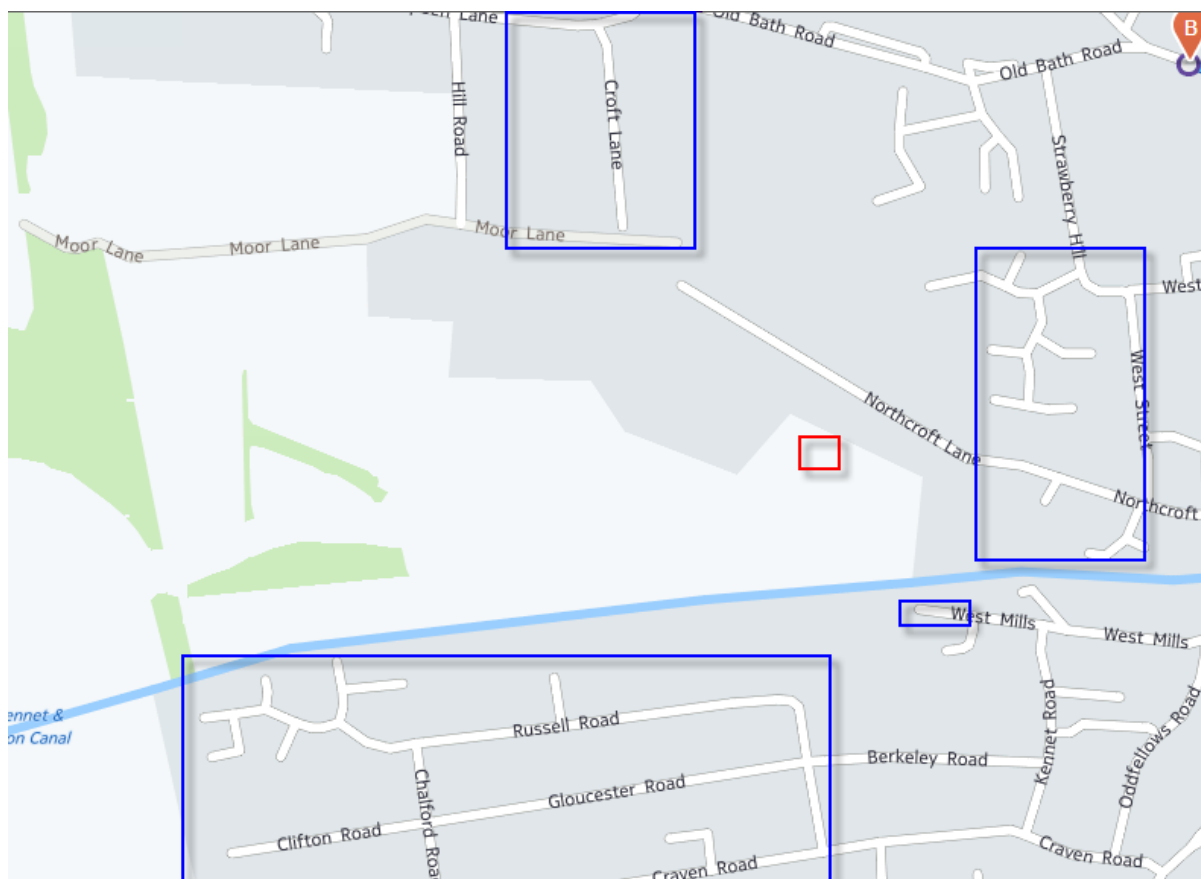
The instruction / decision of the DPS is final.

2. Mike Burge – Head of Risk and Public Safety
3. Vincent Butler – Site Manager
4. Richard Milner – *Livewire*

2 f) Publication and dissemination of information to the public and arrangements for provision and staffing of a hotline number for dealing with complaints

A letter drop will be performed within 7 days of the event, where access is possible. This will be the same geographical area, irrespective of the site orientation used.

The following map illustrates the locations of this communication. The area includes Swan Court (off Northcroft Lane), Mallard Court and West Mills Island, Blenheim Road to its junction with Craven Road.



The communication will contain the following details

- Times of music for the event
- Contact email address.
- Contact telephone number from Thurs 6th Sept through to Sunday 9th Sept. This is manned at all times. This telephone will be held by one of the senior members of the organising team at all times throughout the event, where the phone can be heard.

2 g) Action to be taken by the Event Organiser following complaints.

1. A complaints and feedback telephone line is manned at all times, from Thursday 9th Sept to Sunday 12th Sept.
2. All feedback and complaints will be discussed in a courteous manner
3. All complaints will be taken seriously and formally recorded [in a complaint log](#), detailing the nature of complaint and location and time (name and address or contact number will not be requested, unless provided)
4. A cross reference will be made of the location against the last previous check
5. If considered appropriate one of the organising team will visit the area of complaint
6. If the complaint is considered to be valid, the appropriate the site manager and the head of the sound team will personally visit the area complaint and make a decision as to the adjustment necessary
7. An instruction will then be sent to the sound stage to adjust the sound level and the attendees will only return to site once rectification has been made.
8. [All corrective actions will be logged in the complaint log](#)
9. In the event of a complaint being considered unsubstantiated, then the will attempt to make contact with the complainant and provide appropriate reasons. This will be added to the complaint log.

4. Contact Details for the Premises Licence Holder or a nominated representative during the course of an event.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Vincent Butler – Site Manager | telephone: | +44 (0)7884 181 336 |
| | e-mail: | vbutler2007@hotmail.com |
| Sara Dutfield – DPS | telephone: | +44 (0)7786 260897 |
| | e-mail: | sara.dutfield@gmail.com |

5. Noise levels from music and assessment methods shall be agreed in writing with the Licensing Authority no later than 14 days in advance of the event.

Defined as: 'sound systems shall be operated so residents nearby can use and enjoy their properties without being disturbed by excessive noise'.

“Disturbance” by music can be subjective, according to preference for music style. Therefore, the criteria for assessment has previously been agreed with West Berkshire Council Environmental Health, as follows:

- Sound volume
- Clarity of sound
- Clarity of lyrical tune
- Bass / beat

The genre of music is not considered to be applicable in the assessment, unless the sound is distorted or the playing of such music causes offence.

- Swearing over the amplification systems is not permitted or tolerated at any time. Any act will receive a single, final warning in the event of inappropriate language being used and if that warning is not respected, the act will be immediately terminated by the sound crew.

The check list on the final page of this document will be used to record the assessment of the sound at each location, according to the required frequency of check.

The DPS and Site Manager shall appoint a responsible person to assess and record details of assessments made, to ensure compliance. Each check will be signed and retained for review during and after the event.

6. Noise levels from music shall be assessed at locations to be agreed in writing with the Licensing Authority no later than 14 days in advance of the event.

The noise assessment locations will be tailored to the orientation selected during set up.

Noise / Assessment Locations - Layout / Orientation 1: (Dry weather only)



Assessment Points

- 1: Monkey Bridge
- 2: Russell Road / Lipscombe Close
- 3: Craven Road / Green Lane
- 4: Intersection of West Street / Northcroft Lane
- 5: Intersection of Craven Road / Kennet Road
- 6: Croft Lane

Action to be taken by the Event Organiser to monitor environmental sound disturbance.

1. The monitoring of sound levels will commence from the commencement of sound checks at approximately 9.30am on the day of the event. During that time, the sound crew will check a range of sound types and also each piece of noise-producing equipment, including drums. Some of these tests are deliberately designed to check for ricochet effects from the surrounding buildings, as outlined in Section 2c. The noise assessor will guide the sound crew in order to ensure that these checks do not last for an unnecessary duration and are proportionate to the time of day.
2. During the event a periodic audit will be performed by the designated noise assessor within 30 mins of the specified check times, at the specified locations according to the plan
3. Noise assessors will hold a qualification in noise measurement and/or assessment, or be provided with training at the event on how to take sound level readings and assess the levels that are experienced.
4. The assessor will listen to the emitted sound in the vicinity of the area and also check with local residents as to their interpretation of the sound levels
5. The assessor will also record the noise levels, using the portable acoustic monitoring device.
6. Based on the assessment, a decision will be taken whether to adjust the sound levels at that time.
7. Should there be any discrepancy in the interpretation of the sound levels or environmental feedback, the DPS or his/here delegate will make the final decision. The protocol will be to reduce the sound levels.
8. A recheck will be performed in order to ensure that this actions have been successful in mitigating the environmental disturbance.

In the unlikely event that the DPS considers is necessary to suspend the event or stop the music from either the sound stage or the acoustic music marquee, the execution of this action will be supported by the security team and logged accordingly.

5. Newbury Real Ale Festival Noise Check list

Date: 14th Sept 2019

| | <i>Location 1</i> | <i>Location 2</i> | <i>Location 3</i> | <i>Location 4</i> | <i>Location 5</i> | <i>Location 6</i> |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Street Name Name of Reviewer Assessment</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>11:00 Sound check</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Prior to event / 1st act</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Act 3</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>16:30pm / New Act</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>18:00 / New Act</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>20:00 / New Act</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>21:00</i> | | | | | | |

Assessment Key: OK – acceptable ? – Questioned X – Action Requested V – Action Taken



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Redditch

B97 6DE

Noise Level Record: - Newbury Real Ale Festival – 11/09/2021

| <u>Time:</u> | <u>Position in field:</u> | <u>Level:</u> | <u>Actions:</u> |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| 12:27 | Front Of House | 78db | None Required |
| 12:36 | Back of Field | 42db | None Required |
| 1:20pm | Front Of House | 80db | None Required |
| 1:25pm | Back of Field | 43db | None Required |
| 2:15pm | Front Of House | 82db | None Required |
| 2:25pm | Back of Field | 45db | None Required |
| 2:48pm | Back of Field | 48db | None Required |
| 3:18pm | Front Of House | 91db | None Required |
| 3:32pm | Back of Field | 55db | None Required |
| 4:05pm | Front Of House | 93db | None Required |
| 4:12pm | Back of Field | 57db | None Required |
| 5:05pm | Front Of House | 95db | None Required |
| 5:12pm | Back of Field | 60db | None Required |
| 5:38pm | Back of Field | 63db | None Required |
| 6:20pm | Front Of House | 98db | None Required |
| 6:38pm | Back of Field | 68db | <i>Sound Levels reduced by FOH Engineer Levels to be re-checked during performance.</i> |
| 6:51pm | Back of Field | 66db | <i>New sound level reported to FOH Engineer for a further reduction.</i> |
| 7:08pm | Back of Field | 65db | None Required |
| 9:15pm | Back of Field | 74db | <i>Sound Levels reported to "Reef Guest Engineer" and asked to reduce levels and further tests to be carried out.</i> |
| 9:28pm | Back of Field | 69db | <i>Stage guitar/bass amps and "on stage levels" requested to be lowered to allow further reduction of FOH Sound system</i> |
| 9:42pm | Back of Field | 65db | None Required. |
| 10:01pm | ----- | ----- | ----- END OF ENCORE & SHOW ----- |

Operative Name: Chloe Johnson Position: Volunteer

Sound Level Meter: AZ Instrument AZ8922 S/N 3125507

3.0 GUIDELINES

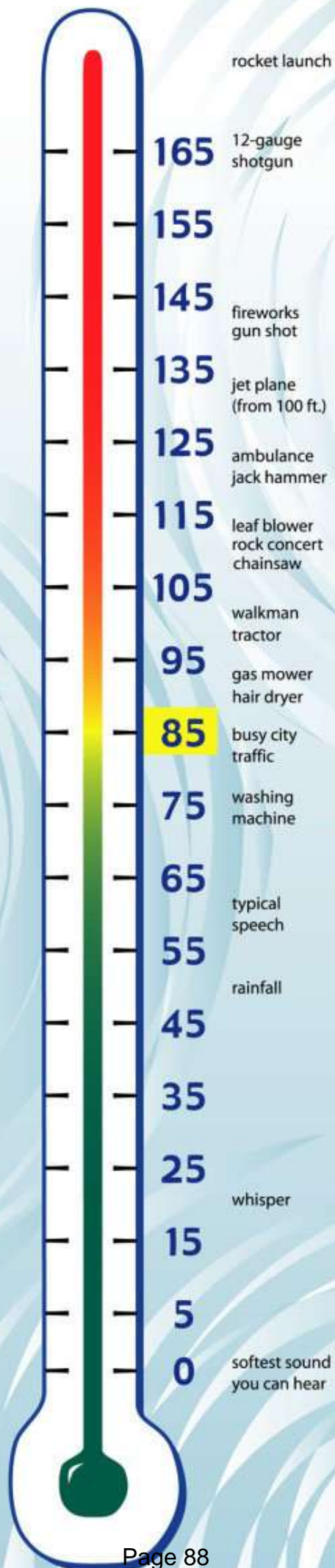
3.1 The Music Noise Levels (MNL) when assessed at the prediction stage or measured during sound checks or concerts should not exceed the guidelines shown in Table 1 at 1 metre from the façade of any noise sensitive premises for events held between the hours of 0900 and 2300.

TABLE 1

| Concert days per calendar year, per venue | Venue Category | Guideline |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| 1 to 3 | Urban Stadia or Arenas | The MNL should not exceed 75dB(A) over a 15 minute period |
| 1 to 3 | Other Urban and Rural Venues | The MNL should not exceed 65dB(A) over a 15 minute period |
| 4 to 12 | All Venues | The MNL should not exceed the background noise level ¹ by more than 15dB(A) over a 15 minute period |

Notes to Table 1

1. The value used should be the arithmetic average of the hourly L_{A90} measured over the last four hours of the proposed music event or over the entire period of the proposed music event if scheduled to last for less than four hours.
2. There are many other issues which affect the acceptability of proposed concerts. This code is designed to address the environmental noise issue alone.
3. In locations where individuals may be affected by more than one venue, the impact of all the events should be considered.
4. For those venues where more than three events per calendar year are expected, the frequency and scheduling of the events will affect the level of disturbance. In particular, additional disturbance can arise if events occur on more than three consecutive days without a reduction in the permitted MNL.
5. For indoor venues used for up to about 30 events per calendar year an MNL not exceeding the background noise by more than 5dB(A) over a fifteen minute period is recommended for events finishing no later than 2300 hours.



The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

Workplace Safety and Health Topics > Noise and Hearing Loss Prevention > Publications and Products



Workplace Safety and Health Topics



Noise and Hearing Loss – Prevention

Reducing Noise Exposure +

Preventing Hearing Loss +

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- Tested and validated (accuracy ± 2 dBA) according to standards in a reverberant chamber at the NIOSH acoustics lab – the only proper method to validate accuracy.
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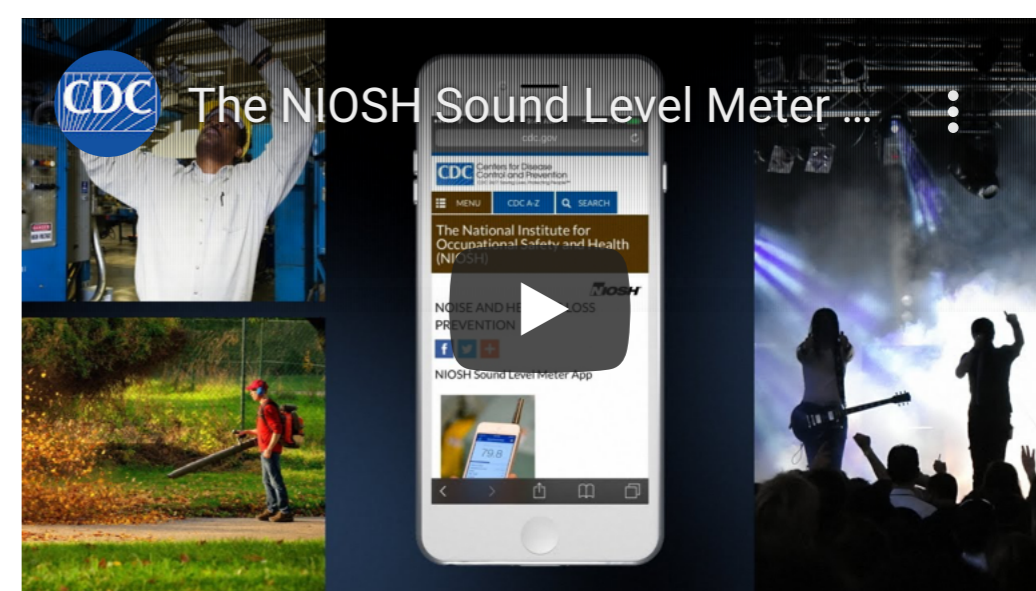
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Features & Instructions



Low Resolution Video

Short Summary



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How do I use this app?

How to interpret the results

Why is the app only available on iOS devices?

How can I get a copy of the app?

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- Email CDC-INFO
- Open 24/7

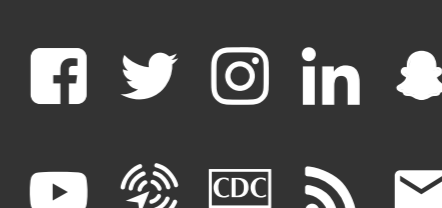
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BY EMAIL ONLY

Chairs of Licensing Committees

08 April 2020

Dear Councillor

The coronavirus outbreak is causing enormous disruption to all businesses, public services and to individuals across our nation. Local authorities are playing a key role in our response and are under significant pressure. I therefore think it timely to write to you to set out some key areas where licensing authorities may wish to consider a pragmatic and more flexible approach during this outbreak, while ensuring the licensing objectives are safe-guarded.

I appreciate that licensing teams, as well as other local authority services, may now be subject to redeployment or operating with a reduced staff. I would like to express my gratitude to those staff and councillors who are ensuring that the licensing system continues to operate.

The regulations do allow for many hearings to be deferred during the period of social distancing. However, my view is that hearings should proceed, wherever possible. As you may be aware, the Coronavirus Act 2020 provides express provision for remote licensing hearings to take place. Regulations commencing those provisions were published last week.

Local authorities have discretion when considering non-payment or late payment of an annual premises licence fee or a late-night levy charge. While section 55A of the Licensing Act 2003 requires that the licence be suspended, it is possible to delay when that suspension takes effect. Where businesses are experiencing difficulties, I would expect them to make their licensing authority aware. The authority should consider delaying any suspension of the licence where the delay in payment or non-payment is related to COVID-19.

Those premises that remain open during the outbreak may well have key personnel who are self-isolating in line with Government guidance or unwell. It is important that matters such as varying the premises designated premises supervisor are dealt with as promptly as possible.

Retailers may be operating under licences with conditions that may prove difficult to comply with in the current period due to absenteeism. These include, but are not limited to, conditions that mandate the minimum number of staff or door supervisors on site, training

requirements or attending external meetings (such as Shopwatch). A considered and pragmatic approach should be taken to breaches of licence conditions and procedural defects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly where these breaches or defects do not have a significant adverse impact on the licensing objectives. Licence holders must rectify any breaches as soon as reasonably practicable.

Some licensed premises have restrictions on deliveries as a licence condition. Where this is so, I would urge licensing authorities to follow the wider advice and derogations set out by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Allowing deliveries outside normal delivery times will be essential in some stores in ensuring adequate supply.

During the current period it may not be possible for applications to be advertised in local newspapers. The regulations provide for flexibility in such cases to advertise in a local newsletter, circular or similar document. I recommend that authorities make applicants aware of this. Authorities should also consider advertising all applications on local authority websites. With blue notices less likely to be seen, authorities should, at a minimum, inform local ward councillors and, where established, local resident groups of all applications relating to premises in their vicinity (for example by email) so they are made aware of relevant applications and are able to make representations in response during the consultation period if they so wish.

These are extremely challenging times. With the right spirit of collaboration, communication and pragmatism, I believe that we can get through them with minimum damage to businesses and to the licensing objectives.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kit Malthouse', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

KIT MALTHOUSE MP
Minister of State for Crime and Policing

8 July 2021

To the Chairman of the Licensing Committee

Dear Councillor

The coronavirus pandemic has caused unprecedented disruption and hardship since March 2020. The impacts have affected many businesses, and the hospitality industry in particular, with limited opportunities to react and adapt. As we emerge from this exceptionally difficult time, many of these impacts will continue.

One of the key problems that hospitality businesses now face is a lack of resources including staff. This is a particularly serious problem when it comes to complying with licence conditions that depend upon staff resources.

The night-time economy is in the middle of a particular crisis concerning security professionals. There is a grave shortage of security staff available for work, and this has been compounded by more stringent new training standards introduced by the Security Industry Authority for those wishing to enter. Even the limited numbers coming forward to qualify are too often failing to do so. Often, the numbers are simply not there to service full licence requirements, and there is nothing that the security industry, or the licensees can do about it. This problem is not going to go away.

The Government recently announced its consultation on the Duty to Protect. This aspiration to increase security provision in the public and private sector is only going to deepen the crisis.

We are writing to you at this time to make you aware of the issues, and to ask that you take them into account in making case by case licensing decisions.

On 8 April 2020, Kit Malthouse, the Minister of State for Crime and Policing wrote to the Chairs of Licensing Committees, to invite them to take “a pragmatic and more flexible approach” to licensing while the outbreak was ongoing.

He said: “Retailers may be operating under licences with conditions that may prove difficult to comply with in the current period due to absenteeism. These include, but are not limited to, conditions that mandate the minimum number of staff or door supervisors on site, training requirements or attending external meetings.... A considered and pragmatic

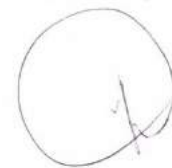
approach should be taken to breaches of licence conditions and procedural defects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly where these breaches or defects do not have a significant adverse impact on the licensing objectives. Licence holders must rectify any breaches as soon as reasonably practicable.”

This continues to be very important even as we emerge from the worst restrictions of the pandemic. Partnership working with businesses, to allow them to recover and make their contribution to the economy has never been more important. We hope that highlighting this crisis will assist in making informed and proportionate decisions.

Sincerely



Daniel Davies
Chairman
Institute of Licensing



Michael Kill
CEO Night Time Industries Association /
Chairperson UK Door Security Association

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From: Jo Airey
Sent: 17 October 2021 2:59 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Beer Festival Northcroft

Afternoon,

Firstly I very much appreciate the chance to voice my opinion as a resident of Northcroft Lane, though a little more time to reply, would be nice.

In principal I do not have a problem with the Beer festival, but sadly it appears what was a beer festival is now turning into another music fest., and yes the volume was much too loud this year. Great shame as the organisers in most part have been considerate to the many residents in the vicinity of this event, and have responded in the past to requests, such as removing glass from use.

If I am being asked was it too loud this year and had an impact yes it was, and it did.

If the only way to restore a sensible level of noise pollution to the area is to revoke the license, then I would have to sadly agree to this being revoked. I do hope that there is another solution.

Regards LJ Airey

From: Trevor Coles
Sent: 15 October 2021 10:21 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: re Newbury Real Ale festival

To whom it may concern:

As a West Fields resident I believe that this year the event has moved on from a beer festival to a Music Festival with attached beer festival. The emphasis has changed.

I have no desire to see the original ale and local bands style curtailed however, this year's format was beyond that and gave some credence to the complainants concerns. £23 entry for two pints of ale was clearly paying for a non local, headline band rather than a charitable ale festival fee. Additionally, my own perception and anecdotal evidence from people across town was that the noise level was in excess of previous years.

The Northcroft fair for example, is loud but nowhere near the level of the NRAF bands.

So for me, it's keep the NRAF but with much more stringent regulation of noise levels and geographic direction of amplification apparatus, ie, west not east.

Regards.

Trevor Coles

From: Bob Day
Sent: 19 October 2021 13:41
To: Licensing
Subject: Notice 21/00812/LQN (Newbury Real Ale Festival)

Dear Sirs,

It has come to our notice that a Northcroft resident has made an application to have the premises licence removed from the annual Real Ale Festival, on the grounds that the noise levels constitute a public nuisance and encourage criminal behaviour. As we live in the locality we would like to comment on the application.

We have no experience or evidence of criminal behaviour resulting from the Festival, though would have thought that this would be more likely associated with the amount of alcohol on sale than the noise itself. However, the noise levels have increased significantly over the years of the Festival, and are due to the music being performed at very high levels of amplification. The levels are now such that they are disruptive even inside our house, as well as in our garden. Subjectively, they are more of a nuisance than, for instance, the recent Michaelmas Fair, partly due to the duration of the disturbance. For those residents directly adjacent to the site they must be considerably more of a nuisance.

When the Festival first started the noise levels were unproblematic, and the overall feel of the Festival was of a community event in keeping with its location. But the organisers seem to have felt that each year the Festival needs to be bigger than the year before, with more and louder music. Their timekeeping also seems poor — this year they appeared to overrun by a couple of hours into the night, if their website was to be believed.

I would like to suggest that the Council encourages the organisers to decide whether they wish to continue to mount what now feels more like a pop festival than a beer festival, and if so to find a site more appropriate to this. Or whether to return to the more community-based event of the earlier years, in which case Northcroft would be a perfectly fine venue with the advantages it brings for access and local trade.

Yours sincerely,
R A Day
I Day

From: Peter Hinds
Sent: 15 October 2021 10:17 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival licence

Dear Sir,

I understand there has been a request for the removal of the Newbury Real Ale Festival licence and I would like to support this application as a concerned resident.

I believe the event constitutes a public nuisance and in addition, I came across an attendee from this event urinating outside my property in Bewicks Reach.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Hinds

Dr Peter Hinds BA, MSc, PhD

From: Jenn James
Sent: 15 October 2021 9:58 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real ale festival

Regarding the licensing for the real ale festival - whilst this isn't about the noise level. We needed an ambulance on the 11th sept for my daughter who had a horse riding accident. Whilst we got a paramedic at 1630 - the ambulance was called at 1030 and an ambulance finally took her away at 2000hrs that evening. She waited the best part of 10 hours on the floor that day. I often wondered whether this wait would've been less than 10 hours if it wasn't the real ale festival. So not only are there noise issues for some people but also does it cripple the emergency services ?

Jenn James

From: Adam Larking
Sent: 14 October 2021 14:56
To: Licensing
Cc: Alison Larking
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

To whom it may concern,

We would like to support the removal of the Real Ale festival licence on the grounds it constitutes a major public nuisance.

The noise levels in my home, front to back, were outrageous this year. There was no escaping it whatsoever.

Not only this but I have a severely autistic son with acute sensory issues and sleep problems. It takes a very long time to get his behaviour back to normal again after such an invasion of noise.

I am happy to provide documentary proof of my son's condition but even as neurotypical adults, my wife and I - and a friend who had to come to help us with our son - found it far too disturbing.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Larking

From: Pattie Mhlanga
Sent: 14 October 2021 8:59 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Ale festival license should be revoked

This is to notify you that as a Newbury resident with children, I support that the licence for the Ale festival that's held At Northcroft every year should be removed.

This festival is encouraging criminal activity and makes Newbury a dangerous place as it is encouraging alcoholism, all these addicts are being encouraged to drink until they are knocked out. It is unacceptable to use alcohol to raise money for children. Can't they sell something like flowers or non alcoholic drinks and be inclusive to everyone. It's a shame that this has been allowed to go on for so long in a nice quiet town. We don't benefit from it, it's noisy, and encourages alcoholism and criminality. We go around promoting health and saying alcohol should be a social activity, but then someone decided it was ok to create an Ale festival to get the whole town drunk. Did they think of how that affects our NHS. This license should be revoked.

Kind regards
Patti

To whom it may concern,

Please see below the comments of Newbury Town Council's Planning & Highways Committees on licencing applications from the Committee meeting held on Monday the 4th of October 2021.

I would appreciate it if you could forward these to the appropriate case officers.

Best,

Darius Zarazel

**Planning and Highways Committee Meeting
04/10/2021**

Schedule of Licensing Applications

| Resolutions | Licence | Applicant(S) | Premises |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| We support this event, however we recommend a review be carried out focusing on the level of noise and public nuisance caused, as well as on toilet facilities. | Licensing Act 2003 (Premises Licences & Club Premises Certificates) Regulations 2005 Premises Licence – Review of the licence Ref: 21/00812/LQN | Applicant: Andrew Wyper | Location: Newbury Real Ale Festival – Land between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club, Northcroft Lane Proposal: Review of the licence based on, “1) the undermining of the licensing objectives of The Prevention of Crime and Disorder, 2) The Prevention of Public Nuisance, and 3) The Protection of Children from Harm.” |

From: giovanni palombo
Sent: 15 October 2021 11:57 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Licence for the Real Ale Festival

Hello

I'm writing in support of the application to remove the licence from the Real Ale Festival due to the noise and antisocial behaviour often associated with it.

Thank you

Best regards

--

Giovanni Palombo (resident in Northcroft Lane)

From: Janice Silvester
Sent: 14 October 2021 16:52
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival at Northcroft Park

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Sir,
am writing to complain about excessive noise levels at this year's Real Ale Festival. I have lived in Northcroft Lane for 5 years and this year's Festival was definitely louder than previous years. I am presently enduring the Michaelmas fair and the noise levels are also higher than previous years.

I know that living here I must expect a certain amount of disruption and noise but this year I can feel it as well as hear it!

Yours sincerely
Mrs Janice Silvester

From: Helen Simmons
Sent: 15 October 2021 8:03 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Annual Real Ale Festival

To Whom it May Concern

I would like to ask that the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival premises licence is removed.

The grounds for this request is that I live in Berkeley Road, Newbury and the continued level of noise for an extended period, the whole of afternoon and late into the night constitutes a public nuisance and disturbs the local residential areas. I have young children who could not sleep as a result of the noise level resulting in me having to leave my home to take my children to a family member to sleep. An event of this nature has to be for the local population and not cause part of that population any negative impact.

I support the application to remove the premises licence immediately.

Many thanks

Helen Simmons

From: alex smith
Sent: 18 October 2021 20:52
To: Licensing
Subject: noise at real ale festival

Dear licensing at west berks

The festival is too noisy for a residential area as the noise is prolonged over most of the day and the type of music is mainly loud rock. This comes on top of other noisy events the area has to contend with such as the fair which goes on for 4 days. Newbury show ground may be better. It also creates a lot of rubbish and has people parking badly on our estate even though they don't reside there.

Thanks

From: Elizabeth Stanley
Sent: 19 October 2021 12:27
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer festival

To Whom It May Concern

I'm writing this as support to the beer festival but I also do think something needs to be done about the noise

I live surrounding northcroft and goldwell parks and while other houses had a leaflet through the door saying about the disturbance, my estate wasn't. On this estate there are mums with young children, elderly etc. Who would have been disrupted. All I would have liked is a leaflet through the door saying the music would finish at a certain time. Instead I had to take to social media to find out the question as it wasn't even on the official website.

So I support the beer festival and found people leaving were considerate but I do think something needs to be done about informing local about a potential disturbance

Thanks

Elizabeth Stanley
(Saffron Close)

From: barry stone
Sent: 22 October 2021 12:52
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival - OBJECTION

Hello,

The Real Ale Festival is a joke: it's a (loud) music festival with alcohol.

I stopped going a few years ago because when I went to buy a ticket I couldn't hear what the ticket seller was saying - I left and have never tried going back. It was ridiculously loud all around the site. Seems to have been the same in subsequent years as you can hear the 'din' in various locations around the town. Each year subsequently the advertising thrust has been 'headline acts' - which means music and the inference has been louder equals better. Music has taken over as the rationale for the event: it's now Music with Ale.

My neighbour went to take his young family this year and as they were entering the band was enunciating 'swear' words completely unacceptable to children. He insisted on his money back and they left.

I have friends who like myself avoid like event like the plague for the reasons above (let alone drunkenness and behaviour which are also no-nos).

Newbury should be ashamed of hosting such an event in the centre of town.

Awful.

Regards

Barry Stone

From: JohnAvis Taylor

Sent: 18 October 2021 12:45

To: Licensing

Subject: Licence Application for Real Ale Festival in Goldwell Park

As there is a ban on Drinking alcohol in the Victoria Park and in the town centre this event should there should be an alcohol ban in Goldwell Park hence the application should be refused.

A Real Ale Festival is likely to encourage criminal behaviour, noise and general nuisance close to residential property.

Resident of Goldwell Park

From: Tony Vickers
Sent: 20 October 2021 12:00
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival - 21/00812/LQN

I wish to support the application for a review of the license for this event.

I live within 400m of Northcroft Park in Craven Road and the noise from the event was louder than ever before and went on at a loud volume for longer than usual. However my objection to the event comes mainly from the number of adverse comments I saw at the time on social media from addresses through Newbury and beyond: New Road Greenham, Manor Park Cold Ash, Donnington & my own ward - Wash Common - among them.

I have attended the event in the past and would not want it to be banned. However the applicant is in my view right to ask for tighter control over the event by the organisers and by this Authority at the time. Like many events that are popular, it is in danger of being a victim of its own success.

There is no need for music to play at such a loud volume. There is need for more toilets on site to deal with the numbers. There must be some police presence and more stewards to deter and possibly deal with antisocial behaviour. And finally the organisers must be made to clear up litter dropped in the surrounding area by visitors to their event.

Excessive consumption of alcohol is a plague on society. I greatly enjoy real ale myself but it should be consumed responsibly and preferably with food. The amount of litter that results from events of this type leaves a disgusting after effect if not managed better than this event on this occasion.

If the review leads to an improvement in the event management and a reduction in complaints from the surrounding residential area, nobody will be more pleased than myself. If not, then this Authority must take action.

Councillor Dr Tony Vickers
Member for Wash Common Ward

From: Dan Allen
Sent: 22 October 2021 14:35
To: licensing@westberks.gov.uk
Subject: NEWBURY BEER FESTIVAL - 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir

I would like to say that I know of no abusive behavior or excessive drinking to the point of being a nuisance, caused by the Newbury Beer Festival. I have always considered the Festival to be a pleasant day out and very much a "family friendly" event.

I strongly oppose the objections to the Festival's continuance that, according to the Newbury Weekly News, have been lodged with the Council.

The Festival is one of the highspots of the Town's year and should be allowed to continue.

If the objections reported in the Newbury Weekly News had been made about the Michaelmas Fair, there might have been some grounds for them, particularly as regards to children's sleep being disturbed. With regard to the Newbury Beer Festival, I think they are totally without foundation and the Festival should be allowed to go ahead again next year (Covid restrictions permitting, of course).

Yours Faithfully

Leslie Allen

From: Luke Andrews

Sent: 15 October 2021 10:43 AM

To: Licensing

Subject: West Berks Real Ale Festival License - Reject motion (Keep license)

Hi there,

It has been brought to my attention that there is an application to have the premises license removed from the Real Ale festival on the grounds that 'the noise levels constitute a public nuisance and encourages criminal behaviour'. This complaint seems a little out of place if it makes its argument solely on the noise levels, given that its only for one day in the middle of summer, whereas we currently have the Michaelmas Fair which makes far more 'disturbance' with both light and noise, which is repeated for four days.

While I'm currently unaware of any criminal behaviour linked to this event to the event that the individual(s) who tabled this motion claim it encourages, I do live on Northcroft Lane in one of the maisonettes that back directly onto the fields and so am placed to feel the full effects of these events, yet I have found neither problematic beyond needing to put on a pair of headphones, though there has been a threat to my diet from the smell of fresh doughnuts coming through my window!

On a serious note though, I feel that the live music scene in Newbury has dramatically decreased over the past 10 years, and taking away the license of a one day event that showcases local music, as well as brewers from the area, seems incredibly short sighted if the evidence for criminal behaviour is as lacking as it seems. I understand that there will be some residents living close who may struggle with the loud noises, but I don't think the correct response to being a bit annoyed with some noise on one day a year is to shut down a festival which has made its place on our summer calendars.

For these reasons, I hope that you respectfully decline the motion to remove the Real Ale festivals license.

Best wishes,

Luke

From: Charlotte Avery
Sent: 22 October 2021 16:33
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury beer festival license

To whom it may concern,

My viewpoint is positive towards continuation of the Newbury beer festival. It is a great community event that supports local businesses and also raises money for various local charities. It has a lovely atmosphere and is enjoyed by families throughout the day. There is a great community feel to the event. I certainly don't see any poor or antisocial behaviour. This year there were small groups of families sat in camping chairs having picnics or eating food from the food vans; chatting with children playing or playing football in the huge open space with them some popping over to the local nearby park.

This is an event that we as a family look forward to each year and would be very disappointed if it were not to be able to run next year.

Kind regards Charlotte and Brian Avery

From: Azzaro, Garry
Sent: 17 October 2021 4:51 PM
To: Licensing <
Subject: Ref: 21/00812/LQN : Newbury Real Ale Festival

Ref: 21/00812/LQN

To Whom It May Concern,

I am rather shocked to learn of a recent complaint made against the annual Newbury Real Ale Festival concerning a proposed revocation of their license, allegedly on grounds of '*prevention of harm to children and prevention of crime and public nuisance to the community*'. I find this particularly surprising when I have seen the festival do nothing but support local business and the community, including raising over £100,000 for charitable organisations over the years, most recently the mental health sports charity 'Sport In Mind', and the children and families illness support service 'Daisy's Dream' .

My wife I travel from west London every year to the festival, booking our tickets as soon as they go on sale, and arranging overnight accommodation at one of the local B&B or guesthouses available in Newbury so we don't have to hurry back and can enjoy a very nice, paced day out. Although our train journey is relatively short, we like visiting Newbury, and as well as the Real Ale Festival we also like to support the many independent businesses and boutiques in the area during our stay, and often look forward to a Sunday lunch the day after at such pleasant venues as The Catherine Wheel or The Lock, Stock and Barrel – places we would not frequent if it were not for the safe and pleasant atmosphere provided by the Real Ale Festival the day before.

In all the years we have been coming, we have invited friends along with us, and they too have enjoyed the well-organised atmosphere, the many local food stalls on offer, as well as the fine selection of ales and the live entertainment throughout the day. I have seen no sign of anything remotely resembling '*harm to children*' or '*crime and public nuisance*', often leaving with a lot of fellow attendees, as the festival winds to a close at a reasonable hour, well within the West Berkshire guidance hours relating to noise nuisance, seeing nothing but people and families leaving in good spirits, responsibly and well-behaved.

I see a lot of local businesses supporting and sponsoring the festival each year, many returning sponsors who I am sure would not be lending their name to the event if they were concerned at all about any kind of bad organisation or representation from the organisers.

On a personal note, after booking our tickets this year, I was diagnosed with a medical condition that would require further treatment over a couple of months and would compromise my immunity in some cases. I contacted the organisers to see

what precautions were in place re-Covid and any other measures I would need to consider before attending – and they graciously responded quickly, explaining the various steps and distancing that they had in place, as well as very kindly automatically upgrading my wife and I to the VIP area, where I would be ‘cordoned off’ away from the main crowds and have access to more private facilities, in order to make my attendance and safe and as comfortable as possible, and made me feel very safe and looked after enough to attend. In fact, throughout the course of every Newbury Real Ale festival I have attended, my wife and I have always felt safe and unbothered.

I do hope this goes some way in convincing the Council’s consideration and continued support of Newbury Real Ale Festival’s license, as I find it a great asset to the community and a great, fun, safe day out for all who attend and volunteer throughout the whole festival, from set-up to takedown and clean-up.

Many kind regards,

Garry Azzaro

From: Howard Bairstow

Sent: 20 October 2021 19:37

To: Licensing

Subject: REF 21/00812/LQN BEER FESTIVAL - REJECTION OF DRINK LICENCE

STOPPING THE BEER FESTIVAL AT NORTHCROFT

I was saddened by the desire to stop this event by a resident of Northcroft.

The Newbury and Thatcham Hockey club was originally based at Northcroft but because of the lack of an all-weather pitch had to move to Henwick. The club is a well-known club for its strong teams, teaching youngsters to play and it's good social side. Like all clubs there is a need for funds and the annual Beer Festival is an occasion when money can be raised for the club and also for charities.

Currently money goes to both Children In Need and Naomi House as benefactors of the club.

This year it is calculated that 600 children attended the event, accompanied by parents and shepherded by club stewards. To minimise excess drinking all attendees have ½ pint glasses so that they can try the many brews that are on offer without being abjectly affected. It is a social event with families and friends enjoying the music, the variety of drinks and keeping their children and others safe and happy. Food is also available to help the beer down and keep steady heads.

It is alleged that children are affected by the event, which I have to question. The children will see people drinking beer, eating, dancing and learn the way of enjoying oneself without being objectionable or a public nuisance. The club stewards are strict with people's behaviour and getting intoxicated and will request anyone becoming 'out of order' to leave. To my knowledge the vast majority of attendees are responsible and wish to enjoy this 'social drinking' and entertainment and will encourage others to do the same.

It is more likely that 'on-line' behaviour will affect children more because there is no supervision.

At Falkland Cricket Club they have a yearly Fireworks Night with similar aims to the Hockey Club and their operation is similar and family orientated and is likewise a great asset to the locality.

I hope that this complaint will be put aside and an acknowledgement made that the safety and good behaviour of children and attendees is closely monitored and their welfare is paramount to all.

I must share that my two sons have been members of the club for many years and I have attended many of the festivals. They both have been involved with the training of the young members including their own children.

Howard Bairstow, Past Mayor of Newbury and resident of Newbury for over 40 years.

I hope the Committee will ignore this request to withdraw the licence and allow this event to carry on providing the benefits it has done for many years.

Best Regards

Howard Bairstow

From: Stevebankier
Sent: 14 October 2021 9:03 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

I would like to put in my support for the Newbury Real Ale Festival. Long may this great event continue. It is a great family event which is very well supported by the local community.

I have never once seen any antisocial behaviour when I have attended.

Steve Bankier

From: Jemma Barton
Sent: 12 October 2021 20:19
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Ale Festival 21/008/LQN

Good Evening,

I am writing further to being informed of a complaint regarding Newbury's Ale Festival. This is an event that I have attended with my family for many years, one that both us and our children look forward to.

It has always been a well managed and organised event that has felt safe and respectful. I have never experienced or witnessed any trouble. My children are safe to hang out with their friends and experience the music and food.

Rather than being seen as a nuisance, the Ale Festival is an item on the local calendar that as a community we should feel proud of. There are so few places where families of all ages can come together and an enjoy time together in our town. I cannot understand any objection to such an event.

I would therefore like to log my support to the ongoing continuation of the Ale Festival as a bright light in our calendar.

Warmest

Jemma Barton

From: Tim Basden
Sent: 22 October 2021 15:22
To: Licensing
Subject: Fwd: Ref 21/00812/LQN

To whom it may concern,

I have just been made aware that the license for the yearly beer festival is up for review. I would like it be known my support for this yearly festival.

I live in Saffron Close on the estate across from the park and every year I look forward to this event. I've attended the event on numerous occasion with my children and they have all come away having enjoyed the music and atmosphere. This year I wasn't able to attend but enjoyed listening to the music from my garden.

In regards to the reports that state it encourages criminal behaviour and disorder, I would dispute this claim. In all the years I've attended I've never once witnessed any criminal activity and the majority of attendees leave the field in an orderly manner. I would say the town gets more disorder from those who have attended Newbury racecourse for the day.

So if the review is to be based on the basis of law and order, then the licence for the racecourse also needs to be reviewed in the same manner.

In regards to noise pollution, unfortunately, you can't control the way the wind blows and I would state the music being blared out by the Michaelmas Fayre is much worst and is during the week. So, are we to cancel this event also?

I hope this review gets the support from the council and the relevant bodies that it deserves.

Regards

T Basden (Mr)

From: Ian Batho
Sent: 15 October 2021 12:26 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer Festival

Hi There.

I understand there is to be a review of the Newbury Beer Festival license on the grounds of noise, crime and anti- social behaviour.

I work in Newbury town centre on Saturday evenings and I haven't witnessed any crime or anti-social behaviour stemming from the beer festival.

The event is one day a year and provides a great day out for a lot of people as well bringing in money for charity and showcasing our local beer and ciders.

Regards
Ian Batho

From: Gregg Bazley
Sent: 14 October 2021 10:32 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Objection to 21/00812/LQN licence revocation application

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been made aware of an application being made (21/00812/LQN) to have the licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival removed on the basis of the noise levels constituting a public nuisance and encouraging criminal behaviour.

I am very much against this application and am saddened by the attitude of some local residents who do not want the town to come together as a community at such an enjoyable event, which really is a shining example of why Newbury is such a great place to live and visit.

I have attended the festival for a number of years and it is always a fantastically well organised event where people can relax and socialise in a safe and secure environment. I have never witnessed, or been made aware of, any violence or antisocial behaviour of any kind and feel that the way that it is set and laid out up creates a family safe environment for such an event.

I know that it is organised by the local hockey club and is staffed by volunteers who give up their time to make sure that it is a success. The day is supported by many local businesses with the list growing each year, making it really feel like a proper local event, which also raises a considerable amount of money for charity - over £100,000 to date according to their website.

The focus of the event is not on people getting drunk and making nuisances of themselves but for people to have fun, make the best of our local facilities and promote the community feel of the town - something which I would hope that West Berkshire Council should be supporting and not looking to shut down.

In past years I have lived in the Northcroft area and never been disturbed by the noise levels at this or any other event which have taken place in Northcroft Park. Nor have I ever heard any of my neighbours remark negatively about the events.

For the reasons above I would like to formally object to the application for the removal of the licence so that this amazing event can continue for many enjoyable years to come.

Kind regards,

Gregg Bazley

Broadway House
4-8 The Broadway
Newbury
RG14 1BA
E: info@newburybid.com T: 01635 760505



Licensing
West Berkshire Council
Council Offices
Market Street
Newbury
RG14 5LD

18 October 2021

Ref: 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sirs,

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and I am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

Newbury Business Improvement District (BID) is a not-for-profit organisation formed in 2012 by local businesses. Our long-term vision is to establish Newbury as a go-to destination for businesses and visitors from all around the world, with the BID leading the way on place-shaping and town centre transformation.

Events such as the Newbury Real Ale Festival are exactly the kind of attractions we should be encouraging within our town. It is a fantastic example of an event organised both for the benefit of the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities, and it helps to put Newbury on the map as a vibrant place to live, work, and visit.

I have personally attended the event for many years and have never once felt concerned about my own safety or that of anyone at the event. As Chief Executive Officer of the BID I would not support the event if I felt that it contravened the objectives of the Licensing Act knowing how important

these objectives are to ensuring events in the town run smoothly. It is also extremely important to us to that Newbury is a safe and welcoming place for residents, visitors, and workers. Any increased criminal or anti-social activity or fear for safety would negatively impact on the attractiveness of the event and the town as a whole and is certainly not something we would support.

The Newbury Real Ale Festival is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Hughes', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Melissa Hughes
Chief Executive
Newbury BID CIC

REGISTERED Company No. 06977701

From: Rebecca Bird
Sent: 14 October 2021 9:46 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

I would like to support the festival. It's a bit noisy, but not so much so that their licence should be revoked. It's a positive event for our town. Perhaps they could just turn down the volume a wee bit? Please don't cancel their licence. Thank you.

Rebecca Bird

From: Stephen Black
Sent: 17 October 2021 9:55 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have had a Letter posted through my Front Door saying an Application has been made to Remove the Premises license for the Real Ale Festival.

I Live in Northcroft Lane Newbury. We have been here for Seven Years.

I can honestly Say we have never had a Single problem or Issue relating to the Ale Festival.

It's One day per year and it never effects our Quality of Living.

I would Like to Say I Support The Real Ale festival Keeping its License.

Thankyou

Stephen Black

From: Melanie Booth
Sent: 18 October 2021 22:20
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival consultation - Object

Dear licensing team

I wish to object to the application to review Newbury Real Ale Festival's licence as I think it should not be reviewed. It is a fun family event, I attend regularly (with children) and have never seen trouble and many friends' children work there to raise money for their hockey club. It is a good way of supporting local charities and local musicians.

Your faithfully,
Melanie Booth

From: James Bradshaw

Sent: 15 October 2021 10:06 AM

To: Licensing

Subject: Licensing complaint against Newbury Beer Festival 21/00812/LQN

Dear sirs,

As a Westfields resident, I'm writing in defence of the Newbury Beer Festival.

Having read through the complainant's application for a review of the licence, I genuinely think his issues are trivial and mean spirited.

This is a comparatively peaceful event that is thoroughly enjoyed by the great majority of Newbury's residents. It's far quieter than the Michaelmas fair.

The minor inconvenience of noise on this one day a year is insignificant in comparison to the enjoyment the festival provides to thousands of local residents.

With so many pubs closing down, it's really good to witness this thriving event, where people can enjoy a drink with their friends and family, surrounded by like-minded people, without having to use their car and a nominated driver.

I have copied some of the supportive comments below, from the Facebook Westfields community website. These are from the people who live closest to the festival and there isn't one single comment in support of removing the licence for this event. As of this morning, there were over 100 positive comments.

Please reject this mean spirited complaint.

James Bradshaw

- Presumably the same could be said about the Michaelmas fair that has been coming for hundreds of years. Maybe we should all stay at home sitting in silence.
- Whilst I didn't attend this year's festival, I personally think it is great to have the option on our doorstep and would be sad to lose it
- Indeed! The sound of people having fun is not as much of a nuisance as the sound of people moaning!
- How miserable it's only one day per year
- I echo the comments above, the fun Police are out and about again it would seem!
- One day a year - and such a popular event
- Very sad for 1 day a year yet other events can take place and leave more mess and make more noise?
- I agree and how does removing the premises licence stop the noise?! It is one day .

- It's for one day! What is the world coming to, we won't be able to do anything soon! Next it'll be the cricket and football matches
- I think it would be a real shame if it didn't go ahead.. surely these events are great for Newbury to host and gave a lot of people a nice day out! I really enjoyed listening to all the different bands from the comfort of my garden and allotment that day!
- It is noteworthy that the reason cited in the note posted through doors does not match the reasons cited in the public licensing notice:
- I didn't get this note we should encourage charitable enterprise ++I can hardly hear it from Russell road!
I recommend ear plugs for the few with issues. This reminds me of the 'west field' resident who couldn't abide health cardio classes music - helping so many keep active & positive! Bah humbug! Next it will be babies crying or kids wailing at night or calling out of windows that cause noise issues to others!
Grrrr
- I've emailed to add my support for the Real Ale Festival and my concern that someone is trying to create extra support for this objection. As I think the majority do not find it intolerable?
- I did too and emailed in support and just got an auto reply back. I think if they get lots of support from the local community that will be a good thing
- Well the leaflet has given us all an opportunity so I guess we should thank the person who did it However, we don't live in a gated retirement village and I think that one of the best things about this area is that it's a mixed, hopefully, tolerant community.
- This is no different to the fairground at the current moment . Such a darn shame to close these popular local days and evenings out . I live over in west mills and loved hearing the music bands .
- it's not been cancelled yet. We all need to write in and support the event. No time to lose as the objections to the revocation of the license needs to be in by next week. If we all write we should be able to save it.
- I object to this ridiculous NIMBY attitude Especially when the festival helps support local breweries that otherwise would go out of business....
- that's exactly what I said in my support email to the council! It has to be a good thing for local breweries to be able to find new customers & good for local bands to find a new audience! As well as give people a good day out
- Omg, the fair brings more trouble in town than the ale festival and we hear more noise from the fair than we did from the ale festival. Is it the houses over on northcroft as I know they tried to get the fair stopped that have done this

From: David Bright
Sent: 22 October 2021 21:37
To: Licensing
Subject: Reference 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sirs

I am writing in respect of an application to remove the premises licence from the Real Ale Festival on the grounds of public nuisance and the encouragement of criminal behaviour.

My wife and I, along with our two children (aged 12 and 8) have been attending the festival for many years including this year. The festival is incredibly well run with many officials on hand to ensure that it is run smoothly and without incident. I consider it to be safe with a family feel. Indeed, it is one of our favourite events in the Newbury calendar and I consider it to be something which brings the community together in a friendly way and something which I attend with a number of other families. We all feel safe and enjoy our annual outing together.

It is also something which raises a significant amount of money for charity.

Please consider this email as whole hearted support for this event.

Kind regards

David Bright

From: Ken Brunsdon
Sent: 14 October 2021 16:55
To: Licensing
Subject: Real ale festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

I did not have any issues with the above I thought all was well organized. Compared at the moment as we have the fair here with just as many people an ten times the noise levels.

Mr Brunsdon

From: Cecilia Burdett-Ward
Sent: 14 October 2021 7:54 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real ale festival support

Good evening,

This evening as a household (Russell road) we received a note through our letter box concerning the Real Ale Fest.

All three members of our household have lived in the Westfield community decades. My father for over three decades and I personally have lived here for 25 years on various roads.

We cannot imagine the end of summer without the Real Ale Fest. It is truly a community event, brings the neighborhood together, supports a local cause and promotes local businesses. It also brings valuable tourism to Newbury. The hockey club who staff the event have never been anything other than upstanding members of the community, always of upmost help and go above and beyond to ensure the safety of the event.

As a young woman I often feel unsafe in Newbury while drinking. However this does not apply to any of the Real Ale Festival events I've attended. The accusations of public nuisance and criminal behaviour I have never personally witnessed or experienced.

Additionally our house backs onto the canal which divides the festival from our garden. While we do attend the event we are often at home before it has ended, we've never had an issue with the noise pollution from the event. We find it ends at a reasonable time and is consistently helpful in their communication with the section of the neighborhood affected.

These complains are absurd and if humoured could set a dangerous precedent for other events. What would be next? The michaelmas fair is being held currently and has an equal level of noise and public attendance.

I implore the licencing hearing to maintain the Real Ale Festival's licence.

Sincerely,
Cecilia Burdett-ward

From: Burge, Michael
Sent: 18 October 2021 12:58
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival 2021

Dear Sir / Madam,

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

I have been a volunteer at the event for the past 10 years managing the volunteer staff and liaising with the security and first aid teams on site. I have never seen or been aware of any acts of criminal behaviour or disorder at, or within close proximity, of the event.

In respect of people drinking to excess, all of the volunteer staff have to sign to confirm that they have read the instructions issued by the licensee. This includes instruction that anyone appearing to have drunk in excess should not be served and should be asked to leave by one of the organising team or the security staff. Volunteer staff are not allowed to start their shift until they have read the procedure and signed.

I also hold the "hotline" phone, the number of which is distributed to the local community ahead of the event and which I have with me at all times between 10am and 10.30pm on the day of the event. I can confirm that no calls or texts were received on the phone at any point during or after the event in 2021.

It should be noted that this event raises money for local charities and Newbury and Thatcham Hockey club and many thousands of people have benefitted from the money that has been raised over the years.

Regards

Mike Burge

From: Rachel Burge
Sent: 22 October 2021 13:46
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival licence review

Dear Sir/Madam

My family and I fully support the continuation of the Newbury Real Ale Festival. My Husband is part of the Newbury and Thatcham Hockey Club and is a member of the Newbury Real Ale Festival Committee and I have seen the amount of effort that goes into organising the event which brings together all member of the NTHC and their families. It's only 1 day, it doesn't go beyond 10pm and it raises a lot of money for charity. I am surprised by a couple of comments that it was loud. As far as I'm aware although there is a mobile number to call in on day of event with any complaints no calls were received complaining about the noise!

I really hope that the licence is renewed to ensure the event and all it brings to Newbury is not lost.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Burge

From: Matt Burnett
Sent: 16 October 2021 4:00 PM
To: Licensing <
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Hi

I am writing to express my support for the Newbury Real Ale Festival, the licence for which I understand is under review.

I have been an attendee and volunteer of the festival for many years and know how seriously the organisers take licensing matters and meeting the objectives of the licensing act. This includes clear instructions to the staff around people's consumption of alcohol and not serving anyone who appears drunk.

In 2021 I attended the event with my family (including my young daughter) and at no point was I concerned about their safety or wellbeing. We were with other friends and their families and saw lots of people we knew throughout the day. As a group we spent an enjoyable afternoon and evening at the event before leaving at around 9.30pm.

Kind regards

Matt Burnett

From: Cassandra Capel
Sent: 12 October 2021 21:58
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival - 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Hello

As residents of West Berkshire, my family and I attend the Newbury Real Ale Festival every year. I have two children, aged 13 and 10 and they have grown up attending the event and look forward to it every year. The festival is a local event that we can all really enjoy. The opportunity to get the local community together outdoors to enjoy music and to socialise is invaluable for a small market town like Newbury. It is one of the important events in our annual town calendar.

The festival this year felt like a big success. To see people having fun in a controlled manner brought so much joy to so many. By monitoring numbers and having a barrier surrounding the event it means that as a parent I can be confident that my children are safe and contained.

I really hope that the local community can continue to enjoy the Real Ale Festival for many years to come.

Many thanks

Cassandra

From: Agnes Carlisle
Sent: 19 October 2021 12:16
To: Licensing
Subject: Ref: 21/00812/LQN

To whom it may concern.

Your Ref: 21/00812/LQN

I write in support of the Newbury Real Ale Festival, which is a very successful community and charity event. Until recently I was Club Welfare Officer for the hockey club and ensured that any of our young players who volunteered to help were given appropriate tasks and supervised at all times. There are always many family groups amongst the attendees and the atmosphere is relaxed and friendly and I have seen nothing that could be deemed detrimental to the safety of children.

Regards
Agnes Carlisle

From: Milena Castino
Sent: 15 October 2021 12:37 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Reference 21/00812/LQN - Real Ale Festival

Hello,

I have heard that a resident complained about the Newbury Real Ale Festival and that this could jeopardise licensing for the event in the next years.

I am a resident at Northcroft Lane and I would like to strongly object to this complaint and advocate for the festival. We want the festival to happen. It is the biggest event in Newbury and it has always been a success.

As a resident, I can guarantee we get much more nuisance from fairs in Northcroft than the festival itself. It is just one day in the year. For me, I would even have it happening the entire weekend. It is important for the community and especially important for local musicians.

Please do NOT stop Newbury Real Ale Festival from happening. I hope you are hearing all the residents in Newbury and not just one single person.

Kind regards,

Milena Hawkins

From: Mary
Sent: 22 October 2021 16:12
To: Licensing
Subject: FW: 21/00812/LQN

To whom it may concern.

I am writing in support of the Real ale Festival where I have volunteered since the first event as it is such a good community event and has raised thousands of pounds for charities over a number of years.

Children go there with their parents for a family day out where there is face painting, tuck shop and listening to music and spending time with friends and family. If parents thought their children were at risk they would not bring them.

It is lovely to see people enjoying themselves and something Newbury should be proud of to hold such an event which is largely run by volunteers from the local community. It was especially pleasing this year to see people enjoying an event such as this after all the lockdowns.

I do hope this worthwhile event continues and thousands of local people attend every year and it has become one of the must go to events in the calendar for a number of people.

People work so hard to put on this event and it would be a shame if the licence isn't renewed.

Regards

Mary Cavanagh

From: Kelvin Chaffer
Sent: 19 October 2021 17:05
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir/madam,

I'm writing to you regarding the Beer Festival that takes place in Newbury each year. I understand that someone requested a revocation of the license of the festival and I am dismayed that it is even being considered.

The Beer festival is an annual event that the organisers spend literally months planning and volunteers such as myself are only too eager to help out with.

It is a brilliant event and one that promotes local businesses and raises money for local charities. To lose this event would be to the detriment of more than just the local community who look forward to it each year. We, at Lifecycle have sponsored barrels for the last 10 years and our staff have volunteered to ensure the event can go ahead. The ale festival went as far as supporting our own charity initiative with Daisys dream due to the longevity of our support and 2 years ago over £10k was donated from the proceeds of the festival to this charity.

The organisation of the event is nothing but professional which is clear from the growth of the event from a smaller festival that ran whilst the local cricket side played next to it, to where we are today which is an event that Newbury and its surroundings are proud to call their own. Having worked behind the bar, its been a pleasure serving all those in attendance and have experienced no problems at any of the events.

One persons objection should not allow an important community event to be cancelled.

Please do not take the NRAF away for the people of Newbury.

Regards

Kelvin Chaffer |

From: Fiona Chalk
Sent: 15 October 2021 11:52 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN Licensing application

Dear Licensing Committee

We are writing to say we do not support this proposal to remove the licence for what is a very popular and well run event.

We live locally to Northcroft in Clifton Road and even with all the windows open we were not disturbed by the noise. The music has to our knowledge always finished on time according to their licence, with the event coordinators making sure this is adhered to.

Our experience of the festival is that it is safe, and well run. We have attended this event with our children, from when they were very young, and have always found the atmosphere family friendly and relaxed.

The Beer festival is very well planned by wonderful volunteers at the Hockey club and has raised lots of money that has been donated to many local charities. Not only that but it increases footfall in our town on the weekend with extra visitors buying from our shops, pubs and restaurants as well as filling our hotels and B&B's and encouraging local businesses to support the event.

We do hope the Licensing board will reject this proposal.

Anonymous notes have been put through residents' doors trying to drum up support to remove the festival's licence. We would like to thank the anonymous poster for giving us the opportunity to support our fabulous local beer festival. Long may it continue.

Kind Regards
Mr & Mrs Chalk

From: Emma Chambers
Sent: 14 October 2021 8:33 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real ale festival license

Hello,

It has come to my attention that some local people in the Westfields areas have submitting an application to have the license for the above event removed.

I am emailing to say that I oppose this move, as I believe that the event is not too loud or disruptive. I also believe that it brings many economic benefits to the town on the day itself.

I am emailing as I would like you to know that this is not opposition from all West fields residents.

Many thanks

Emma Chambers

From: Amanda Chandler
Sent: 14 October 2021 8:03 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival - Premise Application

Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing to object to the application to have the premises licence removed from the Real Ale festival. I believe 2 grounds have been cited:

1. Noise constituting public nuisance – I have lived on Russell Road for 13 years and while I can hear all the bands and crowd noise, it lasts for less than a day and does not impact on my Saturday even later on the evening as people are leaving. There is no more noise than any other Saturday night.

2. Criminal behaviour – I am assuming that any licence application is reviewed by the appropriate authorities such as the police who will have the data and statistics about whether events such as the Ale Festival lead to an increase or spike in criminal behaviour or offences. I therefore see no need to speculate on the validity of this ground or provide unsubstantiated anecdotes when this should be part of the standard application process.

In my experience, this has been a professionally run event that contributes not only to charity, but to the whole community of Newbury. It attracts families even those with young children in a safe and well managed environment. I am sure if the authorities feel that additional restrictions and controls are required, the organisers will respond appropriately as they did this year with the Covid situation. Removing this event from the annual calendar would have a negative impact on the community of Newbury and – potentially be the thin end of the wedge for this type of long running event in Newbury – if the licence for the Ale Festival is removed, where will that leave other traditional events such as the Michaelmas Fair?

Regards
Amanda Chandler

From: Paul Chandler

Sent: 13 October 2021 15:06

To: Licensing

Subject: Reference 21/00812/LQN

To Whom It May Concern,

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

Alpha IT have been a sponsor and attendee of the event for several years and have never seen or been aware of any acts of criminal behaviour or disorder at or within close proximity of the event.

We support the event as we consider it to be a great example of a not for profit event organised both for the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities. Many of our employees attend the event and thoroughly enjoy it, it is a real community day out. Having spoken to colleagues no one there felt that either they or their children were not safe at any point.

As a local company we would not be lending our ongoing support to the event if we had concerns about crime, disorder, nuisance or the protection of children from harm. To the contrary the event is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity

Kind regards

Paul Chandler

From: Sharon Chapman [<mailto:mrssharonchapman@hotmail.co.uk>]
Sent: 15 October 2021 11:35 AM
To: Licensing <Licensing@westberks.gov.uk>
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Dear Licensing Committee

We are writing to say we do not support this proposal to remove the licence for what is a very popular and well run event.

We live locally to Northcroft in Clifton Road and even with all the windows open we were not disturbed by the noise. The music has to our knowledge always finished at 10pm with the event coordinators making sure this is adhered to.

To imply that the well run and stewarded event causes criminal behaviour is petty and unfounded. We would say from our experience that this event is safer than the annual Michelmas fair.

As for the grounds of it being 'harmful to children' we have attended this family friendly event with our children since it started. We have always found the atmosphere family friendly and relaxed.

The Beer festival is very well planned by the wonderful volunteers at the Hockey club and has raised lots of money that has been donated to many local charities. Not only that but it increases foot fall in our town on the weekend with extra visitors buying from our shops, pubs and restaurants as well as filling our hotels and B&B's and encouraging local businesses to support the event.

We do hope the Licensing board will reject this proposal for what it is, a petty & unfounded complaint from a disgruntled kill joy.

We would like to add that anonymous notes have been put through residents' doors trying to drum up support. We would like to thank the anonymous poster for giving us the opportunity to support our fabulous local beer festival. Long may it continue.

Kind Regards
Mr and Mrs Chapman

From: Andrew Chirgwin
Sent: 22 October 2021 11:45
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival licensing

Good morning,

I understand that recently there have been complaints about the festival and that its future is under threat.

I am writing to say that I feel that this event is a fantastic opportunity for Newbury. Many of my friends use it as a social opportunity to meet (particularly this year what with civic restrictions).

The event is well organised and generally trouble-free. As for noise complaints, I feel that providing the event finishes at the allotted time, then one day a year is not really a cause for complaint, as the social benefits far outweigh the means.

I hope that you find the vast majority of people are in favour of this event and that it continues to prosper in the future.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Andrew Chirgwin.

From: HAYDEN COBB
Sent: 15 October 2021 1:28 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my disappointment in the objection of the Newbury Ale Festival license.

As a local resident (Gloucester Road), I wholeheartedly support the Newbury Ale Festival, and believe it's a worthwhile event which benefits the local community/economy and supports charities, as well as being good fun for 1 day a year.

I have never noticed an issue with excessive noise or any disturbances as a local resident, so would like to officially object to the License objection.

Yours, Hayden

From: Ben Cole
Sent: 21 October 2021 15:53
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer Festival reference 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir, Madam

I understand concerns have been raised in respect of the Newbury Real Ale Festival

Please find attached letter which explains my full support for a truly excellent community event that should be fully supported and embraced by the council in recognition for all it brings to Newbury and the many volunteers and supporting businesses who make a truly excellent family occasion.

Best wishes

Ben Cole

Ref: 21/00812/LQN

Dear Recipient Name,

I understand that you have had some concerns raised in respect of Newbury real ale festival and suggesting revocation of the license of the festival on the grounds of prevention of harm to children, prevention of crime and public nuisance to the community.

For 11 years I worked as a Director for Lifecycle Software and was proud to sponsor this event and support the charities it selected to support including as a long term sponsor supporting Lifecycle Charity of the year -Daisy's Dream to the tune of over £12,000 -a charity close to a number of our staff who unfortunate have experienced those life impacting occurrences so well supported by Daisys Dream.

As well as sponsorship, I have also worked as a member of the bar team, I never witnessed any behavioral issues during the event, or meeting colleagues and their families, some with their disabled children enjoying the music, food, ale and occasionally sunshine. Even when the heavens have opened and all have run for cover in the beer marques, I have seen the customers make way for families to shelter.

I have often worked until closing time and again this has been orderly -I have not seen or heard of any abusive behaviour during closing down or after the event. I don't doubt there will be the occasional incident, as there would at any crowd event but I firmly believe the huge benefit for the community and charity this event provides outweighs misdemeanors from a very few -who are as likely to misbehave on a Saturday night in the town centre.

I will finish on the clear up. Although I have not been one of the clear up team, on the last event I returned Sunday morning as I had left some sun glasses. I was amazed at the efficiency and enthusiasm of the clean up team, picking up all litter across the area and bagging it up for collection

Newbury should be proud and celebrate the volunteer resource that puts this together and the support from local businesses and the community. I have had representatives from Reading Real Ale festival remark how much better the Newbury festival is.

All should be proud of its success, its accomplishments and frankly a huge and public thank you to Vincent Butler and the rest of the team who take this on each year is in order

Sincerely,
Ben Cole

From: mireille Cook
Sent: 13 October 2021 17:25
To: Licensing
Subject: Reference 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the Newbury Real Ale Festival, the licence for which I understand is under review. I am a local resident - living less than half a mile from the festival, and I also oversee the mini and junior section of Newbury and Thatcham Hockey Club.

I have been an attendee and volunteer at the event since it began and on no occasion in all those years, have I seen or been made aware of any incidents pertaining to criminal behaviour or disorder. As a volunteer I have to, upon arrival, sign to confirm that I have read the instructions issued by the licensee which includes that anyone appearing to have drunk in excess should not be served and should be asked to leave by one of the organising team or the security staff. To my knowledge this has never had to be done.

In my role within the club and as a parent I am aware of the particular safeguarding issues facing our local communities and our children and young people. I have never had any concerns about the children attending the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

With kind regards,
Mireille Cook

From: Gillian
Sent: 15 October 2021 6:49 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Hello,

I'm writing to express my support for the Newbury Real Ale Festival and its continuing presence as an annual event.

I think the grounds on which a review of the licence are sought (as outlined in 21/00812/LQN) are tenuous; I live on Gloucester Road and don't find the festival disruptive in the least. Long may it continue!

Regards,
Gill Cotter.

From: Mark Curran
Sent: 22 October 2021 16:29
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Hello.

I'm a retired Police Officer and I attended this year's festival.

Firstly, in regard to the noise, numerous people commented on how quiet, the sound system was. I've been to quite a few music festivals and the sound quality was poor, due to the low volume.

In response to the allegations that children may be adversely affected by their proximity to alcohol consumption, I refute this. The UK has stringent licensing laws and these are sufficient to allow children to see alcohol. I've worked 7 Glastonbury Festivals and there were plenty of children there. I took my own children to Chardrock this year and this is a music and ale festival. At no stage, did I see any lewd or antisocial behavior at Newbury. There were masses of uniformed SIA safety staff.

Frankly, it would be disgusting for a town the size of Newbury to refuse the licence to hold an ale and music festival and I would also suggest, legal challenges, based upon the numerous other similar events, would win.

Please don't think of prohibition, as a response to this challenge to the licence application.

Mark Curran

I grew up in Newbury and still have family and friends there.

From: Barry Digby
Sent: 22 October 2021 09:31
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

.

I wish to confirm my support for the CONTINUATION of the Premises Licence for this event. I am a local resident and have no objection to his event. From my experience I find the Fares operated from Northcroft are noisier and attract more anti-social behaviour and litter. The Real Ale is run by local people for local organisations for the benefit of local clubs and charities. The local clubs that I know of include Newbury Hockey Club and the Sea Scouts, both of which have a strong youth movement which deserves the towns support.

I have attended the event and find it well policed and very much a family event with families and young children happily sharing the day picnicking on the grass. I do not see it as any sort of threat to children.

Barry Digby

From: gwendigby@googlemail.com
Sent: 15 October 2021 9:29 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

Reference 21/00812

To whom it may concern,

I want to protest against the proposal to revoke the licensing permit for the real ale festival.

This event is such a great community event the organisers work so hard to make it the wonderful event that it is. Local businesses get involved and some amazing funds are raised for charities.

As a local who lives next to the site I have never had a problem with the noise levels I have two young children who are not disturbed, and were disappointed we could not attend this year. I am saddened the complaint highlights prevention of harm to children. The organisers do everything they can do to secure the safety of everyone including the children ultimately it is down the children's responsible adult to care for them while at the festival. There is plenty for children to take part in while learning about different music genres and a festival vibe.

Over the years the organisers have adapted their plans and procedures from lessons learnt to improve the safety and experience for all.

In my opinion the local fair currently attending Northcroft this week brings more disruption and noise pollution than the real ale festival. And the trouble that comes with the fair attracting huge groups of young people together.

The real ale festival is a family day out for us, we meet up with friends, family and spend the day celebrating being together outdoors while the children get to socialise in a safe environment. There is something for everyone to enjoy and it would be a disaster to lose this great event.

Many thanks

Gwen Digby

From: Jaymi
Sent: 15 October 2021 12:50 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

I strongly refute the claims made against Newbury Ale Festival, it is an established calendar family focused favourite.

Many local bands, brands and retailers who have been hardest hit by the pandemic, rely on the exposure and income this wonderful event showcases.

Many customers look forward to the day of frivolity, the music and opportunity to try something new.

I don't even need to mention to attendees from outside of Newbury who's custom we are so trying to encourage to save our dying high street.

Utter madness to even consider revoking the licence for baseless, unfounded and unproven accusations

Jamilee Dooley
Newbury resident

From: Joe Dooley

Sent: 14 October 2021 17:01

To: Licensing

Subject: Application to Remove Premises Licence from Newbury Real Ale Festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Sir/Madam,

As a resident living in Northcroft, I very much hope the above application will be rejected. I was present at the festival in the afternoon and it was great to see families and friends enjoying themselves with the various activities and refreshments. I wasn't aware of any criminal activity.

Returning home around 6pm I was not aware of any noise from the festival and was able to enjoy the US Open tennis without disturbance. The Michaelmas Fair is far more noisy and intrusive (and I'm aware of past violent incidents).

OK the festival maybe getting too big for its boots with headline bands and corporate entertainment and increased admission charges but to stop it would deny a sizeable portion of Newbury residents of a valuable social event. Just get them to turn it down a bit and have the festival stop in the early evening (by which time the beer/cider etc has mostly run out anyway).

Regards

Joe Dooley

From: Kev Dyson
Sent: 22 October 2021 11:35
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Dear Sir

I am supporting the Newbury Real Ale Festival because it is an enjoyable family event that the **majority** of people enjoy.

It also gives local musicians a chance to entertain and local craft stalls a chance to exhibit and maybe sell a few items too.

Would these objectors try to stop the German October Beerfest if they lived in Germany?

I don't think anyone would take any notice of them and neither should our council.

For goodness sake, this is what most people want and surely it is one of the things that bring the community together. I believe after the rough times we've had lately it should definitely go ahead - but it should go ahead with safety in mind.

I hope that the objection is over-ruled and that the objectors reflect on their over zealous political correctness that is eroding people's way of life.

Kevin Dyson

From: Charlie Edwards
Sent: 14 October 2021 10:56 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Application Reference: 21/00812/LQN

Good evening,

I have just seen the application to remove the license from the Newbury Real Ale Festival and wanted to email my objection to this application.

The Newbury Real Ale Festival is an annual highlight for my family and is a wonderful community event, enjoyed by so many people. We have 3 children, all of which look forward to and enjoy the festival each year and the grounds of 'the protection of children from harm' listed on the application is quite shocking. The festival is extremely well organised, I firmly believe the safety of the guests is their top priority and we have never had any concerns over the safety of children at the festival.

We are very lucky to live in a town with such brilliant, family friendly events and the Newbury Real Ale Festival is right on our doorstep, as we live in Russell Road. In all the years it has been running, we have never experienced any nuisance caused by sound, disorder or crime!

I feel it would be extremely sad for the whole town and the organisers that work so hard, if this application was approved.

Many thanks,
Charlotte Edgar.

From: Tom Edgar
Sent: 22 October 2021 14:33
To: licensing@westberks.gov
Subject: 231/00812/LQN

Good Afternoon,

I believe there has been an objection to renew the licence for the Newbury Real Ale festival, for which I 100% reject.

I am a resident living in Russell Road and have never had any issues with noise or antisocial behaviour because of the festival.

I've attended the festival on many occasions and have always taken my 3 children who have never been in any danger and enjoyed the festival as much as me.

The festival has always been a great occasion for local people to meet up and have a good time, raising money for charity in a very safe and secure environment.

Regards, Tom

From: Gwen Ekins

Sent: 14 October 2021 10:10 PM

To: Licensing

Subject: Re: Newbury real ale festival licensing consultation. Ref 21/00812/lqn

Hi. As a resident of west fields Newbury I wish to state that I have no objection to the Newbury real ale festival. I have not experienced any related anti-social or criminal behaviour and the noise does not affect me at all. If anything... I would like to see more events being held as its good for the community and gives the area an energetic vibe.

Gwen Ekins

From: Robin Elliot
Sent: 20 October 2021 10:31
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

Ref. 21/00812/LQN

I have recently been advised by the Chairman of the Hockey Club that you have received a request from a Northcroft resident objecting to the Real Ale Festival (RAF) last month.

This has come as a surprise and great disappointment to myself. I have been a member of the Newbury (and Thatcham) Hockey Club for over 40 years and have been associated with organising many successful events at Northcroft, including latterly the RAF, for the benefit of members and the local community.

As a former DPS for the Hockey Club I can assure you that the appropriate licensing rules are upheld concerning the consumption of alcohol including not serving children under 18 and not allowing inebriated customers to acquire alcohol.

At this event the site is completely fenced off to make it secure and entry is controlled. We also limit consumption using half pint glasses and particularly this year we established a queuing system at the access to each of a number of individual small bars each serving a few ales. This also incidentally enabled us serving behind the bars to advise customers in choosing ale to suit their palates, including non-alcoholic ales.

Since 2004 we have provided an opportunity for people to sample a rich variety of ales from both local breweries and further afield. It would be a great loss to myself and the local community if it were not to continue.

Yours sincerely
Robin Elliott

From: Sue Elliott
Sent: 20 October 2021 15:22
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir / Madam

Reference: 21/00812/LQN

I understand that a complaint has been received with reference to the annual Real Ale Festival hosted by Newbury and Thatcham Hockey Club at Northcroft. As an ex-Ladies' President of the club I am writing in support of the festival.

I believe the club gives notice of the date of the festival well in advance through posters around town and through notices through people's doors in the area close to the venue; they would hope in this way to lessen the inconvenience to locals. This event happens only once a year, the same as the Michaelmas Fair.

The allowed upper limit on the noise level from the live music would have been communicated to the club and I would hope that they have stuck to that, though the wind strength and direction can obviously make a big difference.

I am not aware of any incidents over the years that have involved the police.

The club makes every effort to minimise antisocial levels of drinking; beer and cider are served in half pints only and the queuing time makes it difficult for people to consume large amounts in a short time. Food is also a big feature of the festival. I became a street pastor nine years ago as I was concerned about the levels of drinking among young adults and I feel that the club takes its responsibility seriously.

The club makes every effort to reduce litter and does a thorough clean-up after the event.

Many people plan ahead to attend this event annually, even coming from other parts of the country. Families with children come with picnics and enjoy a social afternoon out.

Local bands get a chance to perform and get their name known.

The festival is a fund-raising event and gives valuable support to Sport in Mind and Daisy's Dream. As we are all aware, this has been a difficult year for charities. I hope that the club will be able to continue with this fund-raising event.

Yours faithfully

Sue Elliott

From: Nuno Ferreira

Sent: 20 October 2021 13:59

To: Licensing

Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival Survey Oct 2021 Community Consultation

Good afternoon,

First allow me to say that I actually live near the applicant for the review.

The flat I currently live in is directly facing the location where the events take place, so I am exposed to the full blast of the event.

I strongly OBJECT to the application, this is the only event in Newbury that does not contain horses or fair grounds, the latest much more annoying than this festival.

Please see below my answers to the 3 points

The grounds on which the council have been asked to review the licence are:

1. The event encourages criminal behaviour and disorder.

This statement is ridiculous and has absolutely no fundament, as stated, I live facing the event and I have never witnessed/seen such claims.

2. The event constitutes a public nuisance because of excess and continuous noise levels throughout the day and late into the evening.

So does every car, bus, lorry, motorcycle and group of people that passes on the street, every single day, will you be closing the road?

3. The event is potentially harmful to children because of excessive alcohol intake around children in attendance, and abusive language being used within earshot of children resident in the area. In addition, sleep of younger children is disrupted by the excess noise.

Again a joke, as all day people pass through the street and everyone is entitled to say whatever they want. Abusive, or not, that's something that comes with society.

If this event is cancelled, then I would assume the the carnival that just took place will also be cancelled, as well as the cricket games that occur on the Park, as they also have people cheering and having fun!! How dare they!?!?

Thank you

Best regards

Nuno Ferreira

From: A Ferris
Sent: 20 October 2021 16:41
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival in Newbury

Hi,

Please can you advise how I add my support to the Real Ale Festival continuing to have a licence and being able to operate.

I live on the Northcroft Park development and whilst I do not personally attend the Real Ale Festival, I think it is important that Newbury offers assorted events to encourage visitors and for local residents to enjoy.

I cannot for one minute imagine that it encourages criminal behaviour or any more of a public nuisance than people leaving the pub at the weekend.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks,

A Ferris

From: Janina Fisher
Sent: 15 October 2021 1:35 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Reference 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Sirs

I am writing to object to the above application to have their premises licence removed. The Ale Festival is on for one day of the year and is an extremely well organised event from the setting up to the clearing away. It brings many people together for a day of enjoyment, raises huge amounts of money for local charities and gives small, local beer companies the chance to get their product noticed and hopefully bring them more business for the future.

In response to the complaint you have received, I too live close to the event but although you can hear the music from our house (which we actually enjoy) it is not overly loud, neighbours are noisier and it finishes by 10pm at night .

Secondly we often get noisy people walking up the road at night making a noise. Who doesn't, we live near the town centre. Just as much noise can be made in the day too by people walking by!

Thirdly, personally I think children should be taught that alcohol in small measures is not an issue. As for the swearing you unfortunately hear this wherever you go nowadays, even on television and games that children play online.

I think this is a personal grievance from one individual and is not what the majority of people in this area support. I'd also like to inform you that this individual has been posting leaflets along roads near to where the event takes place asking people to object, which I feel is totally unfair on the people who organise the event and doesn't give them a chance to put their case forward.

The organisers of the event do such a fabulous job, the day after the event the whole field is cleaned and they don't leave a trace of rubbish behind. They are a credit to themselves.

This is one individual who clearly has a grudge to bear and I hope the Council will make the correct decision and allow the Beer Festival to continue.

Yours faithfully

Janina Fisher

From: Karen
Sent: 16 October 2021 2:06 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

To whom it may concern

I am emailing in support of the premises license for this amazing event to NOT be removed. This is a great community event, it's well organised and in all the years that I have attended, since the very first event, I have never witnessed any trouble or criminal activity. On top of the afore mentioned it brings extra revenue to our town. Finally after all that Newbury and it's community has been through in the last 18 months , this year's festival was a welcome break from it all and I, like many noticed an even high level of community spirit. Oh yes, it's also massively supported by the majority of the Westfield Residents.

Kind regards

Karen Flight

From: Paul Fowler
Sent: 14 October 2021 9:17 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real ale Festival licence do not remove

As a resident of West Mills I would like to add my voice to the debate regarding the licence for the real ale Festival. I do not see the issue with one night of noise (which was hardly audible), which finishes at a reasonable hour when the event is enjoyed by so many, including whole families. I live within 400 m of the site and do not have any objection to the continuation of the event.

Your sincerely
Paul Fowler

From: Kate Frampton
Sent: 14 October 2021 7:38 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

Hello,

I am writing to object to the application to have the Real Ale premises license removed. It is a wonderful event that brings together a variety of different groups of people, including families with children, to enjoy a day together. Yes, it brings noise and 'public nuisance' and I imagine 'criminal behaviour' as people are under the influence of alcohol, similarly to most weekend nights in Newbury town where the festival is held. The event organisers appear proactive in trying to reduce this. It is held on only one day of the year and has been something I have looked forward to for the past seven years. I hope you consider strongly the positives it brings it to the town and it's people.

Kind regards,
Kate Frampton

From: Darren Francis
Sent: 20 October 2021 15:32
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury beer festival

I object to the application for the license for the festival to be removed, I have attended this event many times over the years and it has always been a great success.

It brings increased visibility & revenue to the town.

I agree that it would be prudent to provide additional measures to ensure people are aware of the impact they may have on local residents during and after the event.

Thanks
Darren

From: Jon Gadd
Sent: 20 October 2021 09:18
To: Licensing
Subject: Object Newbury Beer Festival

I object to the attempts to stop Newbury beer festival. It is a great family event with no trouble whenever I have attended and supports the local economy.

Regards

Jon Gadd

From: lewis gallagher
Sent: 13 October 2021 16:56
To: Licensing
Subject: Ref: 21.00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Reference [21.00812/LQN](#)

I am writing to express my support for the Newbury Real Ale Festival, the licence for which I understand is under review.

I have been an attendee and volunteer of the festival for many years and know how seriously the organisers take licensing matters and meeting the objectives of the licensing act. This includes clear instructions to the staff around people's consumption of alcohol and not serving anyone who appears drunk.

In 2021 I attended the event with my family (including my 2 children aged 3 and 13) and at no point was I concerned about their safety or wellbeing. We were with other friends and their families including children and saw lots of people we knew throughout the day. As a family and a group we spent an enjoyable afternoon and evening at the event before leaving at around 9.30pm.

Any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

From: David Gilbert
Sent: 15 October 2021 9:17 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real ale festivalo

Good morning

I returned home last night to find a letter through my door asking people to send their comments regarding the real ale festival and how, in the author's opinion it was a public nuisance and encouraged criminal behaviour.

Having served for 32 years in the police and sat on Safety Advisory Groups etc for similar events I strongly disagree with their sentiment.

I attended the event and in my opinion it was very well organised and stewarded, I saw no evidence of criminal behaviour and the atmosphere throughout the day was very relaxed and family friendly, the event was finished by 22h00 and everyone dispersed then.

I live in the local vicinity and was not disturbed at all by the event or people coming and going from it. I am also aware that the event raises a significant amount of money for local clubs and charities and is arranged by committed volunteers.

As you can see from the above I think the event should continue and hopefully grow in the future.

Kind regards
David Gilbert

From: griffithgreene
Sent: 15 October 2021 7:10 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: License Application for Real Ale Festival

Good Morning we are local residents who live near Northcroft and Goldwell Park. We had a leaflet pushed through the door asking us to support for the licence to be removed. We are somewhat surprised and disappointed to receive this leaflet.

We did not attend the festival but we can confirm that albeit the music was loud with one singer having some swearing, we enjoyed listening to the music from our back garden which is very close to the event.

We saw no instances of public nuisance or criminal behaviour only a lot of good people from Newbury and beyond enjoying a music and beer festival. The festival shows Newbury & West Berkshire at its best. Please don't cancel the licence and ruin what has become a much loved event for a lot of people. We both commented to each other on Sunday morning how quiet it was after the event finished which actually surprised us as you a little noise. Please feel free to contact us directly about these comments.

Martin Griffith and Sarah Griffith-Greene

From: Ian
Sent: 22 October 2021 20:36
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Good Evening,

I write in support of the above as both a regular attender and a business sponsor.

The festival is both great for Newbury Town and for the businesses that support it, it gives a sence of community and togetherness as well as pride in Newbury.

I have taken my grandchildren to the festival and any bad language and drunken behavior is something that is seen, but does not effect most sensible and well balanced family's.

The music is part of the atmosphere and although can be load could also be more controlled if required, but is fine in my opinion, to remove the licence for this event would be both unwise and unnecessary based on the opinions of a few diehard kill joys.

It is basically for half a day a year, and the council should be proud and supportive of such events, and listening to those who support and enjoy the festival not the self appointed fun police who try to stop us all having fun, in our own town.

I fully support the festival and want to see it continue for many years to come.

Regards Ian Griffiths
Company Director and Resident

From: Emma Guilfoyle
Sent: 14 October 2021 8:59 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury beer fest

I would like to add that I fully support this annual event, it's one day a year that the people of Newbury get together as families and also enjoy live music.

I've attended the event on numerous occasions and always felt safe and never had any problems with mess of music. Yet other events such as the fair cause problems, run late into the evening and churn up the park stopping families from using it whilst the fair is on plus its not an event I feel safe taking my children too.

Regards

Emma Guilfoyle

From: Chris Hall
Sent: 12 October 2021 15:53
To: Licensing
Subject: Ref: 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Good afternoon

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

I have been a sponsor and attendee of the event for many years and have never seen or been aware of any acts of criminal behaviour or disorder at or within close proximity of the event.

We as a company support the event as we consider it to be a great example of a not for profit event organised both for the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities. My family (including my 2 young children 13 and 10 who have been coming with us for many years), along with my colleagues attend the event and all thoroughly enjoy it. None have ever felt that our children were not safe at any point.

Both my family, friends and work colleagues all have the opinion that this is one of the best events in the Newbury calendar each year and it really does bring so many local people together.

As an individual and a local company owner I would not be lending my ongoing support to the event if I have concerns about crime, disorder, nuisance or the protection of children from harm. To the contrary the event is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity

I really do hope that the review of this licence can be sorted in the correct manner. If you would like any further comments from me then I would be more than happy to support this

Best regards

Chris Hall
Managing Director

Firstxtra Financial Services

From: Lauren Hammond
Sent: 14 October 2021 7:12 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale festival license

I am writing to strongly OBJECT to the potential removal of the Newbury Real Ale Festival premises licence.

This is a well loved event in Newbury and one of the highlights of an otherwise dull events calendar in town, and a night of slight noise does not constitute a reason to withdraw the license.

Many people in town love this event and look forward to it.

Again, I object to the removal of this license.

Many thanks,

Lauren Hammond
Newbury resident

From: Rachel Hannon
Sent: 22 October 2021 17:58
To: Licensing
Subject: Reference 21/00812/LQN

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my support for the Newbury Ale Festival and the positive aspects it brings to Newbury in terms of money and community.

I live very nearby to the site (Russell Road) and do not think the noise is excessive, nor have I noticed any other adverse effects of the Festival.

Many thanks,

Rachel

From: Rich Harrison
Sent: 19 October 2021 17:17
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

I have received a letter from an anonymous source inviting me to complain about the Real Ale Festival before it has its licence reviewed.

On the contrary I would like to voice my wholehearted support for the Real Ale Festival to continue. As I suspect the vast majority of the local community would also.

The current licensing arrangements are perfectly adequate to ensure that noise is kept to acceptable hours, I live at one of the nearest properties to the site, so am well placed to say that it isn't any issue for a 'reasonable' person. Any suggestion of encouraging criminal behaviour by such a family orientated event, is simply laughable to the point of undermining their own argument. This is obviously simply some NIMBY with nothing better in their lives to do than find irritation in others enjoyment.

I realise as a council you must balance the feelings of all and can never make everyone happy. However, on balance, if you had a maths equation for overall community happiness, the Real Ale Festival obviously creates far more happiness for far more people, than the misery it creates for a small minority of people; who are probably just miserable people anyway.

I would strongly suggest that it is the abundance and diversity of the many community events, that contributes to the arts and culture of Newbury and the fabric of our local community. Taking away such entertainment and culture, is far more likely to encourage criminality. And more NIMBYism as we will have nothing better to do, than think up reasons to complain about stuff.

I'm not even a particular fan of the festival and rarely go myself. But am more than happy to tolerate the noise as I see the music and arts as vital for our society. At a time when many musicians and venues have had no income due to the pandemic and many venues have their music licenses revoked for being too near town, where are our up and coming musicians of the future going to start out? I would hate to sleepwalk into a society of no arts and culture because we are no longer allowed to enjoy ourselves anymore. What a miserable existence that would be!

I would suggest that in Britain in general, it is the developers and residents of properties that need to take some responsibility for their own sound insulation and choice of location. Town's and cities are and always have been noisy places, choosing to live in one, unavoidably comes with that. But that was their choice to live their, a choice they made long after the Real Ale festival has been running, so it is quite unfair to blame the Real Ale Festival, or anyone else apart from themselves.

I'm writing with such passion on this issue, as The Real Ale Festival, as with our other arts and cultural events, is a prime example of an event that brings so much joy to so many people. It would be a travesty for a small minority of NIMBY's to take that joy away, which I doubt very much would make them happy even, they'll just move onto the next thing to complain about until we have no events at all and we are all forced to be as miserable as the NIMBY's themselves.

Regards

Rich Harrison
local resident

From: Abbie Hart
Sent: 22 October 2021 15:51
To: Licensing
Subject: Ref: 21/00812/LQN - Objection to application.

Good Afternoon,

I would like to state my objection to the above application and support for the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

In my opinion, as a resident of Newbury (currently living 0.25 miles from the event) and West Berkshire all of my life, this is one of the very best events the area has to offer. It has options for all of the family and is a relatively low cost. The fact that this year raised over 10k for charities, let local and small breweries showcase their products and introduce patrons to new tastes, experiences and sounds in itself should mean this isn't even entertained as a serious application.

The event is very well managed and the site looked after with no more crime or antisocial behaviour than a normal weekend evening. The music stops at a more than reasonable time and the crowd is well mannered and creates a fantastic atmosphere. The fact that this is only for 10 hours at most of one day with well-advertised date and time and I've learnt that the immediate residents of the area are supplied with contact details for the festival organisers to raise any concerns with goes to show how caring the organisers are to the community so it doesn't create a nuisance and gives people plenty of opportunity to otherwise occupy themselves for that very short period.

This is a fantastic local event which is doing very well with little to no downsides, we need to support our local artists, creators, business owners and charities and I hope to see it carrying on for many more years to come.

Yours sincerely
Abigail Hart

From: Wendy H Hayes
Sent: 13 October 2021 10:26
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer Festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Licensing,

I would like to express my whole hearted support to Newbury Beer Festival for continuing the September tradition going forward. My husband and I have lived in Newbury for 16 years now and it is one of the highlights of our year, we even plan holidays and going away around it.

To have seen it grow from what it was a bit slapdash and quirky, to the well organized, well positioned, and well promoted event it's become, is such a great thing to see. Their choice of music, their stage set up, their range of beers, ciders and now gins, the food choice, the fact it is such a family friendly mix of people attending, the joy of seeing those in fancy dress, talking to complete strangers, eating remarkably good food for a festival, all combine to make this such a highlight of the Newbury calendar. It supports local charities, we even saw the scouts and local youth groups getting involved in the rapid clean up process on the Sunday. They listen to feedback year on year to make each version of the event better organized, more secure, easier to access and we love attending.

Long may it continue,
Yours faithfully,
Wendy H Hayes

From: Peter Hayman
Sent: 15 October 2021 10:47 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Ale Festival

Good morning,

I'm writing today in full support of keeping the Real Ale Festival going.

It's incredibly disappointing to see there are some looking to wipe out one of the last decent events Newbury have - I grew up in Newbury and lived next to Northcroft Park in Cleveland Grove the entire time.

The noise from the beer fest is hardly even noticeable from my house and only once a year (admittedly I do notice it as I'm usually there) and the claims it "encourages criminal behaviour" is laughable. Ever been in town after a race night? Seen a lot more fights, and other activities, than after the beer fest and I wouldn't think race days are going anywhere anytime soon.

Friend's of mine come back every year for the beer fest, I suppose if it's gone we have the option of meeting at spoons or a choice of 2 dead shopping centres. (Great investment Park Way was hey).

Cancelling the beer fest would be the final nail in Newbury's cultural and musical coffin and a huge mistake. It's sad enough already what a sorry affair the town has become.

Kind regards,

Pete Hayman

From: Caroline Hearn
Sent: 22 October 2021 19:54
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer Festival

Hi

I am writing to object to the application against Newbury Beer Festival. I have been attending since it started and took my children when they were younger. This event is a fun day out and early in the days lots of families attend. By late evening the families with small children tend to have left. I have never seen behaviour that would cause concern. I am sure people do drink too much but the same could be said of Newbury town centre on a Saturday night.

I am unsure why the event encourages criminal behaviour.

The noise is surely no different to when events happen at the racecourse. It is also one night of the year and not on a school night.

I feel it is naive to think children will never see drunk adults. Good parenting equips children to cope with being in society and how to make good choices.

This event has been running successfully for many years. I am at a loss to understand why it has suddenly become objectionable.

Best wishes

Caroline Hearn
Newbury Resident

The Firs
Tydehams
Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 6JT

13th October 2021

Dear Sir, Madam,

Reference - 21/00812/LQN

We write in support of the Newbury Real Ale committee's application to renew its alcohol license.

We have been going along to the Newbury ale festival every year since its inception and have watched it grow and develop with each year that passes. It is a local event that is run to a professional standard, keeping ahead of the pace of growth in its audience, providing appropriate security measures, organising the site to ensure ease of access to exits, toilets and all other facilities. There is a continual and significant team presence on site all day to deal with any queries or issues that may arise.

We thought the way that the team managed the Covid health and safety measures this year was both excellent and innovative with the numbered queues and hands free/jug approach in the ale tents.

It is badged as a family event and we, ourselves, have been bringing our children to the ale festival since they were youngsters and have never had a worry that their safety was at risk nor their enjoyment compromised. They enjoy it as they get to run around with their friends, dance around to the acts (whom they would, otherwise, have no realistic opportunity to see live) and join in with other people enjoying live music.

It is now great to see younger families coming to enjoy the day, bringing their children, including plenty of babies this year, to experience the festival atmosphere in a safe, controlled and contained environment. It is a testament to the team that generations of the same families come together at the festival to enjoy a day out together picnicking to music and ale!

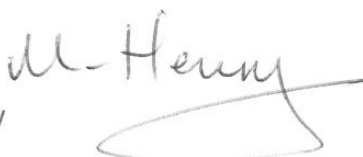
As we bring our children to the festival, we are watchful for any anti-social behaviour, but we can honestly say that we have not seen people drunk or behaving in an unseemly or objectionable manner, no shouting, no fighting, no foul language.

We have no doubt that locating the event within a short walking distance to Newbury town centre is a key factor to its success, it enables a gradual spread of people throughout the day but more importantly, it provides easy access to taxis, trains, buses.

The Newbury ale festival is a firm fixture in Newbury's calendar and to have it taken away would be a detriment to the town and its community.

Yours faithfully,


Adrian & Michelle Henry



From: EVH59 Henstridge
Sent: 18 October 2021 12:22
To: Licensing
Subject: Ref license review 21/00812/LQN Newbury Real Ale Festival

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you to express my dismay and objection at the notice for license review for Newbury Real Ale Festival on the grounds of

Prevention of harm to children.

Prevention of crime.

Public nuisance to the community.

I have been a volunteer at the festival since its conception 19 years ago. I have seen it grow from a tiny event to its present-day incarnation. My family have attended on many an occasion both parents and children and I have invited friends to attend and help the festival with a sense of pride of being part of something that is so valued by the community.

I may as well point out my professional capacity at this stage. I am a Healthcare professional that is registered with the Healthcare Professions Council for over 20 years. They are a regulatory body for my profession that take the conduct of their professionals very seriously. If, at any point, I considered an event, of which I am a part, was considered any of the above I would not be a part of it. As part of my role, I am also Level 2 child and adult safeguarding trained and at no point, during any of the festivals have I seen a child placed at risk of harm.

I have seen the Ale Festival team work with local police and other organisations to ensure the safety of the event and there is security on site to prevent disorder, not that I have ever seen any in the many years I have been involved. All festivals are ended in good time and people leave in an orderly fashion and in good spirits.

I understand there have been a few concerns about noise this year but, from the management team I gather there are systems in place to deal with any concerns. I know one of the team has a mobile phone and all residences in the area are given a slip of paper with the contact details so that the team can be contacted if there are any noise concerns. I have been to events in Newbury town centre that are much, much louder and go on for longer.

I do not know the complainant, Mr Wyper, and I am sure he has his concerns and feels them valid. But as someone who sees the event, year on year, both inside and out, I cannot see where his concerns are coming from. The event is a valued part of the calendar in the Newbury social scene and has the support of the community, I know people that come from far and wide to attend the event and consider it safe and well organised. I would not invite friends and family if that was not the case.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Edward Henstridge. BSc (Hons). MRCPod.

From: Matt Herbert
Sent: 16 October 2021 2:48 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Ref 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir/ Madam

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

We have been a sponsor and attendee of the event for several years. It is a great event where people from the community enjoying coming together, in particular this year after the 18 months that we have all endured. Having attended the event on numerous occasions over the years I can say that I have not ever seen or been made aware of any criminal behaviour or disorder taking place on the site, or in the local area. The level of security staff at the event always makes it feel very safe.

We support the event as we consider it to be a great example of a not for profit event organised both for the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities. Many of our employees attend the event and thoroughly enjoy it, it is a real community day out. Having spoken to colleagues no one there felt that either they or their children were not safe at any point.

As a reputable company we would not be lending our ongoing support to the event if we had concerns about crime, disorder, nuisance or the protection of children from harm. To the contrary the event is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity

Kind regards

Matt Herbert
Managing Director
LA Digital Print

From: David Herdman [<mailto:davidianherdman@yahoo.co.uk>]
Sent: 15 October 2021 11:30 AM
To: Licensing <Licensing@westberks.gov.uk>
Subject: 21/00812/LQN - Newbury Real Ale Festival.

Good morning.

I'm writing in complete support of The Newbury Real Ale Festival. It's a wonderful community event loved by all - including children.

I attended the event this year, as per usual and witnessed both children and adults having a great time.

The event should continue as it's enjoyed by thousands. If one individual doesn't like it, well, perhaps they should go along and see for themselves!

Thank you.

Regards.

David Herdman.

From: John Heywood
Sent: 19 October 2021 10:28
To: Licensing
Subject: Response to complaint Newbury Real Ale Festival

Dear WBC,

I have been made aware of a formal complaint lodged against the Newbury Real Ale festival reference 21/00812/LQN.

I would like to register my support of the event. I am a local CAMRA member and have volunteered at their festivals for many years, and over the last 10 years I have been helping build and run the Cotswold Beer Festival at Postlip near Cheltenham. I know precisely how much planning and effort goes into making a beer festival a safe and secure place, and can without hesitation endorse the work of the Hockey Club with their arrangements. This is a view widely shared by West Berkshire CAMRA, who do not hold their own beer festival in Newbury precisely because the Hockey Club does such a good job, and raises huge sums for charity at the same time.

I was hugely impressed with their Festival this year (which I attended). It was the first such event many have been able to attend in nearly 2 years. In complete contrast to a public nuisance, the Festival is of huge benefit to the community, especially as we start to return to some elements of normal life after Covid. It would be a real shame for this event to be cancelled in future purely on the basis of a tiny minority that do not agree with the premise, and seek to force their opinions on everyone else.

Regards,
John Heywood

From: Kath Hodgson
Sent: 15 October 2021 4:01 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival Ref 21/00812/LQN

To whom it may concern,

Reference 21/00812/LQN

Newbury Real Ale Festival

I would like to express my horror that the festival may lose its license. It is one of the highlights of our town year. My family and friends regularly attend, have never witnessed antisocial behaviour and have been involved in the following day's clear up with my daughter's Sea Cadet unit.

It is one weekend a year, unlike the racket from Bonfire Night which goes on for weeks!

Kathryn Hodgson
Thatcham

From: Paul Holdaway
Sent: 16 October 2021 4:06 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

I am a resident of Bewicks Reach Newbury, which is adjacent to Northcroft Park.

I understand that an application has been made to have the premises licence removed from the Newbury Real Ale Festival. I write to object to the application to remove this licence and in support of the Newbury Real Ale Festival retaining its licence.

My reasons are:

1. I believe that a vibrant culture with a wide range of events for all tastes is of benefit to the town and its residents. Removal of the licence would damage this and restrict the range of events available to residents and visitors.
2. I understand that the festival donates to various charities and good causes. Removal of the licence would remove this contribution and impact the beneficiary charities.
3. The festival did not cause me a nuisance and I do not believe it should cause anyone else a nuisance. The festival music can be heard from my residence, but it was not excessively loud and is only for one afternoon and evening each year. If anything, the annual Michaelmas Fair causes much more disturbance and nuisance because it runs for several days and is just as noisy.
4. The festival appeared to be very well organised and did not seem to represent any kind of public safety risk or risk to children.
5. I am not aware that the Festival causes any increase in crime or disorder, certainly nothing of concern was reported in the press.

Yours faithfully

Paul Holdaway

From: Maja Howgate
Sent: 22 October 2021 13:25
To: Licensing
Subject: Support for beer festival

Hi

Not sure which format this should be in but writing in support of Newbury beer festival!
In fact I believe it should be better and bigger. It's great fun, great for out town and great for al the charities.

I believe data from police show there was no increase in trouble so if it's just noise people who didn't like town noise should move to the country side.

Maja Howgate

From: Minnie Hughes

Sent: 12 October 2021 20:30 and resent on the 15 October 2021

To: Licensing

Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival. 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

To Whom it may concern,

I am dismayed to learn that there has been a complaint regarding the Newbury Real Ale Festival. We have lived in West fields since 2002 and have been attending the festival every year since it's first inception.

It is a wonderful community event that is fully family friendly. Our eldest is now 16 and has attended every one. It is a lovely safe environment and a great introduction to live music.

We have always felt safe and have never experienced any negative effects to the community. If the festival is banned with regard to safety you may as well ban the Michaelmas Fair, the lantern parade, xmas light switch on and the inflatable park. They pose the same risk of crime and safety in terms of violence and pick pocketing.

Indeed the music finishes quite early and is certainly less intrusive than fireworks displays that go off continually from October past new year.

The Festival has also raised tens of thousands (if not more) over the years for several local charities. This is essential fundraising and should be fully appreciated.

The Festival is run by volunteers many of whom live within the immediate vicinity of the festival site. I think this proves how important it is to those within the local community. When my husband was made redundant being able to volunteer really did save his mental health. It really is an all round wonderful event.

The organisers have done a brilliant job over the years. They are an amazing team and really do aim the day at the local community. It is the highlight of our year. It is full of family groups unlike many beer festivals which tend to be adults only.

I can only plead with you to listen to those of us who live in the community. We love this festival and feel so privileged to have it on our doorstep. Please don't revoke the license.

Yours sincerely

Flaminia Hughes

From: Kelly Hughes
Sent: 13 October 2021 15:02
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival - 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Hello,

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and I am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

We have been a sponsor and attendee of the event for several years. As a local business we understand the benefits that an event of this type brings to the town and we feel that it is a great community day out, which also raises much needed funds for local good causes.

Our employees and clients attended the event and thoroughly enjoyed it. No one there felt that either they or their children were not safe at any point, and they did not see and were not aware of any acts of criminal behaviour or disorder at the event or within the local area.

As a local company we would not be lending our ongoing support to the event if we had concerns about crime, disorder, nuisance, or the protection of children from harm. To the contrary, the event is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity.

Thank you,

Kelly Hughes
Principal

Protection & Investment Ltd t/a Shirley Hughes Financial Services

From: Laura Hunter
Sent: 22 October 2021 14:57
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

I am disheartened to hear this is even being considered. I was a food trader at this event for 5 years and have enjoyed it as a patron for the last several. It is an absolutely wonderful local event, and I absolutely disagree about the issues related to children being present as most families like us only join for the first few hours. We put down a picnic on the grass with other families, they get their face painted and have a blast. It is an incredibly mellow event in comparison to other events. I appreciate it might be frustrating to have the noise if you live by. But just like those of us living near the race course music and noise is apart of life. We all have choices in life, if one night a year is too much to tolerate than my suggestion would be for them to rethink their living situation.

I really hope the council will consider continuing the support for a beloved local event and one that raises money in support of the community rather than for profit.

From: Lauren Huszarik
Sent: 22 October 2021 18:14
To: Licensing
Subject: Ale festival

I would just like to say the Newbury ale festival SHOULD STAY it is only once a year and is great for the community, especially after covid and everyone had the chance to have some fun again and interact with friends. The fair causes much more havoc and noise and drunk teenagers. The beer festival is age restricted and really gives the community a chance to connect and cancelling it would be awful. I met my partner there 2 years ago and I believe it should stay! I am a local resident of Cleveland grove right next door and do not find the noise a problem at all. It is a friendly and peaceful environment and everyone just has fun and it is well controlled. It is only once a year it happens and for me and my friends is the best event in Newbury. Please do not stop it! It brings the community together and even people who are not local attend which is amazing.

Thanks.

L

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Kind regards
Lauren Huszarik

From: Hutchinson, John
Sent: 13 October 2021 20:46
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer Festival - License Revocation Request

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Ref; 21/00812/LQN

Hi WB Licensing Team,

I am dismayed to hear that a single individual has made a formal yet petty request to revoke the annual beer festival license, and that this is seemingly under consideration despite the festival being one of the highlights of the Newbury calendar year for thousands of town residents of all ages.

The festival organisers have proven repeatedly that they listen to attendees, learn from and improve the organisation of the festival each year and this year's festival was incredibly well organised, especially given the latest Covid measures.

We are a family with high school age children and have been attending the festival in the day time for the last 10 years with many of our friends and their families. During the day the festival is full of happy children who enjoy seeing their mates and having a chance to experience live music. I hear that one of the justification points raised in the revocation letter specifically references the 'prevention of harm to children' – what an earth are they talking about! And frankly, they can keep their nose out of other people's business on what's best for their kids. The individual in question simply does not have to bring their kids, if they have them (!), to the event – problem solved.

If a resident does have an issue with the festival, then they have plenty of notice to arrange a trip away from Newbury for a few hours so that they are not offended, and the majority of town residents can enjoy an event that the whole town can be proud of!

I trust the WB licensing team will reach a sensible judgement, for the benefit of the vast majority, and re-new the festival's license for many years to come. Let's not forget that the festival is run by volunteers and generates a significant sum for local charities, hence it is greatly and fondly supported by the community.

I am happy to discuss in person if appropriate.

Yours Optimistically!

John and Lucy Hutchinson

From: louise james
Sent: 22 October 2021 22:00
To: Licensing
Subject: NRAF 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir or Madam

I write in support of renewing the licence to the Newbury Real Ale Festival. It is a really well organised event that showcases our town while directly supporting local brewers, local charities and providing a great day/evening out for local people and visitors.

Thanks
Louise James
Greenham

From: A J
Sent: 19 October 2021 16:31
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer Festival

I wish to object to the removal of the licence for this event. I'm sure measures can be put in place to limit disturbance which would be much better than stopping it.

Regards
A Jennings

Newbury resident

From: Ben Johnson
Sent: 15 October 2021 2:19 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN - Real Ale Festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Sirs,

My understanding is that the license pertaining to the Newbury Real Ale Festival may be under review following an application by a third party – with the reference 21/00812/LQN. I am writing to express my full support for the licensee in respect of the Real Ale Festival. I believe that any review should find that no additional action is necessary in order to meet the licensing objectives.

Newbury Real Ale Festival has become an important, long-standing, event in Newbury's cultural calendar that enriches the lives of many in and around Newbury – contributing to community life and cohesion. It is one of the few local events that achieves this at any scale and with genuine vibrancy.

My family and I have attended the festival at least five times over the last decade and we have not once felt this event to be anything other than wholesome, family-friendly and good natured. In fact, for the first time, I took my two-year-old son and new-born daughter to the event this year and did not once consider the event, its entertainment, the presence of alcohol or the event's attendees to be anything other than safe for my young family. The same, however, cannot always be said of Newbury Town Centre (or any other for that matter) at night!

Any noise or disruption to residents living closest to the festival (which is rightly held on public recreation space) is only very temporary by the event's nature and, from what I have seen, appears to be well-managed through effective security and cordoning, a schedule and curfews and – most importantly – an effective degree of self-policing.

This event is one of the few things that our town, otherwise in visible decline, has got going for it and the ale festival is well supported by a range of local business and sponsors – all of whom are happy to be associated with this event. The fact that it grows in popularity each year is testament to the success and organisation of this event, and this would not be the case if it were the cause of crime, disorder and disruption that the complainant no-doubt suggests it is.

As long as the licence holders continue to host the event in the same positive way they always have, it is vital that the Newbury Real Ale Festival continues to operate free of onerous conditions that may hamper its future success and inevitably

prioritise the temporary amenity of a few over all of the aforementioned benefits to the town and its wider community.

I would expect West Berkshire Council and its members – particularly those representing town centre wards - to fully support the licensee in this case. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Ben Johnson & Family

From: Mark Jones
Sent: 18 October 2021 19:16
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

reference 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir/Madam,

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and I am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

I have been involved with the event, (as one of the organisers, a volunteer and an attendee), since it began and have never seen or been aware of any acts of criminal behaviour or disorder, at or within close proximity of the event.

The festival is a great not for profit event organised by volunteers for the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities. My friends all attend the event and have never expressed any concerns about safety, including those of their children.

I would not be lending my ongoing support to the event if I had concerns about crime, disorder, nuisance or the protection of children from harm. The event is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity.

Yours sincerely
Mr M Jones

From: Ian Jones
Sent: 22 October 2021 20:37
To: Licensing
Subject: NRAF

This is one of the highlights of the year on the Newbury calendar.

It is well run, gives thousands to local charities, brings the Newbury community together like no other event.

Please consider this review of the licence and throw it out. I would suggest a compromise is in order in terms of how late the music is allowed to be played, say 22:00 curfew. That way people can continue to enjoy a fantastic event during the daytime.

Regards,
Ian Jones

From: Garry Kaxe
Sent: 12 October 2021 09:25
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale festival 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Sirs

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

I have been a sponsor and attendee of the event for several years and have never seen or been aware of any acts of criminal behaviour or disorder at or within close proximity of the event.

We support the event as we consider it to be a great example of a not for profit event organised both for the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities. My family, along with my colleagues attend the event and all thoroughly enjoy it.

As an individual and a local company owner I would not be lending my ongoing support to the event if I have concerns about crime, disorder, nuisance or the protection of children from harm. To the contrary the event is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity.

Yours faithfully

Garry Kaxe
Garry Kaxe FCILEx.FARLA. ANAEA. FRSA.
Henwick Properties 3 High Street Thatcham RG19 3JG

From: Gill Russ
Sent: 15 October 2021 6:17 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

To whom it may concern

I am writing to express my concern at the potential for Newbury real ale festival to be cancelled for future years.

I am new to the area and Newbury hockey club this year and thought it was a fantastic atmosphere and a wonderful event for the community and surrounding area. Having volunteered to work behind the bar as part of the club I certainly witnessed no antisocial behaviour whatsoever. All customers were extremely pleasant and polite and was wonderful to see after such a tough 18 months for all, people laughing, smiling and enjoying themselves!!

The fact that so much work is put into this event and so much of the proceeds goes to charity is commendable it would be a great shame to see this event stopped due to a bitter few. The benefits to the hockey club the community and the charities is irreplaceable. It not only helps relieve financial burden for many areas but also serves massive physical and mental well-being benefits for all involved as well as the attendees to the event.

I hope these points will be considered when reviewing the license and the many benefits that are gained from the event can be seen and valued for the community.

Kind regards

Gill Kearins

From: Ben Kelly
Sent: 22 October 2021 15:52
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Hi Guys,

I would like to make representation on the following licence review.

21/00812/LQN Newbury Real Ale Festival

The undermining of the licensing objectives of The Prevention of Crime and Disorder, The Prevention of Public Nuisance and The Protection of Children from Harm.

Firstly, I would like to respond the point regarding crime and disorder. I have seen no crime and disorder at or in the vicinity of The Real Ale Festival. Yes, there is drinking of alcohol but in a fun environment with no anti-social behaviour and no visible under-age drinking

Secondly, regarding the issue of public nuisance. I see no public nuisance issue at or after the festival. The Northcroft area is fully cleaned after the event and the event is only for one afternoon / evening per year so cannot be considered a nuisance for a long duration.

Thirdly, regarding the issue of child protection, I see no issues with the festival. I see some adults drinking who are responsible for children, however, the children I saw were not at any risk. I also saw no visible under-age drinking given it is mainly a 'middle age' event with the majority of attendees between approximately 30 and 55 years old.

Overall, this is a significant one day celebration for the people of Newbury. It is a fun occasion with little or no anti-social behaviour which is a big part of the bringing the community together and also raising important funds for charity and local sports clubs. I strongly object to the alcohol licence being withdrawn as this would effectively close the festival.

Cheers,

Ben

Ben Kelly

From: andy kimber
Sent: 22 October 2021 13:45
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer Festival - objection.

Good afternoon - I along with my family or with adult friends, have visited this lovely event on several occasions and even when the children were very small.

I cannot recall a single incident that made us think twice about attending. The atmosphere is friendly and warm in a great setting.

The organisers do a terrific job at putting on a safe and popular event and should be commended, particularly as proceeds go to good causes.

One complaint should not spoil the enjoyment for the VAST majority of well-mannered and well-behaved customers.

Yours faithfully - Mr A Kimber,

From: Fiona Knott
Sent: 19 October 2021 22:33
To: Licensing
Subject: Support for beer Festival

To whom it may concern

I live in Russell Road, close to the monkey bridge. I am emailing to offer my support for the beer festival. As a local resident I have never been affected by noise from the festival, and have never witnessed or been affected by any criminal behaviour or nuisance. In contrast, the festival seems well organised and well run and to provide a lot of enjoyment to those who attend

Kind regards,

Dr Fiona Knott

From: Jonathon Layton
Sent: 15 October 2021 9:06 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN - Keep NRAF

Dear West Berks Council,

I am fully in support to keep the real ale festival in Newbury and on the Northcroft park location.

It is a highlight of my friends and my year and such an enjoyable event. It is really well organised and run and in the many many years I have been going, I have never witnessed any violence or anti social behaviour, just so many people having a great time, being sociable and enjoying great music, food and most especially some fabulous real ales!

Please keep this wonderful event going.

Yours Sincerely
Jonathon Layton

From: TCD
Sent: 15 October 2021 4:10 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: application number 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sirs,

My understanding is that the license pertaining to the Newbury Real Ale Festival may be under review following an application by a third party – with the reference 21/00812/LQN

I am writing to express my full support for the licensee in respect of the Real Ale Festival. I believe that any review should find that no additional action is necessary in order to meet the licensing objectives.

Newbury Real Ale Festival has become an important, long-standing, event in Newbury's cultural calendar that enriches the lives of many in and around Newbury – contributing to community life and cohesion. It is one of the few local events that achieves this at any scale and with genuine vibrancy.

Any noise or disruption to residents living closest to the festival (which is rightly held on public recreation space) is only very temporary by the event's nature and, from what I have seen, appears to be well-managed through effective security and cordoning, a schedule and curfews and – most importantly – an effective degree of self-policing.

This event is one of the few things that our town, otherwise in visible decline, has got going for it and the ale festival is well supported by a range of local business and sponsors – all of whom are happy to be associated with this event. The fact that it grows in popularity each year is testament to the success and organisation of this event, and this would not be the case if it were the cause of crime, disorder and disruption that the complainant no-doubt suggests it is.

As long as the licence holders continue to host the event in the same positive way they always have, it is vital that the Newbury Real Ale Festival continues to operate free of onerous conditions that may hamper its future success and inevitably prioritise the temporary amenity of a few over all of the aforementioned benefits to the town and its wider community.

I would expect West Berkshire Council and its members – particularly those representing town centre wards - to fully support the licensee in this case. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Sam Lee

From: Simon Lennie
Sent: 22 October 2021 15:14
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Hi,

I was simply staggered to learn online that there has been an objection made that might potentially impact the future licensing of the above.

This continues to be one of the best organised real ale festivals that I have had the good fortune to attend and is another shining example of what Newbury has to offer and what Newbury does well.

As a local resident who has attended on numerous occasions, I continue to be amazed by the level of organisation, control, sponsorship and volunteering that goes into the festival each and every year and the all round positive impact it has on those that attend.

I have previously attended with both friends and family, age groups ranging from 5 - 85 and a thoroughly good time is always had by all.

I trust common sense will prevail in this regard.

Kind Regards

Simon Lennie

From: Nick Leonard
Sent: 17 October 2021 9:23 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival Licence

Dear Sir, Madam,

I am writing in support of the Newbury Real Ale festival.

I have been a resident in Gloucester Rd. for 18 years, and have only been to the festival twice. But I have been impressed with the organisation from when it was just one tent and a local Cricket match to what it has become now.

It is a great day out, and the festival goers are, in general, very responsible and there for a great time and to satisfy their interest in ales and ciders. I have also talked to people who have visited the festival from outside for Newbury who have described it as a great event they would travel from many miles away to visit.

It is noisy, but only for one night and the noise gives me great pleasure to think that Newbury is a vibrant town and people are enjoying themselves. Whilst, as with any other event, I'm sure that it may attract some undesirables, it is so well organised I suspect this is no worse than any other event and is certainly one of the events I am proud Newbury hosts.

Yours Faithfully
Nick Leonard

From: Suzi
Sent: 19 October 2021 07:19
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

I am in support of this application.

It's an event that bring friends, family and the community together for one day. I've been q few years and always enjoy it and have taken my daughter since she was 18mths old - she's nearly 10. It's a fun experience for her with the live music and being with family and friends.

I've never seen/experienced or heard of any criminal behaviour relating to this event.

I live close to the area and was quite disappointed I couldn't hear the music where I lived as had to miss the event but was hoping to hear some of it so don't believe the event is excessive with noise.

My daughter has always slept and never been bothered by any noise from this.

It would be a devastating shame if this licence was revoked.

Kind regards

Suzi lewis

From: Steven Lewis

Sent: 22 October 2021 14:12

To: Licensing

Subject: RE: 21/00812/LQN - In support of Newbury Real Ale Festival

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regards reference to application 21/00812/LQN.

I have attended the Newbury Real Ale Festival for many years as patron and more recently as a volunteer photographer. As a photographer I get to wonder around the site, it's great to see so many people enjoying themselves, from groups of friends and work colleagues to families with children of all ages. I have never witnessed anything that would cause concern, anyone causing problems or acting antisocially.

NRAF has grown in to a local traditional, one that I hope will continue for many years.

Yours Faithfully,
Steven Lewis

From: Rosalind Littlejohn
Sent: 15 October 2021 7:33 AM
To: Licensing <Licensing@westberks.gov.uk>
Subject: Newbury beer festival

Sir,

I write to register my support for this important community event. Whilst notionally about beer, it is actually a day enjoyed by locals of all ages, and this year the music was especially good and welcome.

The event has always been well organised with efficient set up and clearing up afterwards. I trust that the licence won't be withdrawn.

Yours truly,

R and D Littlejohn

From: Andrew Livingstone
Sent: 19 October 2021 12:15
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

OBJECTION to the application to review the licence of Newbury Real Ale Festival

I write to object to the application to review the licence for Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I have attended the event for many years with my family including young children, and we thoroughly support the continuation of the event. There have always been activities for children, face painting, tuck shops etc and within a fenced area we feel it is safe for them to roam around.

The consumption of alcohol, music/noise and general behavior is no different than you would see at other large events attracting families such as football matches, music festivals and other beer festivals that are run successfully in many towns, including Reading.

The continued popularity and support for the festival is reflected in the event organisers scaling up certain aspects of security, and generally is well planned. The location close to the town centre encourages people to walk rather than risk driving.

Other events at Northcroft such as the Michalmas fair run for several days with high noise levels and have some historical track record of bad behavior, crime and violence.

It is unfortunate that a small number of residents object to the beer festival which is of relatively short duration (one afternoon/evening), ends well before pubs close and supports a number of local brewery and catering businesses, local musicians and brings people to Newbury year after year.

Perhaps more signage as people leave the site to be considerate to residents would be helpful, and pointing the stage away from immediate residents to minimise noise.

I would be very disappointed to see the festival's licence revoked.

Regards

Andrew Livingstone

From: Alice Lockhart
Sent: 21 October 2021 18:11
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to formally lodge my support for the Newbury Real Ale Festival. This support is specifically in reference to the festival retaining it's premises license and to strongly oppose the current application for the removal of this license.

I attended the festival as a volunteer for the first time this year and I was overwhelmed by both the professionalism of the event in general and also the clear social and economic benefits it brought to the community. The event is clearly very popular having successfully taken place since 2003 (apart from last year due to COVID-19 restrictions) and the feedback from those attending on the day spoke volumes to support this. I was very impressed by the manner in which the event was run and as a medical professional was reassured by the number of security and first aid staff employed by the organisers. At no time did I witness any antisocial behaviour or encounter a situation that would have caused harm to either those attending or those who may have been in the general area at the time of the event.

Finally, I am aware that alongside supporting the local hockey club (Newbury and Thatcham), the proceeds raised by the festival are split between local charities. The benefits of this generous support are obvious and play a vital role in keeping these organisations functioning.

As stated at the start of this email, I strongly oppose the application to remove the event's license and I hope that the future of the festival will continue with no interruption.

Yours faithfully,

Alice Lockhart

From: Martin Lockwood
Sent: 15 October 2021 11:26 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer Festival

Good morning

I am emailing to register my support for the annual beer festival at Northcroft.

It is a fine event that has been successful for many years and brings enjoyment to thousands of people of all ages.

I do not believe that it is the cause of any criminal behaviour and the minor noise issue is no more than any other organised events within the town. It does not go on late and is only one day a year.

I sincerely hope that the licensing department will not pay heed to a miserable nimby's attempt to spoil the enjoyment of many.

Yours
Martin Lockwood

From: Anthony Lovell
Sent: 20 October 2021 18:57
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Reference 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am contacting you in response to the news that there has been a formal request to revoke the licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I feel strongly that this request should be rejected. As a community event, it is well managed, sustainable, and secure. A team of volunteers has provided a day of entertainment for the people of Newbury and further afield for many years without any cause for complaint. Additionally, it has raised a substantial sum of money for charities and local clubs.

There is no doubt in my mind that the Newbury Real Ale Festival should be allowed to continue for as long as the organisers wish to put in the substantial amount of work that it requires.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Lovell

From: NEIL MANTLE
Sent: 18 October 2021 22:01
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival - Ref: 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir or Madam,

It has been brought to my attention that an objection has been raised around the holding of The Newbury Real Ale Festival (NRAF).

Whilst I am very surprised that anyone would complain about this event which is held just once a year on just one day, I am not 100% sure of the finer detail of the complaint. Therefore rather than criticise this when I don't understand their motivations I have simply laid out below the huge positives that I have seen over the years of being involved and visiting the event.

As you are probably aware this is an event organised by a team of volunteers from The Newbury and Thatcham Hockey Club with the sole aim of raising money for a number of charities in the Newbury area. They start organising many months in advance and give up hours and hours of their time to organise what I believe is a superbly structured event. I believe that any professional events company would be highly impressed with every aspect of how the NRAF is put together from the facilities and entertainment to the security and family friendly atmosphere.

The field is surrounded by secure Heras fencing enabling the event to be controlled throughout the day with a professional security company employed to add the experience needed to oversee as the day progresses. Some of this team is initially deployed at the front gate before moving people through to the 'Ticket gate' which is manned by a mix of parents, adults and young volunteers from within the club. The ticket check and payment is undertaken by the adults ensuring ages are checked before an armband is issued to those over the age of 18. Anyone under 18 is issued with a plain white band to show that they cannot drink but can enter with their families and enjoy the entertainment and have a fun time. I myself have worked the Ticket Gate over the last three events and I enjoy helping to set the happy atmosphere which surrounds the festival. This year I worked it with my 16 year old daughter who helped hand out programmes and direct people and answer any queries.

In previous years from about the age of 12 my daughter has helped man the Candy stall and Crepe stand. With the support of some adults the younger club members can get involved and contribute towards the success of the event.

I think it is worth mentioning that as well as the security staff being identifiable all the volunteers are easily recognisable. Each volunteer is checked in at the staff gate and issued with a club sponsored T-shirt (generally quite a bold colour) which again helps all visitors easily identify the staff should they have any questions.

Then as people enter onto the main lawn area everyone quickly sets up pitch with chairs and picnic blankets and enter into the warm and family friendly atmosphere that the day brings. For me the day then goes from strength to strength with some superb entertainment which if you know the words gets everyone singing along. I see many people attending as a couple, as a group of friends and as families.

Then the clear up! The group of volunteers that were manning the event on the Saturday then assemble again on the Sunday morning. A well organised break down then swings into action with teams of people clearing the site. Many hands make light work and by close of play on the Sunday you would not know that anyone had been there the day before! I now that by the time I finish on the Sunday afternoon I am a little weary but love being involved with such a superb event which does so much good for the community and local charities that it supports.

I hope the above has been useful in trying to demonstrate what a fantastic event the NRAF has become. Should you want to discuss any of the above or obtain further feedback I would welcome the conversation.

Many thanks

Regards

Neil

Neil Mantle

From: Steve Martin (Newbury Branch)
Sent: 12 October 2021 09:24
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Good morning,

I understand from Sara Dufield, who is involved in organising the Newbury Real Ale Festival, that you have received some objections to the granting of a licence for next year's event.

Buildbase have sponsored the Festival for a number of years now and I'd like to make the following points about this year's event.

Unfortunately I wasn't able to make it along on the day but several members of our staff and a number of our customers did attend and they all really enjoyed themselves..

I've spoken to my colleagues about the objections you've received to the festival and they all found them quite hard to believe!

None of them witnessed any form of criminal behaviour or disorder (the event was very well stewarded) and the children that they saw on site were having a thoroughly good time.

Obviously the music at an event like this was going to be relatively loud but it was no more so than the Michaelmas Fair and it finished at a reasonable hour.

Northcroft has always been an excellent public entertainment venue and as such seems to be the ideal location for the Real Ale Festival.

I thoroughly hope the views of one individual will not stand in the way of the enjoyment of the many hundreds of people who attend the festival and we look forward to sponsoring the event again in 2022.

Regards,

Steve Martin | Branch Manager | Buildbase

From: Alison Martin
Sent: 15 October 2021 12:53 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Note of support for Real Ale Festival licence review - reference 21/00812/LQN

To whom it may concern,

As a near resident of Northcroft (Gloucester Road), I would like to voice my support for the Real Ale festival. This one day event is well managed, is a family-orientated event and raises significant sums for charity. I think most residents appreciate the live music playing and do not find this troublesome at all, and they always finish at 10pm to be respectful to local neighbours.

I think the idea that this event encourages crime is not factually correct as the organisers manage the event very carefully and ensure all appropriate post event clean-up is done, etc.

Cancellation of this real ale festival would see the whole community miss out on this hugely popular event, local breweries benefit from the sales/marketing opportunities and supported charities would be significantly effected by the missed revenue generated.

Thank for adding my note of support into your upcoming licence review.

Alison

From: Vicky Maunder
Sent: 13 October 2021 11:52
To: Licensing
Subject: Reference: 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to confirm that Daisy's Dream (registered charity 1177145) have been the beneficiary of significant donations from the Newbury Real Ale Festival in recent years. In 2019 we received a donation of £10,000 following the event, and this year (2021) we have been pledged a donation of £2,500.

As a small, local charity who receive no government grants or funding, we rely on our local communities to raise the £450,000 a year we need to continue our work with children and young people facing, or following, bereavement. Donations, such as the ones we have received from Newbury Real Ale Festival, are essential to Daisy's Dream. The funds we have received through these two donations will help us support 24 bereaved families for an entire year.

Unfortunately, we were unable to send a charity representative to the Festival this year, so did not experience the event first hand, but we have received no negative feedback about the event or our association with it. We hope to continue to work with the Newbury Real Ale Festival in years to come.

Kind regards,

Vicky Maunder

From: Jenny Maxwell
Sent: 15 October 2021 11:01 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival, Premises Licence

I am writing to ask you NOT to remove the licence from this event. It is a well run and popular event which is enjoyed by many members of the local community, and there is no noticeable increase in criminal or otherwise undesirable behaviour in the area.

Regards,
Jenny Maxwell

From: Paula McAuley
Sent: 22 October 2021 17:38
To: 'licensing@westberks.gov'
Subject: NRAF Reference 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing with reference to the Newbury Real Ale Festivals licensing review.

I visited the festival this year for the first time, having heard glowing reports, and have to say I was not disappointed.

It was an extremely well organised, laid back event. There were lots of families with children present, and at no point did I witness any antisocial behaviour.

The festival is only for one day, raises thousand for charity and helps raise the profile of local businesses – this is something Newbury needs now more than ever.

I find it incomprehensible that residents have complained about an event that has been running for years, and they must surely have known about.

Presumably they have complained about the Michaelmas fair too ?

I have read previously that a proposed Christmas event at the racecourse has been dismissed. At the current rate there will really be little or no entertainment in the town, and we will loose desperately needed trade right across the region.

I therefore fully support the NRAF to continue.

Kind regards
Paula McAuley (Mrs)

From: Kris McDonald
Sent: 12 October 2021 21:23
To: Licensing
Subject: Ref: 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Sir / Madam

This is a letter of support for the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I understand that there has been an objection raised to the licensing of the above event. As a resident of Westfields I have enjoyed attending the festival (with my family) since it started (in 2004 I think?). The festival has grown over the years but has always managed to maintain the feeling of a local community event. It not only provides an annual event for the community, it raises money for charity and is entirely run by local volunteers.

I have always felt safe at the event and happy to take my children there - from the time they were babies to the present day as teenagers. The festival is not just about alcohol. The Ale (and cider etc) might create the backdrop to the festival but the music, food and face painting etc have always helped keep the feeling of a family friendly event. I have never witnessed any "antisocial" behaviour at the festival and the fact that the organisers can clean the site by the next afternoon of all litter, I think speaks very highly of the love and effort that still goes into this annual event. (It would be nice if the same clean up could occur after other events on Northcroft!!)

The loss of the Real Ale Festival would be felt greatly by the local community and would be seen as a disgraceful application of local government powers.

Yours sincerely
Mrs K McDonald

From: Daniel McIntosh
Sent: 22 October 2021 14:36
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN - Newbury real ale festival

I would like to write in support of the Real Ale Festival. As a resident in the West Mills area and someone who also attended two years ago, I thought the event was very well managed, well policed and staffed and can't see any issues with it being held again in the future.

Newbury is a diverse, creative town and events like this only help to put it on the map for all the right reasons. People come to Newbury because there is always something going on. If events like this aren't allowed then it sets a very bad precedent and I can only see Newbury taking a nose dive on both a social and cultural level.

I really hope this gets renewed, and can only speak positively about the event. Anyone opposing is surely in the minority.

Dan McIntosh (RG14), and family.

From: Taig McNab
Sent: 14 October 2021 10:06 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN - Newbury Real Ale Festival license

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to STRONGLY OBJECT to the ludicrous application 21/00812/LQN to revoke the premises license for the Newbury Real Ale Festival at Northcroft Park in Newbury.

I am the owner and occupant of a property on Russell Road that backs onto the canal, in very close proximity to the site in question at Northcroft Park.

I note that the applicant has an issue with the noise levels. For the past two festivals, we have been fortunate to have two world-renowned bands (Toploader and Reef) headline. They have been brilliant and brought joy to countless local residents. The noise intrusion felt by myself as a neighbour has been no different to the countless fairs, fireworks, Corn Exchange Live events (eg: Crossing Lines, 11/08/17; Winter Lantern Trail, 11-1307/20) and neighbourhood parties (eg: the annual garden party on the island). Why is it only the Ale Festival that the applicant's ear objects to?

I also note that the applicant has an issue with the festival encouraging criminal behaviour. This is utter nonsense. We are located close to a bustling town centre. It is not unusual for there to be criminal behaviour - whether it be at 'kicking out time' or in broad daylight. During lockdown, youths started to shoot swans on the canal. It is pretty common for bikes to be stolen or cars to be keyed in the neighborhood.

These criminal incidents do not all happen on the one night of the annual beer festival. They happen all the time. It's not OK, but it is part and parcel of living in an urban setting. To assign blame to the Ale Festival for encouraging criminality seems, quite frankly, irrational. It also makes me question if the applicant has such an issue, why don't they go away that weekend, rather than try to stop everybody else in the community having fun?

We are so fortunate to have such a well-organised, sociable and fun annual event on our doorstep. To think that it benefits local charities and small local businesses too makes it all the more worthwhile. I know my feelings are similar to that of many of my neighbours, who also intend to write in. I hope the council gives our correspondence very careful consideration, and that the Newbury Real Ale Festival is able to benefit local charities, companies and residents for many years to come.

Kind regards,
Taig

From: Heather McNab
Sent: 14 October 2021 9:54 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN - Newbury Real Ale Festival license

REFERENCE: 21/00812/LQN

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to STRONGLY OBJECT to the ludicrous application 21/00812/LQN to revoke the premises license for the Newbury Real Ale Festival at Northcroft Park in Newbury.

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Yours,

Heather McNab

From: Jo Medhurst
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2021, 21:07
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury real ale festival

Hello there,

I'd like to support Newbury real ale festival and request their license is not removed.
Ref 21/00812/LQN

The music finishes at 10pm once a year so I feel the noise nuisance complaint is unfounded. The idea that this encourages criminal behaviour seems ridiculous. I don't see how it could possibly be worse than any pub with live music, and suspect there isn't evidence to back up that claim.

It is one of the nicest events in Newbury in my opinion, and very family friendly and supports local businesses. I think it would be a real shame to see it disappear.

Just wanted to send over those comments.

Many Thanks

Jo Medhurst

From: Richie Milner
Sent: 15 October 2021 10:18 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear West Berks Council,

In reference to above complaint.

I have been working at the Real ale festival for the last twelve years, I work as the overall production manager for the music. It has been nothing but a joy to be involved in an expertly organised and run family event that brings so much to the local community.

The music we have each is varied and brings something for everyone. Each year we invite local talent to the event to play in an open mic competition , the winner gets to play on the main stage on the day. It brings so much pleasure to local artists and the community.

I am also the father of two boys who have been accompanying me to the festival since they were in prams. They are now 13 and 15 and attended again this year. They had a wonderful time as did everyone who attended.

It would be an absolute travesty if this event was not allowed to continue.

As a local businessman I walked into town after the event and spoke to the owner of the Kebab corner who said his shop had people queuing

Outside since 5pm and it was his best business day of the year, this was also echoed by the local taxi drivers.

It is a wonderful event for local business people and the community and I hope you see fit to discount the baseless false claims that have been put forward.

I am available to speak to anyone about this matter if needs be.

Richard Milner

Owner – Director Livewire sound

From: Claire Milsom
Sent: 22 October 2021 12:27
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer festival feedback

I have just seen the article on Newbury Today about the future of the beer festival being at risk. It invited views via this email address. So I really wanted to give my view.

I can only speak for my experience having attended several times including this year. I found the festival really relaxed, with a community feel and a bringing together of different groups of people and ages.

I attended with my family and friends including teenager under 18 and adult children and some of us approaching retirement age! It felt to me a safe environment for all, friendly and relaxed. I did not see extreme drinking and many of those with younger children left as it got dark.

It definitely feels like a family event to me. I love the live music aspect - it is loud but in a big open space. I am sure the event brings people into Newbury. And it's voluntary raising money for charity. I would think the council should be working with the organisers to address any valid concerns and to ensure the festival goes from strength to strength.

I feel it's important that you get some alternate views. So wanted to share mine.

Regards
Claire Milsom
Newbury resident

From: Chris Minhinnett
Sent: 22 October 2021 13:12
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Dear sir/madam,

I am writing this email in support of the Newbury Real Ale Festival. I have been involved with the festival since it's first inception and have been immensely proud of the event each and every time that it has been held. The festival raises a significant amount of money for worthwhile charitable causes and the volunteers from the Hockey Club, willingly give their time for free to support this fundraising event. To suggest that the event encourages criminal behaviour and disorder is nothing more than farcical and as a Director of a limited company and long time resident of Newbury, I can assure anybody that I would not be personally involved in such an event if this was the case. The event is professionally run and no expense is spared with regards to the organisation of the event so as to ensure that all aspects of the festival are enjoyed in a safe, pleasant and secure environment.

I have never witnessed any crime nor have I heard of any, any noise disturbance was kept to a minimum and the music was all wrapped up before 10pm, which I believe to be wholly acceptable.

The festival is great for Newbury as people travel from further afield and it has built a great reputation for a fantastic day out for families. The event also allows a lot of people from different backgrounds and beliefs to enjoy the festival as well as building immense comradery amongst the willing volunteers. All aspects of the festival, before, during and after are focussed on maximising the benefits to the community and minimising any impact on them. As part of both the set-up and break down of the site, I can confirm that every care was taken and the site was returned ready for the planned game of cricket @ 11am on the Sunday, this is no mean feat and shows the sheer dedication of the committee and volunteers to deliver against every commitment made.

If the event was cancelled for future years, I feel that the impact across many areas would be significant, including but not limited to the charities who have been so severely impacted by COVID-19.

Should you have any questions or require any further information regarding my involvement, please do not hesitate to contact me, either on this email or on the number stated below.

Yours sincerely
Chris Minhinnett

From: Mitchell, James
Sent: 12 October 2021 20:59
To: Licensing
Subject: Reference 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

To whom it may concern,

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

I have been an attendee and volunteer at the event for the past 8 years. Kerridge Commercial systems promote this event to it staff (200 staff in West Berkshire) and our customer base. It is a great community event.

I have never seen or been aware of any acts of criminal behaviour or disorder at or within close proximity of the event. As a volunteer I have, at every event, signed to confirm that I have read the instructions issued by the licensee which includes that anyone appearing to have drunk in excess should not be served and should be asked to leave by one of the organising team or the security staff. To my knowledge this has never had to be done.

I consider the event to be a great not for profit event organised by volunteers for the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities. My family and friends all attend the event and have never expressed any concerns about safety, including those of our children.

As an individual, a volunteer and a member of the local business community I would not be lending my ongoing support to the event if I have concerns about crime, disorder, nuisance or the protection of children from harm. To the contrary the event is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity.

Thanks,

James

James Mitchell | Managing Director UK & Ireland

From: robert molloy
Sent: 19 October 2021 12:58
To: Licensing
Subject: Application to have the licence removed for the Newbury Real Ale Festival

Dear sir/madam,

I writing to object to the application for the licence to be removed for the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I have been attending since 2008 and have never seen any acts of criminal damage or any kinds of anti social behaviour. This festival also raises hundreds of thousands of pounds for local charities each year. I feel if the Michaelmas fair can be tolerated for 4 days each year then a one day real ale festival should be allowed to continue at Northcroft for the foreseeable future. It's benefits to the local community far outweigh the negatives.

Kindest Regards

Robert Molloy

From: James Morley
Sent: 19 October 2021 15:52
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival Licence Review

Good Afternoon,

I would like to make known my objection to the review of the licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I feel that the benefits of the festival, to both the community and local businesses far outweighs the downsides and minor inconveniences to a vocal minority for one day. To deny the festival future permission would be short sighted and detrimental to the town as a whole, and I hope that common sense will prevail.

Yours faithfully,

James Morley,

From: Catherine Melis
Sent: 14 October 2021 8:44 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

Dear Sirs

I understand that there has been an application to have the licence of the real ale festival removed on the grounds that the noise levels constitute a public nuisance and encourage criminal behaviour.

I am a local resident. I live on Craven Road, within audible distance of the ale festival (and all other events that take place at Northcroft Park).

I object to this application and support the festival continuing to maintain a licence.

In my 4 years as a local resident, I have never been disturbed by the festival or its attendees. I live directly adjacent to the alleyway from Russell Road to Craven Road, so I am usually aware of increased footfall due to local events taking place. Notwithstanding that, the festival has not, in my experience, caused a disturbance, or encouraged criminal behaviour. The noise levels are perfectly acceptable, and no louder than any of the other fairs, exercise classes or events that take place there.

The festival takes place once a year, is a fun, family friendly affair and should be permitted to continue.

Please let me know if you require any further details.

Thanks

Catherine Mulvany

From: Robert Mulvany
Sent: 22 October 2021 11:24
To: Licensing
Subject: Support for Newbury Real Ale Festival

Dear Sirs

I understand that there has been an application to have the licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival removed on the grounds that the noise levels constitute a public nuisance and that it encourages criminal behaviour and disorder.

I live in Craven Road near to the site and have done for almost five years. I have also lived in or around Newbury for much of the last twenty years. I currently live within audible distance of the ale festival and all other events that take place at Northcroft Park.

I object to this application and support the festival continuing to maintain a licence.

In my five years as a local resident, I have never been disturbed by the festival or its attendees. I have also never witnessed any aspect of the event which I would consider constitutes a public nuisance or encourages criminal or disorder in my time as a local resident.

I live next to the alleyway between Russell Road and Craven Road which provides a route to and from Northcroft Park for a large part of Newbury so I am usually aware of increased footfall due to local events taking place. Notwithstanding that, the festival has not in my experience, caused a disturbance, or encouraged criminal behaviour. The noise levels are perfectly acceptable, and no louder than any of the other events (fairs, exercise classes etc) that currently take place in the park.

The festival takes place once a year and provides many positive benefits to the community and should be permitted to continue.

Please let me know if you require any further details.

Thanks

Rob Mulvany

From: Philip, Katie and Ella

Sent: 19 October 2021 10:49

To: Licensing

Subject: Object - Newbury Real Ale Festival Survey Community consultation

I wish to object to the grounds of the review being sought for the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

The event does not constitute a public noise nuisance in the few hours it is open. Leave it be - if you want to do something about noise then tell the Racecourse to turn down its sound system.

Regards

Katie Munn

From: verity murrricane

Sent: 16 October 2021 12:54 PM

To: Licensing

Subject: Fwd: Application to remove the licence from the real ale festival

Subject: Application to remove the licence from the real ale festival

I am writing to express my support for the festival keeping its licence. I live locally, the level of noise and disruption is within perfectly reasonable levels, and it brings people pleasure. Plus, I work in a town centre food shop, and I can state that it brings us additional business, really beneficial in current conditions.

Reject this application to remove the licence, keep the festival alive

Regards Verity Murrricane

From: Alistair Nicholls
Sent: 14 October 2021 10:07
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN - Newbury Real Ale Festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Sir or Madam

I am a local resident and have also volunteered at the Newbury Ale festival since the beginning and have seen it grow and improve each year since inception.

Many people give their time for free including many youngsters who are volunteering for the first time and learning the joy that comes with contributing to the community.

The event itself is very popular with no trouble and excellent security. The music ends at a sociable hour and Northcroft is cleaned and cleared within a day.

The festival has raised a huge amount of money for charity and has also helped the hockey club to increase its membership including a very large youth section.

The community and town of Newbury is greatly enhanced by the Real Ale festival and I hope it continues for a long time to come.

Kind regards
Alistair Nicholls

From: Joanna Nightingale
Sent: 22 October 2021 18:22
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN - Newbury Real Ale Festival License

To whom it may concern

I am really sad to hear that there was an objection to the Newbury Real Ale Festival and that somebody is hoping to remove their licence.

I have been going to the festival for many years with family, friends and often their kids. We always have such a lovely time and really enjoy attending a local event where we can catch up with so many people while also supporting local (often small) businesses. It is nice to see the buzz that it brings to the town centre when we go for dinner in Newbury after too.

I've never seen any trouble and it has such a wonderful positive vibe about it. Not only that, but it is run very professionally by volunteers to raise money for charity and bring the wider community together. So much so, that it has grown to be an annual event for our diaries, which we would miss if it were to stop.

I'm unsure for the specific reason(s) behind the complaint about the event. However it is only once a year, it finishes by 10pm, it feels perfectly safe, it's well run, and everything is tidied up the following morning. So I just don't see why or how the event can be seen as a problem. It's hardly a public nuisance and I am most certain that the positives outweigh the negatives.

Anyway, I totally disagree with the move to take away the license and think it would be such a loss to the community if the event were to be stopped. Especially if it were because of complaints from a tiny minority. If anything, there need to be more events like this.

I hope you consider my view.

Kind regards.

Joanna Nightingale

From: marionnuku
Sent: 19 October 2021 16:58
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

This has been a very popular local community event for our family since my children were very small and we attended it with several other families with similar aged children, right up til now when they are old enough to enjoy it with their own friends. It brings about such a wonderful community feeling, which supports a number of smaller breweries from both near & far, as well as providing a fantastic festival feel with live music.

Please do not revoke the license, it would be a huge loss to Newbury.

- Marion Nuku

From: Kat O'Brien
Sent: 22 October 2021 12:44
To: Licensing
Subject: URGENT 21/00812/LQN

Good Afternoon,

I would like to express my objection to the terms in the subject reference number 21/00812/LQN. The Newbury Ale Festival is an event which occurs over one day, once a year at Northcroft. There is a clean up team. There is security. The event is contained.

There has been a local fayre which comes to town for decades. This event occurs over three days, leaving behind a mess to the grounds, as well as the obvious antisocial behaviour, which does include illegal drinking.

With this in mind, local residents have accepted the aftermath of the fayre for decades, so why turn on this event? Let's touch on some of the concerns mentioned; The solution to people urinating in their garden is not to cancel the event, but to report it to the police. Whilst it is illegal to publicly urinate, it is not the responsibility of the event organisers. If you disagree, then every pub in town should also close by that logic.

The solution to members of the public using foul language is not to cancel the event, but to take themselves away for the day and or evening. If this cannot be done, then they could consider many more alternatives that don't involve the event being cancelled. Most people swear. It's not a crime.

Children attending the event, again, if they are concerned for the safety of a child, they should be reporting this to the police. We all have a duty of care for each other at the end of the day and most people will intervene if something bad is happening where a child is involved.

Events like these are what keeps local business' going, and creates a sense of community spirit. The intentions are good behind the event in jeopardy. Could you imagine the aftermath local residents would endure from Reading Festival..? Unfortunately, you cannot and will not ever please everyone. Some people just need to be brought back down to reality and look at the bigger picture. If all this person has to worry about is his kids hearing people swear and randoms doing a wee in his garden one day a year, then his problems are not even on a scale comparable with most of the residents in Newbury and the battles they face on a daily basis. Perspective please.

Newbury Ale Festival is one of the best events the town offers. If you revoke the license, you will be shooting yourselves in the foot.

Kind regards, Kat

From: Cristina Azevedo
Sent: 20 October 2021 18:39
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir or Madam,

I strongly object the application regarding Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I live in Bewicks Reach so I am a neighbour of the festival.

I have only been once 5 years ago. At the time I was pregnant and took my 5 year old daughter with me and we had great fun because it is a lovely family festival.

Since then I have been missing only because I didn't want to take the baby/toddler.

At this point you know I have a young family and I have never had problems with noise or criminal behaviour.

The festival organization always shuts on time, so it never goes out of hours.

From all the events that run at Northcroft / Goldwell Park, this one might be the best and it is just for one day.

The best thing about Northcroft Park is how multitasking the park is because it provides different events to all throughout all year, so it is a central place in Newbury that brings everyone together for entertainment.

If the complaint wins, what happens next? Will you forbid Michaelmas fun fair, the bouncy castles event, any sports event?

I live near the person that made the complaint and in my opinion, first he is wrong, second if he wins he will just try to end with all the other events. He is the reason why the word obnoxious exists!

Many thanks and take care
Cristina Oliveira

From: Jennie Owen
Sent: 14 October 2021 9:25 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Dear Sirs

I am writing in support of the Real Ale festival, very much against the objection lodged.

The Real Ale festival is organised by the Hockey Club, run largely by volunteers and members of the local community, and attended by local families. It raises funds for the sports clubs and other local charities. In addition to this it show cases and brings income to regional artisan beer and cider makers.

The organising group have an exemplary clear up process following the event. So much so that this year the cricket pitch was playable at 11 am the morning following the festival.

It is unfortunate that people feel the need to object to such a well run enjoyable event which takes place on only one afternoon a year. Events such as this which bring the community together in such a positive way for good local outcomes are to be supported.

I would like my comments to be viewed in the light of the objections to the licence.

Jennifer Owen

From: Paul Owen
Sent: 17 October 2021 8:19 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival Ref 21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir or Madam,

NEWBURY REAL ALE FESTIVAL YOUR REF 21/00812/LQN

We write in support of the Newbury Real Ale Festival and the fantastic work they do to support our charity and others with much needed donations that allows us to continue to deliver and develop our programme to local people. Sport in Mind is a Mental Health Charity that delivers physical activity sessions to those who have experienced mental health difficulties. These activities range from gardening, we have an allotment in Newbury, to our organised weekly sporting sessions. The Real Ale Festival have supported us on several occasions and this year I had the particular pleasure to attend the festival myself.

I had before this year never been to a Beer Festival and I didn't know what to expect, the Newbury Real Ale Festival is a wonderful event, a family day where people come together meet their friends, enjoy a drink and listen together to some great music. Over the years as a former Chief Executive Officer of a National Governing Body of Sport I have attended and been responsible for the organization of many events and I have if anything become critical of the way events are organised. I can honestly say that what I saw at the Newbury Real Ale Festival was an event that was organised to the highest standard. Those I saw attending were happy and enjoying the day I saw no evidence of any misbehavior, drunkenness or rowdiness and all of the children I saw were all under the supervision of their parents or guardians, happy and enjoying the day.

Sport in Mind have not only benefited through the fund raising but are proud to be associated with such a wonderful event.

Kind regards

Paul Owen OBE



From: D J Owen
Sent: 19 October 2021 11:47
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

I understand an application has been made to have the licence removed from the Real Ale festival. I heartily object to this application, the festival is a much appreciated and enjoyed event by people of all ages from all the social stratum.

It's a short event that brings people into the town and in the scheme of things causes little disruption.

I object to the application.

Sincerely yours

David Owen.

From: Richard Owen
Sent: 14 October 2021 9:06 PM
To: Licensing <
Subject: Real Ale festival Northcroft

Dear Sir

I write in support of the Real Ale festival being able to continue. I live in Russell Road and have never been affected by the noise. I have not observed an increase in criminal behaviour due to the Real ale festival. A lot of people enjoy this event, it supports charities, the organisers give good notice of the event and ensure it is cleared up afterwards.

This unlike the bouncy castles, and fairs that last in some cases weeks with the same noise levels.

Therefore I urge you to allow the Real Ale festival to continue. I have not heard of any complaint of this event.

Kind Regards
Richard Owen

From: Ruth Paley
Sent: 15 October 2021 9:54 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real ale festival licence

I am emailing my support of the real ale festival keeping its licence.

I live in Rockingham Road and do not find the event a disturbance or creating any anti social behaviour. It helps local business that are suffering at the moment, not only by people spending money at the event, but local shops and cafes have more trade from people visiting the town before, during and after the event.

We need events like this to keep the town vibrant.
The noise doesn't go on too late so is not an issue.

Thanks
Ruth

From: Nick Palmer
Sent: 19 October 2021 20:18
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival support

Further to your consultation regarding the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I have been a supporter of the festival since it's inception and I am extremely surprised that there have been any objections from anyone who had ever attended the event.

It is a great example of volunteers coming together to organise a community event which has raised tens of thousands of pounds for charity.

The event has grown because of this community spirit and this year was impeccably organised with additional COVID measures to ensure the safety of everyone who attended or volunteered.

As with any large gathering there will be a small minority who misbehave, but I would be surprised if the instances of 'criminal behaviour' cited in the consultation were any higher than on any other Saturday when the pubs empty out. Or indeed at any meeting at Newbury Racecourse and I don't believe anyone is proposing to close the pubs or stop horse racing.

As to excessive noise, inevitably events such as these will be noisy - people are having fun and listening to live music. In that respect it's no different to the regular Party In The Paddock.

Regarding 'harm to children', we have brought children along to the Festival for years and there has never been any issues. Children will hear bad language in any adult orientated setting. Ever been to a football match? The festival does not encourage people to bring children, neither does it exclude them. It is the responsibility of attending parents to supervise them - just as it would be if they take the children for a pub meal (where they may also see excessive alcohol consumption). The argument about disturbing younger children sleep means that you have to ban almost any evening gatherings in built up areas so strikes me as spurious.

The vast majority of people attending the festival are there to have a good time, are respectful of both residents and other attendees. It would be a crying shame that the event is cancelled after many years of success, raising huge amounts for charity and giving Newbury an event to be rightly proud of.

Best regards

Nick Palmer

From: Matthew Passey
Sent: 22 October 2021 14:38
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Hello,

This is regarding the complaint made against Newbury Real Ale festival.

I have attended the event almost every year since I turned 18! (minus the pandemic cancellation, every year for 8 years running)

I have attended on occasion with children and indeed dogs (when permitted).

This is the best event Newbury has to offer! My family have never experienced any issues inside or outside the festival. The staff are fantastic, the site is well maintained, the music and available drinks speak for themselves in terms of brilliance.

This year I managed to convince my elderly parents to tag along. They don't get out much nowadays and my Mother does not consume alcohol. However, they BOTH attended from the moment the gates opened until the end (even though they didn't know much about Reef!..)

The cleanup post festival is tremendous, not to mention the generous donations NRAF make to charity!!

This event puts Newbury on the map - I recommend it to all my colleagues/friends/family outside of Newbury, who also regularly attend!

Please do not cancel this event.

Kind regards

Matthew Passey
Lifetime West Berkshire resident

From: Ruth Pennington
Sent: 18 October 2021 12:10
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

PBA have been a sponsor and attendee of the event since it began and to our knowledge there has never been any issue of criminal behaviour or disorder at or within close proximity of the event.

We support the event as we consider it to be a great example of a not for profit event organised both for the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities.

As a local company we would not be lending our ongoing support to the event if we had concerns about crime, disorder, nuisance or the protection of children from harm. To the contrary the event is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity

Regards

Ruth

Ruth Pennington FCCA
PBA Accountants and Business Advisers Ltd

From: Julie Evans
Sent: 18 October 2021 23:50
To: Licensing
Subject: reference 21/00812/LQN

Dear WBDC,

I would like it noted that I live on Russell Rd, Newbury and I Object to the application reference above. I would like to see the Newbury Beer Festival continue on the grounds that it supports our local community and economy and raises thousands of pounds for charity. I have never witnessed any antisocial behaviour or felt noise was an issue in all the years it has been running.

Yours sincerely
Julie Pearson

From: Janice Perry
Sent: 19 October 2021 12:34
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Good Morning,

Please do not revoke the licence to the Newbury Real Ale Festival. The event is very much needed in this town, **this sort of event is 1 day a year, and thats it!** This is needed for people to come together and watch live music, have a dance and a drink and enjoy themselves. In the 3 years that I have been going to the event I have never witnessed any trouble/criminal behaviour/excessive swearing/upset children!

In the aftermath of lockdown and peoples mental health, this is a perfect chance for people to go out and enjoy themselves once more! Please do not take that away!

Thank you

Janice Perry
Newbury Resident

From: Maria Phillips
Sent: 18 October 2021 22:40
To: Licensing
Subject: Real ale festival

Please keep this license. It doesn't finish late and is good for the town.

From: Lee Pociеча
Sent: 16 October 2021 2:31 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury real ale festival

To whom it may concern,

I understand that an objection has been made about the Newbury Real Ale festival under reference 21/00812/LQN.

I wanted to send this short email as I have been a volunteer at this event since it first started 18 years ago and even though I now live away from the area, I always make time to attend and to help out at the event. It has grown over the years and it is now apparent that the residents of the town really do love the event as I get many compliments about how well its run and that they will be back the following year.

It's a real family event that parents bring their children down as it's an extremely safe environment and in all of the years I've been working at the event, I've not seen any issues with any anti-social behaviour. In fact it's always the opposite in that everybody are enjoying themselves, having a great time and all in great spirits. All of this whilst raising huge sums of money for local charities. I know that the event is extremely well run and every effort is made to ensure this is a safe environment with little to no impact on the grounds or to local residents

I will continue to fully support this fantastic event for the town and I hope and trust so will the council.

Kind regards

Lee

From: Tim Polack
Sent: 19 October 2021 13:16
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury ale festival: support for licence to be retained

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing regarding the application for Newbury Real Ale Festival to have its premises licence removed. I am against this proposal and believe the Festival should retain its licence.

The Festival is a fixture on the Newbury community calendar. It is a key social event for the community, and attracts families and children (at least during the day). It also raises significant funds for local charities. It is a chance for many people across Newbury to come together.

It does create noise as any event of its type would, but it is one day/evening a year and the noise is not excessive for the type of event. I have attended every year since 2013 and I have witnessed no criminal behaviour.

If events of this type were to lose their licence and not go ahead, then the Newbury community would be worse off as a result. It would also seem difficult to justify the racecourse having loud outdoor concerts, if the Ale Festival were to lose its licence because of noise.

Kind regards

Tim Polack

From: Mick Reay
Sent: 15 October 2021 10:25 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Hi.

I thoroughly object to any attempt to ban the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

This is a superb event, which hopefully provides much needed help for the brewing and pub trade.

It is one of the highlights of the year for Newbury and the surrounding area.

I live within a 30 second walk of the cricket pitch and have never experienced any problems either with noise, crime or anti-social behaviour.

Mick Reay.

From: thomas rivers
Sent: 19 October 2021 20:23
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Dear Licensing,

Ref- Newbury Real Ale Festival held on Sat 11th Sept 2021.

We attended the event at Northcroft Park and the event is definitely one of the highlights of our year. We have been going since the first one and have seen it grow and become a really awesome event. We enjoy the family atmosphere and are always impressed with the organisation. It has become a tradition within our household and it brings so many positives to Newbury. We hope to continue to go each and every year.

We have young children and would be happy to take them to future events, we see lots of families there enjoying it with their children.

I fully support the event which is now well established of the things to do in Newbury.

Best Wishes,

Thomas and Amy Rivers

From: James Ross
Sent: 13 October 2021 12:58
To: Licensing
Subject: License review Ref 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the Newbury Real Ale Festival, the licence for which I understand is under review. I am both a local resident and a member of staff at Newbury College.

I have been an attendee and volunteer at the event since it began and on no occasion in all those years have I seen or been made aware of any incidents pertaining to criminal behaviour or disorder. As a volunteer I have to, upon arrival, sign to confirm that I have read the instructions issued by the licensee which includes that anyone appearing to have drunk in excess should not be served and should be asked to leave by one of the organising team or the security staff. To my knowledge this has never had to be done.

In my professional role I am aware of the particular safeguarding issues facing our local communities and of the dangers that children and young people can face. I have never had any concerns about the children attending the Newbury Real Ale Festival. This is because, amongst other things:

1. They are always accompanied by a parent or carer
2. The behaviour of all attendees of the festival is commensurate with an event to which children attend
3. The language used by those at the event and those performing is not explicit or inappropriate

In 2021 my teenage daughter also volunteered at the event and was stationed on the front entrance with a number of other volunteers, including members of the junior section of the Hockey Club and their parents. The children were all well supervised, were not left alone at any point and I had no concerns about their safety.

As a teacher, a parent and a local resident I would not support the event if I had concerns about children's safety or if I saw or heard evidence of criminal behaviour.

The Newbury Real Ale Festival is a triumph and a massive success story for the local and wider community. It embodies the very best ideal in which Newbury stands for. Thanks to the tireless work of the volunteers, it has managed to responsibly raise thousands of pounds for charities and bring together many people. Due to the

organisation of the event it emphasises the appreciation of locally sourced breweries, food and musical talent.

Yours sincerely,

James Ross Bsc. Hons

From: sukey Russell-Hayward
Sent: 14 October 2021 9:39 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN The Real Ale Festival

To whom it may concern,

For me the Real Ale Festival is fabulous community event that caters for all ages and is highly considerate of the local community, in terms of the set-up, management, noise levels, cleanliness and keeping the community informed of the event and always apologising in advance for any inconvenience. This event has minimal impact and is loved by so many within our community. There is never, in my experience, any trouble before, during or after.

This event is organised locally for locals and raises a lot of money for local charities and support organisations, as well as providing a great venue for local bands and of course local breweries. To see this lose its license would in my eyes be a crying shame and the loss of a very special and highly enjoyable event for the whole family and many of our friends.

Living on Russell Road and with a garden that backs onto the canal we love not only to attend, but to listen to the music quietly from a distance and to see so many having a lovely time. This is in no way disturbing and in my knowledge none of my neighbours or the wider community have ever had anything but positive comments towards the festival. This is a very special event and one that we hope will continue to exist as part of our community calendar for many years to come.

Yours sincerely,

Sukey Russell-Hayward

From: Sarah Sandford
Sent: 18 October 2021 10:08
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale festival licence

I am writing to object to the removal of this licence. I live at Goldwell Drive. I have lived here for 15 years and never experienced any noise or criminal activity from this event.

Please let me know of the time and date of any hearing.

Sarah Sandford

From: Tim Sandford
Sent: 22 October 2021 16:57
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Beer Festival

As a resident in Goldwell Drive I would like to express my support for the Real Ale Festival.
It is a positive event, the noise is not an issue, it is good for the town and our community.

Tim Sandford
Trustee
Visually Impaired Sailing Association
Visa-gb.org.uk

From: Steve Sessions
Sent: 14 October 2021 17:55
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real ale festival

I received a note through my door today asking for my support against approving a license for the event. I live in Crawford Place and I have no such objection, quite the opposite. I think it is a great event and i have never experienced any level of crime associated with the event.

I fully support the application.

From: Sophie Sessions
Sent: 19 October 2021 08:17
To: Licensing
Subject: Fwd: Real Ale festival

Good afternoon

>

> I am writing to offer my support for the Real Ale Festival after receiving a note through the door. I live very close (Crawford Place) to the festival site and thoroughly enjoy it every year. I have no issue with noise or criminal behaviour. I also find the site very well and quickly cleared up after the festival.

>

> I have no objection to the festival whatsoever.

>

> Kind regards

>

> Sophie

From: Tom Sherrin
Sent: 15 October 2021 12:56 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN Objection

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to object to the application to have the license for the Newbury Real Ale Festival removed.

This is a family event and the vast, vast majority of attendees are families and groups of mild mannered, law abiding citizens. It is a far cry from the hotbed of crime the applicant is making it out to be.

To provide context, I am autistic and have social anxiety. I avoid large gatherings, such as football matches, for fears of violence and the like. NRAF is the safest I have felt at any public event. Even safer than Bloodstock and Download.

The crime rests on gangs who travel to large gatherings to blend in (which happens drink or not) and people who can't handle their drink. This is why the event has security staff. And they do a very good job.

I hope mine and many other members of the community's views are considered in this decision.

Kind regards,

Tom Sherrin

From: caroline simm
Sent: 19 October 2021 21:07
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival 21/00812/LQN

My name is Caroline Simm and I am a local school teacher and also the welfare officer for Newbury and Thatcham Hockey Club.

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event, with particular reference to the licencing objective of protecting children from harm and the prevention of crime and disorder.

As a teacher I am aware of the particular safeguarding issues facing our local communities and of the dangers that children can face. I have never had any concerns about the children attending the Newbury Real Ale Festival. This is because, amongst other things:

1. They are always accompanied by a parent or carer.
2. The behaviour of all attendees of the festival is commensurate with an event to which children attend.
3. The language used by those at the event and those performing is not explicit or inappropriate.
4. I have not seen, and am not aware, of any incidences of criminal behaviour or disorder carried out at the event or attributable to the event.

In 2021, I volunteered at the event and was stationed on the front entrance with a number of other volunteers, including members of the junior section of the Hockey Club and their parents. The children were all well supervised, were not left alone at any point and I had no concerns about their safety.

As a teacher and with the responsibility for the welfare of the Club's members I would not support the event if I had concerns about children's safety or if I saw or heard evidence of criminal behaviour.

Kind Regards
Caroline Simm

From: Alison Simpson
Sent: 18 October 2021 22:38
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

Having enjoyed the pleasant atmosphere at this event on many occasions and having never witnessed any disruptive behaviour, I would like my objection to the license review noted.

It's a great community event which happens only once a year and supports many local businesses.

Kind regards,

Alison Simpson

From: Helen Spriggs
Sent: 15 October 2021 12:30 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN Newbury Real Ale Festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Licensing Team

It has come to my attention that the above licence is being reviewed at a meeting in November following an application. As a local business owner and resident I would like to express my support for the event and licence renewal on a number of grounds:

1. As a resident in the West Fields area I can say that the event has never been disruptive to me.
2. I have attended the last two Real Ale Festivals in 2019 and 2021 and have found it to be a well organised event with consideration given to the surrounding community and local business community. For example local BID businesses were encouraged to attend a networking event on the Friday.
3. The event is not for profit and provides valuable funding for the charities it supports.
4. The event itself not only supports local business such as the suppliers to the site inc food vendors etc but also local hospitality businesses where attendees are highly likely to visit before or after the event, or local hotels where we had friends stay specifically due to this event as they travelled from out of area to attend.
5. As a business owner we have sponsored this event for two years and are already committed to next year, we selected this event specifically because of how well run it is, and the not for profit nature of it.
6. The clean up post event is incredibly efficient and diligent, in the last two years I have been to Northcroft Park the morning following the event and the fantastic volunteers and clean up crew are on their hands and knees ensuring the site is cleared up to the highest of standards.
7. This event brings a sense of community to Newbury and whilst the views of those impacted by noise i.e. those living closest to the park are of course valued, I believe the organisers do reach out to those living locally to have communications.

There are of course the minority who like to cause problems at any event, however in my opinion this single day/evening event does not cause a significant disturbance or issue to the local community. I would suggest that the visiting fair may cause more issues across a greater number of days than the Ale Festival. Similarly late night fireworks that are inevitably about to start and continue for the next few weeks are far more disruptive, sounds travel further and occur later at night than this well run event.

I understand this year there was an sound quality issue that resulted in a delay between the penultimate and final act which may have been disruptive to some neighbouring properties but I believe the music was still completed by the cut off time of 10pm, granted I had left by this point however I could not hear it from home and I live 0.4miles as the crow flies from the park. This year the site layout was different to 2019 and perhaps this is a consideration for future events however external factors such as wind direction inevitably can influence sound travel. Perhaps local residents most impacted can be invited to consult on the impacts the event has on them.

In conclusion, I hope that the committee reviews the wave of local support for this event and decides to renew the licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival, recognising the benefits of this well run event to local footfall, the local economy and of course the charities.

Kind regards

Helen Spriggs
Director | Spriggs Chiropractic Ltd

From: David Stock
Sent: 22 October 2021 17:42
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

Dear Sirs/Madams.

I am writing in response to the disappointing petition to remove the licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival. I understand how residents may feel about noise from a local event. However I believe there is little truth in some of the points made in the request to remove the licence. I attended this event this year with my adult daughter and we were there for the majority of the event. I saw no criminal activity, no disorder and no rowdy behaviour. Of course I cannot guarantee that there was absolutely perfect behaviour on every single individual's part. However it was a very good natured event. Even when there was a delay to the last band playing, the crowd was still happy and patient. There are much bigger and more intrusive events such as the Michaelmas Fair which is 4 nights where behaviour is much more rowdy. The Real Ale Festival is a great community event and is a positive addition to the local calendar. Please do not remove this licence as I believe it would be a detriment to the town and our community.

Yours faithfully

David Stock

From: Jack Stone
Sent: 14 October 2021 16:51
To: Licensing
Cc: Sean Richardson
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Hi,

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

We as a firm (Gardner Leader) have been a sponsor and attendee of this event since it first began and have not been aware of any acts of criminal behaviour or disorder at or within close proximity of the event.

We consider the festival to be a great example of a not for profit event organised both for the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities. Many of our employees attend the event both on the sponsor's day on Friday and throughout the Saturday and thoroughly enjoy it, it is very much a real community day out.

As a local company, and especially as a firm of solicitors, we would not be lending our ongoing support to the event if we had concerns about the safety of the event and the people whom attended. To the contrary the event has developed into a real asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity.

Please do contact me or my colleague Sean CC'd into this email if you have any questions.

Many Thanks,
Jack

Jack Stone
Marketing Executive



From: Vix Swann
Sent: 15 October 2021 11:02 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Ref 21/00812/LQN

Hi,

I would like this email to be used as support of the Ale Festival Newbury and an objection to the complaint.

It has been brought to my attention that a member of the public is concerned about the festival being a potentially harmful to children, potentially raises the risk of crime in the area and the sound pollution is also a major issue for them. I'd like to take this opportunity to put a supportive side across for the Ale Festival to continue.

First of all I'd like to address the potential harm that it may bring to children. As a parent of 2 children myself I see no obvious risk, all parents must be in charge of risk assessing for their own family and my two enjoyed themselves tremendously during this last Ale festival. If the complainer is thinking that the adults are drunk and raucous at the festival he/she is very much mistaken as has clearly never attended the ale festival. I appreciate that it's an alcohol festival but the organisers have planned it beautifully that it's easier to enjoy the drinks slowly than it is to get drunk, there is also a surrounding fence preventing passers by from entering, it feels very sealed and safe, my children feel safe and I feel safe too. I am struggling to understand the complainers motives and I can only assume they've naively pick that one to pull at the heart strings.

The potential rise in crime, I'm pretty sure that the Michaelmas Fayre brings in more footfall therefore more possibility of crime, it seems strange that they've picked this to complain about over the Fayre. The Ale festival is limited to the numbers able to attend, I have attended the Ale festival a few times and have never felt like i was going to be a victim of crime.

The sound pollution from the Ale Festival that occurs once a year is obviously a concern for complainer. It is once a year and what a wonderful way to introduce children to music in the safety of a small town festival. Live music and the arts should be cherished, the arts have had a terrible time during Covid. My children relished in the open air music this year, and what a thrill it was to support all the local bands that played, it is once a year and there is plenty of warning that he festival is happening. I lived in Rosemary Terrace until 2017 and as the crow flies is not too far away from the Ale festival venue and personally never had an issue with the once a year festivities.

I hope that the Ale Festival can continue in its current venue, it is lovely and central and a joy to attend and support.

Best wishes,

Victoria

From: Clare Swanson
Sent: 13 October 2021 12:26
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812 - Real Ale Festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Sir/Madam

This email is regarding a complaint I have been made aware of regarding this event.

I have been to the real ale festival a number of times both with my children and without them. I have always found it to be fun and thoroughly family friendly. It's a great mini festival enjoyed by so many different people in our community, which brings our community together. I have also found it to be very professionally organised and I look forward to this as a family friendly event.

I think Newbury is a fantastic place to raise children - we moved here from London when ours were little and have loved all the fabulous community events that are put on. I think it would be a real shame to lose The Real Ale Festival from our town and would be a loss to our community.

Regards

Clare Swanson

From: Andy Taylor
Sent: 22 October 2021 13:52
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

Dear Sir or Madam

Please keep the beer Festival it's a lovely social day out where whole family's can come together relax and enjoy live music and chill out. I have been for the last 2 or 3 year's and never seen any antisocial behavior. How many arrests have there been?

Please keep for future generations of Newbury's Public. They don't have much else to be proud of?

Andy Taylor

From: Ian Theodore
Sent: 12 October 2021 09:44
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

I have been a sponsor and attendee of the event for several years and have never seen or been aware of any acts of criminal behaviour or disorder at or within close proximity of the event.

We support the event as we consider it to be a great example of a not for profit event organised both for the local community and to raise vital funds for local charities. My family, along with my colleagues attend the event and all thoroughly enjoy it. None felt that our children were not safe at any point.

As an individual and a local company owner I would not be lending my ongoing support to the event if I have concerns about crime, disorder, nuisance or the protection of children from harm. To the contrary the event is an asset to Newbury and West Berkshire as a whole and should be supported at every opportunity

Regards,

Ian Theodore
Managing Director

From: Richard Thompson
Sent: 19 October 2021 10:46
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

I wish to object to the application to prevent the Real Ale festival being held.

Reasons for my objection:

1. The festival has raised significant sums for good causes in the community
2. The festival has been run for many years with little if any disturbance or disorderly behaviour.
3. There is good security in place with responsive action towards any unacceptable behaviour. During my past attendance I have not seen the police needing to attend which is remarkable given the attendance level compared with the population at large
4. The festival is an established community event bringing visitors to the town and benefitting the local economy
5. The organisers are drawn across the community and has established good sponsorship from established members of the community
6. I don't believe the Festival is any more disruptive than say the Saturday night town activities.
7. The venue is no closer to residential property than the racecourse. No one has suggested racing should stop!

R Thompson

From: James Thorogood
Sent: 12 October 2021 21:57
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear West Berkshire Council,

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event, with particular reference to the licencing objective of protecting children from harm.

I have been an attendee of the festival for many years and this year even had a shift volunteering to help behind the bars. Upon arrival I was asked to sign and confirm that I had read the instructions issued by the licensee, including that I should not serve anyone who appeared to have already drunk too much. I take this responsibility seriously as a member of the bar staff.

Whilst I attended alone this year I would have no hesitation in taking along my family (including my 3 young children all of whom are under 6). I feel that it is a great community event, with great live music supporting local bands, delicious food and of course a great selection of drinks. At no point would I have had any additional worries about their safety over and above the general worries as a parent, which are the same as going to the supermarket.

I hope the event can continue and should you need anything further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kindest Regards,
James Thorogood

From: Richard Titchener
Sent: 16 October 2021 12:32 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Beer festival

I've just recently received a flyer through my letter box about removing the licence for the real ale festival, i live within 50 mtrs (approx) of Northcroft and the noise this year was a bit louder than previous years, but never bothered me, after all, it's only once a year and for charity, the stage usually faces west, this year it faced east, I can only assume that's because of the current demolition of the cricket pavilion, which is cordoned off, I don't support the application for the licence to be removed..

Regards, Richard S Titchener.

From: Geoff Tompkins
Sent: 14 October 2021 8:10 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Re: Newbury Real Ale Festival Licensing Review (21/00812/LQN)

Dear Licensing Committee

Re: Newbury Real Ale Festival Licensing Review (21/00812/LQN)

I understand there is presently a consultation underway reviewing the continuation of licensing for the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I would like to express **my support for the festival** and was immensely surprised to learn of a complaint regarding noise and criminality.

Whilst being a resident of Russell Road for many years, and living directly adjacent to one of the main thoroughfares to and from the festival, I can honestly say that I barely hear the music and am not aware of any criminal activity - ever.

The organisers go to considerable lengths to inform residents of the event weeks beforehand, provide contact details for anyone who has a concern during the event and don't overrun.

I am not a 'regular' at the festival, but I would be sorry to see it ended as I believe it to be a great family friendly event which raises significant funds for local charities.

Considering this event only occurs one day of the year, its impact is insignificant compared to other events at Northcroft Park such as the fair which runs for a week, or indeed compared to the occasional summer house party that can go on till the early hours!!

I am sure the committee will take a balanced and professional view of this matter.

Regards

Geoff Tompkins

From: Chris Tompkins
Sent: 18 October 2021 22:31
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury beer festival

I've been going on and off for a few years, it's a great event. Would absolutely hate to see it cancelled. So many towns have festivals its a lovely friendly one, I've never seen any trouble and it gives local bands an opportunity to play infront of a good crowd.

Mr C Tompkins

From: Alexandra Tully
Sent: 15 October 2021 9:03 AM
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

Hi,

I wanted to submit my feedback to support the continuation of the Newbury Real Ale festival.

As a former West Fields resident (and still not far away!) I think that the festival is an absolute highlight of the year. It is well run, and supports local food companies and breweries. It also runs for just one day of the year and finished at 10pm.

I went this year and I thought that there was really friendly family atmosphere; there were plenty of beer festival volunteer staff/security. It felt much safer than walking around at the fair.... I have been absolutely mortified by the drunks around the lock and language that my children have been exposed to walking through the town centre at times so unless the complainant has a suggestion for how to curb that as well I can't see that cancelling the beer festival will help at all.

I very much hope that you consider the huge benefits that the festival brings to the town and how considerately and carefully it is managed in making your decision.

Alex Tully

From: stuart
Sent: 14 October 2021 08:18
To: Licensing
Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival - 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Good morning,

Provide SESS have been involved with the Newbury Real Ale Festival for the past 10 years, as the security, safety and stewarding provider. We are proud to be associated with the event which, is a great asset to the local community. We understand that an application for a review of the premises licence has been submitted and are writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

During the past 10 years we have not, on any occasion, been aware of any criminal or anti-social behaviour on site or in the immediate environs and have not dealt with any matters of disorder. We have only ever had to involve the police on 1 occasion when an attendee was bitten by a dog. It should be noted that this was when the site was not fully fenced and secured. Since the site has been secured with fencing we have not had to involve any other authorities (such as the police). We can confirm that there were no instances that require our team to intervene or take action during the 2021 event.

The organisers are clear with our team that any individual deemed to have drunk too much alcohol will be asked to leave the event, but have only had to act upon this on 2 or 3 occasions and did not have to at all in 2021. Where this has taken place it has been done in a friendly manner and has never resulted in the individual being asked to leave being abusive or causing any problems. Far from encouraging crime behaviour and disorder, our experience is that the organisers (and licence holder) takes all possible steps to ensure that the event offers a safe and enjoyable environment for all. This includes employing our team who are professionally qualified to handle safety and security matters and are the actions of a responsible licence holder.

The provision of live music on site adds to the overall event and has never been of a level to warrant concern for the health and safety of our staff on site or to render radio communication between our personnel problematic. The end time of 10pm is not unreasonable or anti-social and is earlier than many of the events we are involved in throughout the country, including Newbury Racecourse where residents live in as close, if not closer, proximity.

With regards to the protection of children from harm, this matter is taken very seriously by the organisers and our team. This includes the requirement for any minors entering the event to be accompanied by a responsible adult (i.e. parent) and specific protocols

for dealing with any instances of a child becoming separated from their parents, which has been derived from best practice guidance on safeguarding. At no point have we ever had concerns about the safety of any children on site.

As a reputable company specialising in security and safety of events, we would not continue to be a part of the Newbury Real Ale Festival if we had concerns about it failing to meet the licensing objectives.

We do not feel that the licence review is warranted and would request that the event be allowed to continue in its current form.

Kind regards

Stuart Turnbull
Managing Director
Provide SESS Ltd.

From: Ranko Vrcelj
Sent: 19 October 2021 14:00
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have been informed, via an anonymous posting through my letter box that there is an objection to the future licensing of the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I am writing to you to support the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

The objector is concerned about noise levels, that they think that the noise levels constitute a public nuisance and that it encourages criminal behaviour.

Of course this is nonsense. As a very nearby resident (Russell Road), the noise levels are not excessive, in particular given that it is for one day only and that the music (whether it is to one's taste or not) finishes at a suitable time.

As to encouraging criminal behaviour, as no specifics are cited, none can be queried.

Yes, whenever large numbers meet, there is the possibility of criminal behaviour. However, there is more than a certain irony in that the objector posted the note at the same time that the Michaelmas Fair was occurring, which also has loud music into the evening (for 4 days) and brings large crowds in (which may encourage criminal behaviour). Or for that matter, open air music concerts at the Newbury racecourse, which can be easily heard from Russell Road and I assume the large numbers of attendees there also could encourage criminal behaviour. As far as I am aware, the objector does not object to these two sets of events. Nor to the events organised in Newbury town centre by the Corn Exchange, loud (certainly can be heard from Russell Road) and gathers large crowds (which will encourage criminal behaviour).

To me, this appears to be a rather unpleasant and small minded attempt to shut down an event that occurs for one day a year, which clearly the objector does not like.

Have I attended the Newbury Real Ale Festival? No. Do I like the music? Possibly, but I cannot say for certain. But I am certain that a one-day event such as this in general brings together like minded people to enjoy themselves. It seems that this is actually what the objection is about. The objector does not like the event, thus attempting to spoil other people's enjoyment of a perfectly reasonable event, run in a perfectly reasonable manner.

The objection should be dismissed.

Kind Regards
Ranko Vrcelj

From: Ruth Waddington
Sent: 14 October 2021 8:38 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

Dear Madam or Sir,

Please could I just say that in the matter of the above that I fully support the Real Ale Festival in its current location.

I live In Gloucester Road and at no time have I found it to ever cause any problems for me or my local community. I am concerned that someone has been door to door leafleting in support of the objection encouraging people to complain. Meanwhile the vast majority it would appear to have no issue with it. Otherwise you would have previously been aware of a large number of complaints?

Compared to the lovely Michaelmas Fair, in my opinion, it is far less disruptive or noisy and I am very happy to have both events available to the community. After all we do not live in a gated retirement village do we?

I do hope that, after consideration, this objection will be rejected so that I can continue to support it.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth Waddington

From: Mrs P K Webster
Sent: 20 October 2021 10:51
To: Licensing
Subject: Ref: 21/00812/LQN Newbury Real Ale Festival

With reference to the application to revoke the licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival, I have attached my letter objecting to this application and in support of the festival.

The text of the letter is as follows:

I am concerned that there appears to have been a request to revoke the licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival since it has been running for a number of years with support from many local residents, and has raised a lot of money for various charities.

I wish to register my objection to this request.

It may be that the applicant is not aware that most people who attend the festival do so to support the charities, sample some specialist beers, and listen to the music, and not for the purposes of heavy drinking.

The festival has always been well organised and I am particularly puzzled by the reasons given as "prevention of harm to children, prevention of crime and public nuisance to the community".

This is generally treated as a family fun day out, and children are there with their parents, who are responsible for deciding whether or not to take them and how to care for them.

As regards "prevention of crime", since I am not aware of any reports of crime ever having been associated with the Newbury Beer Festival, I am somewhat at a loss to understand what 'crime' would be prevented.

The disruption and public nuisance resulting from this festival consists of one day of very loud music, which most of us tolerate in good humour since it is for a charitable cause.

This disruption and public nuisance is considerably less than that caused by the fair, a purely commercial event, where we are subject to equally loud music for four days, plus the added danger and inconvenience of heavy fairground traffic arriving and departing via West Street during the setup and take-down period.

Regards,
Pamela K. Webster

From: Maddy Weeks

Sent: 20 October 2021 15:35

To: Licensing

Subject: Objection to application to have premises license remove from Real Ale Festival

Dear Sirs

I have been made aware that an application has been made to have the premises licence removed from the Real Ale Festival on the grounds that the noise levels constitutes a public nuisance.

As a resident in the local area, I can confirm there was no nuisance caused from the festival.

I was very pleased the festival went ahead in 2021 following on from the pandemic and strongly believe these events are of a strong importance to the local community. Having been in lockdown for such a long period of time being able to attend an event like this brings a real sense of community, is invaluable to people's mental health and no doubt is essential to the economy after a difficult period.

I do sincerely hope this application is rejected.

Kind regards
Madeleine Weeks

From: Elizabeth Weller
Sent: 19 October 2021 12:06
To: Licensing
Subject: 21/00812/LQN

I am writing in **support** of maintaining the licence for the Newbury Real Ale Festival.

I attended the event and I live within earshot, so I am confident that the Real Ale Festival was not in breach of its licence considering the Best Practicable Means (BPM) applied in accordance with its licence terms.

If the complainant was so confident of their nuisance case, they was at liberty to apply to a magistrate under S.82 of the EPA 1990 but of course he did not because such action would have failed the test of nuisance under S.79 of the Act, particularly in the absence of support by WBC.

The Newbury Real Ale Festival is a very well-run event by Newbury Hockey Club for the benefit of youth sport. Players and parents work tirelessly for the benefit of their members and the town as a whole working late into the night to clear up after the revellers have left. The multitude of local small brewers showcased at the event must have suffered enormously during COVID lockdown and would therefore have been given a welcome financial boost. I was personally very proud to see that we can boast so many talented local brewers.

Ongoing efforts by the Chamber of Commerce to host events such as live music, DJs and street food markets has added to the existing twice weekly and monthly markets to improve the attractiveness of Newbury Town Centre.

WBC continues to successfully host regular fun fairs in Victoria Park and Northcroft/Goldwell parks.

Consultation on a masterplan for Newbury Town Centre by WBC and HemingwayDesign/GL Hearn is likely to recommend additional provision of outdoor space for the enjoyment of arts and entertainment events.

New construction of apartments at the Station, Racecourse, Boundary Road and in future at the Kennet Centre combined with conversion of office space most notably on Strawberry Hill, West Street and London Road and completion of sheltered/retirement housing on Bartholomew Street / Oddfellows Road represents a 'recolonisation' of Newbury Town Centre by residents that will improve its vitality.

It is therefore entirely reasonable for anyone living within a vibrant community to expect a certain amount of community noise. Only a complete fool would contemplate town centre living if, through his fragile mental state, feels hyper-sensitised to community noise.

For the above reasons, it is vitally important that WBC officers maintain a very firm line between the infantile and selfish protestations of a tiny minority whilst enforcing genuine concerns of anti-social behaviour and statutory nuisance.

Whilst the example events I have provided are clearly audible throughout the town centre, audibility does not represent a nuisance. WBC cannot and should not attempt to appease every petty whinger that complains about a raised voice or a dog's bark.

Lord Denning, who was a very learned judge, had occasion to consider the meaning of the term of reasonableness. He famously took the view that it meant the perspective of a hypothetical man on the top deck of the Clapham omnibus. Effectively, he suggested that the meaning depended on what a reasonable person would consider in all the circumstances involved. This concept of reasonableness can also therefore be viewed as the overwhelming majority of public opinion.

That president serves as a guide to enforcement officers when making judgements on what Newbury Townsfolk would view as reasonable (considering all of the circumstances involved). I urge officers to clearly define where, in the opinion of WBC (on behalf of all residents) that line should be drawn, the Best Practicable Means by which it is maintained, and to uphold it not just for the Real Ale Festival but also for the benefit of all current and future residents of this diverse and vibrant town.

Kind regards,

Elizabeth Weller

From: Clifford Wellham
Sent: 17 October 2021 2:22 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Licensing the Real Ale Festival

Dear Sirs,

Both my wife and I would like to vigorously object to license being removed from The Real Ale Festival. Although we live in Northcroft Lane we have not been active supporters of this event as we are not fond of warm beer and loud music. However, the event has not caused us any inconvenience, criminal damage or noise discomfort. We are great believers in tolerating events that clearly give other people pleasure. And this is a once a year event and the complainants should be prepared to accept an occasional disturbance without reaching for the cancel button.

Yours truly
Clifford & Carol Wellham

From: Vicky Wells
Sent: 19 October 2021 20:37
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale Festival

We are really disappointed you have been asked to rescind the licence for the real ale festival, we attend every year with our children and have done since they were young. They are now 14 and 17 it would be a real shame to lose this

We all really enjoy it and have never had any problems everyone gets on and has a great afternoon

Please reconsider

Regards

Vicki

From: Janet Wheeler
Sent: 16 October 2021 12:12 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Ale license

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

It has been drawn to my attention that someone has applied to have the license for the Real Ale Festival, removed.

I live in Northcroft Lane and do not feel it is necessary to remove this license as this is the first time I have heard extra loud music.

Just ask them to turn the stage around to face away from town and keep the volume down a bit after 6pm.

After all, its all for charity, once a year.

From: Clayton White
Sent: 13 October 2021 13:00
To: Licensing
Subject: License Review NRAF REF: 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear WBC,

My name is Clayton White and until February 2019 I was the Managing Director of Provide SESS Ltd. During my time at Provide I oversaw the security, safety and stewarding of the Newbury Real Ale Festival. It is a great event, which has grown over time, but which has stayed loyal to its roots as a community event raising money for local charities. Since stepping down as MD I have continued to provide consultancy advice on safety and security to the organiser team.

I understand that an application for a review of the premises licence has been submitted and am writing to make a formal representation in support of the event.

Throughout my time leading the Provide team I am not aware of any criminal or anti-social behaviour at the event or anything occurring off site but specifically and directly attributed to it.

The organisers have always been clear that they will operate a zero tolerance policy and that anyone who has drunk too much will be asked to leave. I only had to act upon this twice in my time overseeing the event and it was done in a cordial manner between the individuals and my team. Far from encouraging crime behaviour and disorder, our experience is that the organisers (and licence holder) take all possible steps to ensure that the event offers a safe and enjoyable environment for all.

With regards to the protection of children from harm, this matter is taken very seriously by the organisers and was always paramount in my briefing of the security team. I worked with the organising team to agree protocols for dealing with children entering the site with parents (including the use of wristbands for adults to provide contact details) and for any instances of a child becoming separated from their parents. At no point did I ever have concerns about the safety of any children on site.

As the MD of a company whose reputation was built on events such as these I would not have continued to be involved if I had concerns about the adequacy of the licensee to meet the licensing objectives and I certainly would not have continued to provide consultancy services to the organisers.

I do not feel that the licence review is warranted and would request that the event be allowed to continue in its current form.

Kind regards

Clayton White

From: Loretta Whitehead []
Sent: 20 October 2021 15:59
To: Licensing
Subject: Real Beer Festival

Hi

I am very much IN FAVOUR of the Real Beer Festival in Newbury TO CONTIINUE TO TAKE PLACE it is good for the community and is only 1 weekend in the year. The music is all finished by 10.00pm.

I have never seen any problems of fighting or disorder in all the years I have attended, not only is this a way to bring the community and families together, but is valuable for mental health.

Regards

Loretta Whitehead

From: anne wilkinson

Sent: 18 October 2021 23:00

To: Licensing

Subject: Objection to application to review Beer festival license

I wish to object to the application to review the license for the festival. The festival is for a single day. I live in Craven Road close to the festival and do not consider it harmful in anyway. It is a great event which adds to and enhances the lives of people in Newbury. It is a social public enhancement and not a public nuisance. A degree of proportionality is require to balance the positives from the event and the fact it occurs on a single day once a year against the very limited disbenefits as with any large public evnt which people enjoy participating in. Any large social event will cause some people to moan but without such events (sports, theatre, music etc) then life would be very boring . You can't make an omelette without cracking a few eggs. Life is for living not moaning!

Anne Wilkinson

From: Magdalen
Sent: 14 October 2021 9:02 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: reference 21/00812/LQN

Hello,

I am a resident of West Fields, having moved here in 2009. I have two children aged 11 and 14. I write to you about the wonderful Real Ale Festival.

I am personally teetotal, but despite this I am deeply saddened that someone is trying to get this license revoked.

The Festival is clearly a source of joy to many. I have never in all my years living here seen any evidence that it's a nuisance, or source of harm to children.

It may not be an event I wish to attend, but I pledge my whole hearted support to the festival. We are fortunate to have it. Community spirit is critically important: as recent months have shown. Such events build this feeling of community, and togetherness.

So I write in support of the Real Ale Festival and its organizers.

All my best wishes,
Magdalen
Mrs M R Wind-Mozley

From: Red Yates

Sent: 16 October 2021 2:59 PM

To: Licensing

Subject: Newbury Real Ale Festival REF 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear all,

I would like to register my support for the Newbury Real Ale Festival. As a local I have never been negatively impacted by the festival, but appreciate the cultural enrichment it gives our area, along with its support for local musicians and an industry that has been sorely hit by Covid 19.

I would strongly object to a well loved local tradition losing its licence.

Kind regards,

Red Yates

From: Yellow Bird
Sent: 04 October 2021 9:31 PM
To: Licensing
Subject: <v9_SmartSaved/> 21/00812/LQN

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

21/00812/LQN

Dear Sir/Madam.

I face painted at the Newbury Real Ale Festival 2021, I was there from the start until the finish, I was delighted to see so many lovely families at the event, it reminded me of when I was a child and my parents would take me to events such as Fun in the Park or to a festival like Glastonbury.

All of the children were so well behaved and seemed to be having a great time! The parents were all responsible and at no point did I see any children in distress or not being looked after by their adults. As a facepainter and a parent myself, I take safeguarding very seriously.

Although there was alcohol being consumed on site at no point did I see anyone acting inappropriately, there was a large presence of security staff ensuring that everyone at the festival was safe... I had full view of the pitch and did not see any bad behaviour at all. How wonderful it is to have a family friendly event after such an awful 18 months.

It is so lovely to have a local event for people to attend at an affordable price. Without having to take them to Butlin's or a weekend festival that costs a small fortune.

There was a real community spirit which is what we all need after lockdown was lifted.

If this event were to be stopped it would be shame as this is such a well organised event. The music finished at a very reasonable time, well before the pubs close. I witnessed people leaving in a respectable manner, maybe a little wobbly but no different to leaving a pub or a restaurant on a Saturday night.

As a lone woman running a stall in a tent, at no point did I feel vulnerable or at risk.

Kind regards

Corinna.
Yellow Bird Face Painting.

From: K. William Young
Sent: 18 October 2021 13:12
To: Licensing
Subject: NRAF

Hello

I live on Northcroft Lane and I fully support the Newbury Real Ale Festival! The noise is no worse than any other fair, and it's a great day out in support of the hockey club. I don't understand who might be objecting to it but they need to get a life. Can you tell me on whose behalf the application was made?

Thanks

Will

Newbury Real Ale Festival Survey Oct 2021 Community Consultation - Responses

Introduction to the Survey

This survey has been generated and disseminated by Community Matters to enable people to put forward their response to the application to the council to review the license for the Real Ale Festival. All personal data will be removed on submission to the council.

Introductory text to the survey

An application has been submitted to the council to have the licence removed from the Real Ale festival. The festival is run as a community event, supporting local breweries and musicians, and raises money for local charities.

We encourage you to submit an individual email to this submission as well as completing this questionnaire. Your email should 'object' to the application if you wish to see the festival continue and 'support' the application if you would like to see the licence reviewed. Email - licensing@westberks.gov.uk (by the end of Friday 22nd October 2021).

PLEASE ONLY SUBMIT ONE RESOPONSE.

This questionnaire requires you to add your name and email, but only to identify you to the council as a real person and for them to log your response to the application. This information will not be disclosed to any third party and the survey responses will be deleted once the information has been sent to the council on the 22nd.

The grounds on which the council have been asked to review the licence are:

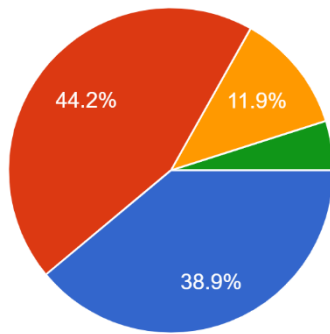
1. The event encourages criminal behaviour and disorder.
2. The event constitutes a public nuisance because of excess and continuous noise levels throughout the day and late into the evening.
3. The event is potentially harmful to children because of excessive alcohol intake around children in attendance, and abusive language being used within earshot of children resident in the area. In addition, sleep of younger children is disrupted by the excess noise.

Responses

There have been 285 responses to this community consultation survey.

How often have you attended the Real Ale Festival?

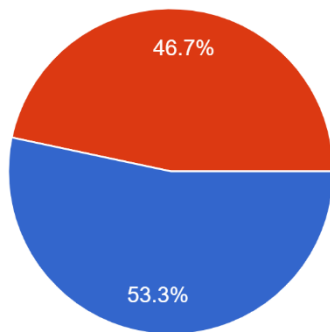
285 responses



- More than 5 times
- Between 2 and 5 times
- Once
- Never

Have you taken children to the event?

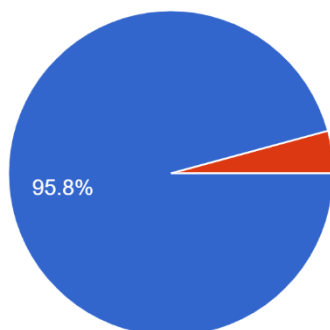
285 responses



- Yes
- No

Do you think event is potentially harmful to children?

285 responses



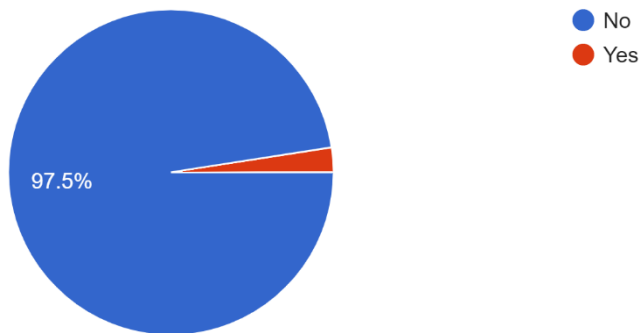
- No
- Yes

12 people answered Yes

273 answered No

If you live locally, do you find the noise from the event constitutes a public nuisance?

285 responses

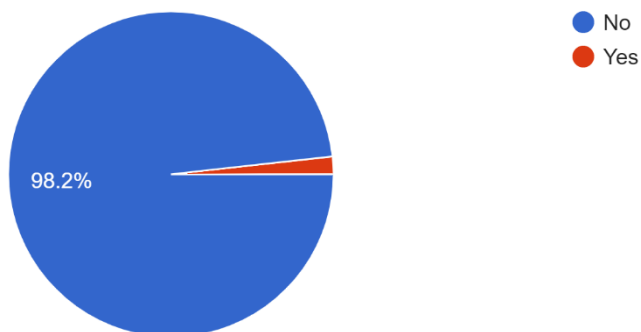


7 people answered Yes

278 people answered No

Do you think that the event encourages criminal behaviour and disorder?

285 responses

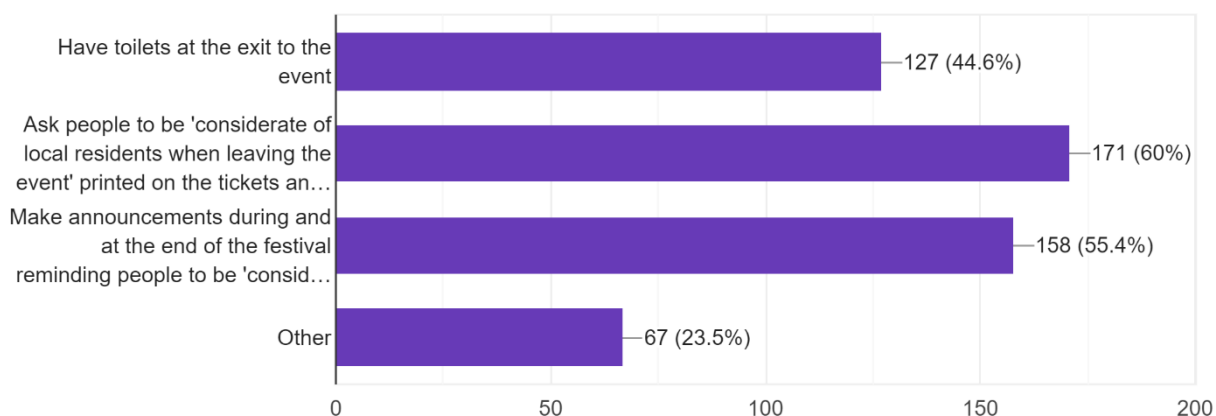


5 people answered Yes

280 people answered No

Do you have any suggestions that might help to make the event better in light of this application to review the license? For example

285 responses



| |
|---|
| If you responded 'Other' above or have anything else to add to support you response, please do so below. |
| In 2018 and 2019 we did actually find the noise levels from the music incredibly loud, to the point that pleasant social aspects of the event were being lost - it was impossible to have a conversation in the field! Or to escape the music if an act wasn't to your taste. This year was much better managed in terms of noise, with the music satisfyingly loud close to the stage but at a sensible level further into the field and acceptable levels in nearby residential areas, especially considering the festival is just for one day. Varying the style and volume of music through the day still further would almost certainly help ameliorate any concerns and make the event even more welcoming. |
| Security to eject anyone behaving in a way unsuitable in front of children or causing trouble. |
| Consider the orientation of the stage in relation to local housing. |
| Finish the event slightly earlier |
| The event is a fantastic local event for the community. A lot of hard work goes into it. There is no problem at all with the behaviour of people who attend , the music stops on time and locals are informed days before the event that it is taking place. This whole matter seems to be one individuals personal NIMBY approach to something they don't like that takes place for one day a year. |
| It's a great event long may it continue |
| I think it's brilliant. A real community event. Long live it! |
| Reduce the focus away from the music and return to a beer festival format. |
| I support the event but it would be improved if was for adults over 21 only. |
| Possibly immediate residents of the area (Northcroft Lane) could get a leaflet advising of date and time. I know it's well advertised on social media but the older generation or those not on the right pages may not get enough warning if they wish to leave the area for the day. |
| The announcements will need to be a tad more specific than to be more considerate, I know the compere very well personally and know he would have no issue telling people not to wee in anything other than toilets and probably make a light hearted joke out of it too. |
| Having been to the ale festival for many years I can assure that there is no poor behaviour and is the most family friendly event in the Newbury calendar. |
| No, I would imagine it's a very small minority of people that support this. Its a once a year event so hardly a huge problem |
| Its one Day, carry on |
| A great community event, and always impressed with how well run it is. |
| Great local event which happens just one day a year and helps raise money for local charities! |
| Ensure there is enough beer to last beyond 8pm. |
| This is a popular event and I would like to do anything to keep it as an annual event. |
| A local discounted ticket could be offered for a limited post codes close to the event. |

| |
|--|
| <p>Ensure there is enough beer. It keeps running out. It's one of the best locally run family events of the year. Why is licence removal even being given consideration.</p> |
| <p>It would be interesting to know how many people have complained about this event in order for a consultation to be raised.</p> |
| <p>I would very much like to see this event continue. I really enjoyed attending with my son and his friend. The event is well managed and we all felt very safe throughout. It is very important to have these events in our community. We did not see any trouble at all and I think these events actually give people something enjoyable to do, so there is less likely to be trouble.</p> |
| <p>I feel the event is well organised. It is of great benefit to the local community in terms of access to music, supporting local business and raising thousands for charity. I live in Russell Rd and do not find the event too noisy, I have never witnessed antisocial behaviour.</p> |
| <p>Provide discounted tickets to residents immediately surrounding the venue to encourage them to attend and join in the fun!</p> |
| <p>Stop considering to remove all aspects of social life from this town. We are pretty much dead already.</p> |
| <p>I have lived locally within earshot of the event for over 20 years. I do not have a problem with the event and as a local resident I think it is fantastic for lots of people to be able enjoy this music and drinking event.</p> |
| <p>Living very close to the festival, I have not encountered any problems from it.</p> |
| <p>Any and every public event has the potential to be harmful to children. Any public event can be said to encourage criminality - pick pocketing, for example. Questions 3 and 5 are leading and do not provide a fair assessment.</p> |
| <p>Provide free entry to people living in immediate proximity. Additional security/community policing. Range more lower strength beer/cider</p> |
| <p>This is a community event supporting local charities. I reject the application to remove the licence.</p> |
| <p>Do nothing as people are always considerate</p> |
| <p>If this event doesn't go ahead then then Michaelmas fair certainly shouldn't. This event raises money for many local businesses and the Hockey Club - it is their biggest fundraiser and they would not survive without it. Children benefit hugely from being able to learn and play hockey at a county level. The fair does not benefit anyone in the area - only a group of travellers who are not welcome at all and leave a terrible visible scar on the park, which takes most of the year to recover, especially if the weather is bad.</p> <p>It is preposterous to cancel something like this when it is just a one day a year event and is extremely popular and beneficial in many ways. If someone doesn't approve then they can keep out of the way for one day out of the year surely. Whoever it is putting this idea forward should be ashamed of themselves for their petty small-mindedness and mean- spirit.</p> <p>What about the bad behaviour of all the hundreds who exit the racecourse and come into the town drunk every 2 weeks throughout the year? Are you planning on closing the racecourse too? Of course you aren't. So why this annual event?</p> |
| <p>I live close enough to the event that on the occasions I have not attended, I can hear the music from inside my house. It's one day a year, and a wonderful opportunity for the local community that would be very sad if lost. The music does not end late enough to disturb sleep, and does not affect my daily activities, nor have I been aware of any disorder or criminal behaviour as a result of the event. I am fully in support of the Real Ale Festival continuing as before.</p> |
| <p>Point the sound/speakers back towards Northcroft and the wild growth land as in previous years.</p> |
| <p>There should be more toilets in the event</p> |
| <p>No real objections to be honest, just suggest that they put the stage and speakers at the opposite end of the field, so the sound is directed away from town. Could hear the sound from the stage inside my house through the double glazing all day. Live approx. 0.4 miles as crow flies from the site.</p> |
| <p>Make the last band finish 1 hour earlier.</p> |
| <p>Engagement with those who live the closest to the park especially on the way back to the town centre, I believe the organisers do try but some residences are flats and so perhaps not everyone is given the opportunity to feedback. Offer those immediately next to the park FOC or discounted tickets as a gesture of goodwill. I have also emailed the licensing panel, and had a reply (the panel review is Tues 16th Nov @ 10am, can attend in person or via Zoom for anyone interested) as we also sponsor the</p> |

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| <p>event and support it continuing. I did point out many of the benefits for this event continuing but noted this year the layout was different (perhaps in part due to COVID) but from a noise point of view the stage being located in the opposite place to 2019 might have made a difference. I also think the extended gap between the penultimate band and Reef may have caused some issues for those right next to the park (based on someone I know who lives there). Whilst the local support seems in favour of the event, everyone is of course entitled to their view and we don't know the exact situation of the person who has requested the review.</p> |
| <p>This event is held once a year. Really sad that an application like this is being considered. It supports local bands, musicians and beer/cider/gin makers and would be a loss to what makes Newbury really special. The event opening and closing times could be considered - eg. 8/ 9pm finish. More toilet facilities.</p> |
| <p>Face the bands to the west as previous years, where noise is less likely to affect residence</p> |
| <p>Encourage responsible drinking with periodic announcements about behaviour. Plus a police walk through on two or three occasions</p> |
| <p>It's a real jewel in the crown for Newbury as an event. Sure there may be some difficulties from time to time when events grow with such popularity as this one has. But please work with them to make it viable for our town</p> |
| <p>Not a suggestion as such but just want to make a point that the fair has just been in town for a week. Much longer opening hours! Much more noise and light pollution, more rubbish, more people and that most likely encourages a lot more criminal behaviour (look at stab night a few years ago and the amount of police that involved trying to stop teenagers from stabbing each other). Same cut off time. Why is it ok for that to go ahead EVERY YEAR with no complaints yet a very good event which adds to local community and brings people together for one day - is in question. We are really lucky to have the beer fest once a year and to get so much good entertainment on our door step. Thanks</p> |
| <p>It is a great annual event that is repeated across the country in various cities, towns and villages. Some reminders on tickets to be considerate would be sensible but it is a very small minority that behave inappropriately. This is the same in any event or on every Friday and Saturday evening in the town centre and we don't look to remove every pubs licence.</p> |
| <p>The music was far too loud this year that it could be heard clearly at the racecourse</p> |
| <p>There dose need to be more toilets available, and reminders to festival goers to be considerate to the surrounding neighbourhood</p> |
| <p>Better choice of drinks. Include Wine!</p> |
| <p>Perhaps consider repositioning of the stage and sound system to minimise noise being projected towards nearby housing. This is fantastic day out which only happens on one day of the year. It unites the community, raises money for charity and allows local brewing businesses to showcase their ales. I've never noticed any notable bad language and all the children I've ever seen appear to be having an absolutely great time. We have numerous events that could possibly be considered disruptive eg, the Michaelmas Fair, Fireworks night, various sports events etc..the majority of people realise that this is all part of community living despite any short lived inconvenience, it would be a great shame to target the Ale Festival with closure on the say so of just a few killjoys when the vast majority of people enjoy it so much.</p> |
| <p>The tick box nature of this results, as usual, in loaded questions. Of course there is 'potential' harm to children but is the degree acceptable, of course the noise will constitute a public nuisance to some people but is it an acceptable level and of course alcohol will potentially result in a degree of disorder. The point is that this has become a music festival with beer attached and outgrown its original purpose. The name NRAF is now a misnomer. The emphasis has changed and the organisers need to accept that they need to revisit their original parameters, tone down the noise, get local and make it an ale festival again.</p> |
| <p>The staging was different last time which may have caused the sound to travel more. It seemed better previously, but it's a short term sound for charitable gain. There have been loud events on Northcroft since as long as I can remember (I grew up on Berkeley Rd on the crossroad with Gloucester Road) but the timing limits have always been adhered to and we always knew these were short term events. The Real Ale Festival is exactly the same, and the atmosphere is always friendly and an opportunity to attend something designed with families in mind.</p> |
| <p>This seems ridiculous, having been an attendee every year we have never seen any incidents. Even at the end of the evening there is less noise than you would find at the fair each year. It would be a huge loss to Newbury at the community projects involved if the licence was revoked.</p> |

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| <p>This is a much needed event in Newbury, there is not a lot of this kind of activity for adults where people can listen to live music, have a drink and support local charities all at the same time especially how so many people have emerged from lockdown with varying degrees of Mental Health issues. I have attended 3 years in a row and I have never witnessed any criminal behaviour or unpleasantness, just everyone thoroughly enjoying themselves and having a dance to the live bands. PLEASE DO NOT REVOKE THE LICENCE, THIS IS A MUCH NEEDED EVENT AND A FABULOUS ONE AT THAT! Thank you.</p> |
| <p>Large signs at the exit asking people to be considerate of local residents as they leave</p> |
| <p>Living on West Mills west of the swingbridge, we are in the firing line of the sound but it is little different to the fair in this & other respects. It is just one day of the year & although we don't attend or know anyone who does, I have no objection to the event taking place.</p> |
| <p>Always been an excellent event and very well organised. Can't see what the problem is!</p> |
| <p>Discounted tickets for local residents e.g. those say within 1000 metres of Northcroft Park.</p> |
| <p>Discounted tickets for local residents</p> |
| <p>Change location to Vicky park.</p> |
| <p>It is an excellent local event & it would be a real shame to lose it</p> |
| <p>People that don't approve of community events like this should go and live out in the country. Living inside towns means there will occasionally be noise, people will occasionally do things that you may not like etc but these events are important to others and local business. I will not be going to this event and get no benefit from it but I'm sick of this constant complaining by people in this community.</p> |
| <p>I got assaulted at the festival after asking an attendee not to Uni-ate in public view. This was reported. Spoke to organisers who cared more about their beer. I was an innocent bystander going to walk my dog. Whenever the festival on now it becomes a no go zone. The volume is ridiculously loud</p> |
| <p>Try to keep the bands running on time so the event doesn't overrun. Ensure enough beer of lower alcohol levels is available. People will drink anything later in the evening, even if very strong which could lead to drunken behaviour. Generally, if people are drinking steadily over several hours, they don't become aggressive or rowdy. The behaviour this year was generally excellent. There are few local residents that would be affected, and it is 1 day per year.</p> |
| <p>It is a fantastic event for the local community and good for local businesses in the town. Although I don't go myself (I am tea-total) I have a lot of friends that do go and they really love it. I really enjoyed hearing the live music and hearing people enjoying themselves this year (from the comfort of my garden and allotment!) I think it's a great event and it would be a total shame if the event didn't go ahead next year.</p> |
| <p>Maybe quieter bands towards the end of the evening- It was very loud this year and could be heard all across town- although it didn't bother me personally, I can see why some people may have been annoyed.</p> |
| <p>I think any event, including race days, that involves alcohol has potential to increase harm in an area. If causing extreme stress/harm then stopping the event earlier may be an idea as I can't see any of the other methods improving the situation but it would be a shame for the majority of more local people not to be able to go and enjoy the event</p> |
| <p>More toilets</p> |
| <p>More ladies toilets, long queues this year!</p> |
| <p>This event is a fantastic community initiative that brings families and groups of all ages together to enjoy music and relax. I have been to the festival many times, firstly when my children were younger and they loved the atmosphere with the live music, inspired my son to learn the guitar! Now the children are older they enjoy the bands with their friends which is great to see.</p> |
| <p>I object to this application to have the license removed</p> |
| <p>I really don't understand how real ale festival which happens ONCE in a year can disturb anyone. What about fun fair, racecourse, fireworks? This all events is outside with certain noise.</p> |
| <p>Ale festival is amazing, fun and family friendly event un town center. There is nothing to add to this opinion!</p> |
| <p>My experience has always been totally family friendly. It's a bit of noise once a year, we should be grateful to have such events in our area and the much needed boost to the economy.</p> |
| <p>Finish at 8 rather than 9 and finish on time</p> |
| <p>It's a very family oriented event and there haven't been any issue both times we have been.</p> |
| <p>It's a great event. We live in Clifton Road quite near and fully support it continuing</p> |
| <p>This is a fantastic local event, long may it continue.</p> |

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| It's a one day a year event, that does not harm anyone. I leave right next to the Northcroft park, and never in 10 years had a problem with it. (Unlike the Fair, that is nothing but a nuisance, lots of rubbish everywhere, loud and annoying, attracts a very dodgy crowd- we as local residents have to endure drunken antisocial behaviour and be worried about walking home late, cars parked nearby etc) Fair is the one that should be closed down, not the Ale festival. |
| The event is very well run. No further additions required |
| It is a very popular event, to the extent that some of the best ales run out long before the end of the event. A better supply of ales - and perhaps less 'other' drinks (it is a real ale festival, after all :) - would be welcomed. |
| This is an annual event that brings the community together. It supports local businesses and puts Newbury on the map. Always a fantastic event where so many people I know come together to enjoy the music |
| The fact is that if this event didn't take place there would still be a minority around and about that would make some people feel uncomfortable, they might otherwise be in less "controllable" environments. There is little enough to do in Newbury so events such as this should be welcomed. |
| Do not allow children into the event. Over 18s only |
| Children shouldn't be allowed at the Festival as it should be an over 18 event. Therefore eliminating the 'harmful to children' question. |
| Make announcements during the event, and post information, reminding attendees that the license may be revoked if ill behaviour and excessive noise occur. Possibly have more acoustic music. |
| Event was very well planned and executed. I was there from beginning to the very end and saw no concerns whatsoever. I walked to and from the location too and went to visit other establishments in town that evening and the atmosphere was amazing. |
| The whole world is in crisis, people need something fun to look forward to. You are always going to have a small element of people who go too far, but don't spoil it for the majority. |
| Point the music stage away from the town. Have family friendly areas away from the beer tents. |
| I have volunteered to help at this event and know the organisers do all they can to minimise nuisance updating their procedures in line with events and experience. |

Representation from Environment Health

I am aware that a review of the Premise Licence 15/01127/LQN (Land between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club, Northcroft Lane) has been made by a resident. Environmental Health as a responsible authority would also like to make a representation due to the failure of the event to prevent a public nuisance from occurring as a result of elevated noise levels being emitted from the site as witnessed by an Officer from Environmental Health.

The Newbury Real Ale Festival (NRAF) occurred on Saturday 11th September 2021 with live and recorded music being permitted from 12 midday to 10pm as per the Premise Licence.

The Premise Licence contains conditions (requested by EH) which are designed to limit noise and prevent disturbance to nearby residential properties.

On Friday 10th September 2021 I met with the DPS Sara Duffield and Richard Milner (*Livewire*) on site to discuss the noise limits, monitoring arrangements, stage set-up, sound system and music type. I noticed that the stage this year was facing Newbury town centre which was different to the previous event in 2019 and different to what was detailed in the previously submitted and accepted 2021 Noise Management Plan (NMP) which I had reviewed (**Attached in Appendix 1**).

I was then introduced to James Hollamby. Richard Milner advised that this year the sound and stage arrangements had been contracted to UK Stage Events, with James Hollamby in overall responsibility for the sound compliance and monitoring requirements during the event. This was again different to what had been previously specified in the NMP (*Livewire are responsible for the supply, maintenance and management of the sound stage and broadcast equipment. Furthermore, they are responsible for managing the sound balance of the music acts*).

A noise limit of 65dB (A) Leq 15 minutes was agreed with James Hollamby with the compliance point being the façade of a block of flats known as Bewicks Reach, Northcroft Lane, around 238 m opposite the main stage (see map below). James Hollamby advised that someone from his staff would be monitoring the noise levels from the rear boundary of the event site.



The agreed noise limit of 65 dB(A) Leq 15mins comes from the Music Noise Levels specified in The Noise Councils Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts (see table below).

The Music Noise Levels (MNL) when assessed at the prediction stage or measured during sound checks or concerts should not exceed the guidelines shown in Table 1 at 1 metre from the façade of any noise sensitive premises for events held between the hours of 09.00 and 23.00.

TABLE 1

| Concert days per calendar year, per venue | Venue Category | Guideline |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| 1 to 3 | Urban Stadia or Arenas | The MNL should not exceed 75 dB(A) over a 15 minute period |
| 1 to 3 | Other Urban and Rural Venues | The MNL should not exceed 65 dB(A) over a 15 minute period |
| 4 to 12 | All Venues | The MNL should not exceed the background noise level by more than 15 dB(A) over a 15 minute period |

Telephone numbers were exchanged with James Hollamby so that any noise monitoring issues during the event could be quickly rectified.

On the day of the event noise monitoring was undertaken at the agreed compliance point from around 6.30pm to 10pm using a calibrated Class 1 Sound Level Meter. The weather was bright, sunny with little wind. No other noise sources were audible during the monitoring.

I commenced monitoring at the compliance point at around 6.30pm when an AC/DC tribute band known as *Hells Bells* started their set which lasted around 50 minutes. During this time the noise level was continuously above the agreed noise limit with a maximum noise level of 71 dB(A) Leq being monitored. 2 text messages were sent to James Hollamby during this period in order to try and reduce the noise levels. Although a reduction in levels was achieved the noise limit was not reached. I found the noise levels being monitored surprising given that this was now the evening and I would have expected the correct noise levels to have been achieved during the initial sound checking and testing which according to the NMP would have been undertaken at 9.30am on the day of the event.

Due to the elevated noise levels being monitored a site visit was therefore made in order to speak directly with James Hollamby. James Hollamby and the other sound technicians were then strongly spoken to regarding this and again reminded of the agreed noise limit, to which they acknowledged.

After a long delay, the final act *Reef* commenced their set around 9pm.

Noise monitoring at the compliance point indicated a Leq level of 77dB(A). A text message was therefore sent to James Hollamby and a site visit made at around 9.15pm in order to speak with Sara Duffield, the DPS. Rather than contacting her by telephone I asked the security guards at the site entrance to contact her urgently by radio, as I thought this to be a more reliable and quicker method of contacting her as I was concerned that a mobile phone ring might not be heard. After a few minutes I was told by security that Sara Duffield was too busy and that I was not allowed to enter the site.

Noise monitoring therefore continued at the compliance point until the set finished at 10pm. This was again different to what was detailed in the NMP which had specified that although the Premise Licence permits music to 10pm a target finish time of 9.15pm, latest 9.30pm was given.

Again the noise level was continuously above the agreed noise limit with noise levels being measured at 9.35pm of 73 dB(A) Leq15mins and at 9.50pm of 69.6 dB(A) Leq15mins.

During this final monitoring period contact was made with a colleague from the Council who was attending the event and who was in contact with Sara Duffield. I was advised that Sara Duffield did not get the message from security and that I had permission to enter the site. I decided at this point that there was insufficient time left in order to arrange for the sound level to be reduced given that the event was due to finish at 10pm and continued with noise monitoring.

Following the event 5 complaints were received by EH regarding the elevated noise levels from the event. See map below showing the locations of the noise complaints in green. The furthest complaint was 2.7Km away.



Red dot – location of the event

Green dots – location of the complaints

On the 14th September 2021 I wrote to Sara Duffield outlining my concerns with the noise levels monitored during the event (Attached in Appendix 1). I also requested to see the on-site monitoring logs. A reply was received on 17th September 2021 (Attached in Appendix 1). The response detailed that the noise levels were reduced following my communications and also that the delay in the last act was due to technical issues. The logs detailed elevated on-site noise levels monitored at the rear of the site reducing over time to a level of 65 dB towards the end of each set. It is unclear whether these noise levels were averaged over a 15minute period, as was the agreed noise level parameter, or instantaneous noise levels, however they did not correspond to the noise levels I was monitoring a further 60m beyond this point. As they were monitoring closer to the event I would have expected to see higher noise levels.

Historically very few noise complaints have been received by EH since the event gained a Premise Licence for its current location:

2015 – 2 noise complaints

2016 – 0

2017 - 0

2018 – 0

2019 - 0

2020 – no event

According to our records noise monitoring was only undertaken by an Officer in 2019. Elevated noise levels were again recorded before the levels were reduced to the agreed noise limit.

In conclusion, the Premise Licence contains sufficient conditions in order to control the noise emitted from this site during the event. However on this occasion a failure by the contracted sound technicians/engineers to control the level of noise being emitted during this event led to excessive noise levels being recorded, and noise complaints to the Council being received.

Russell Davidson

Senior Scientific Officer

Public Protection Partnership

Public Protection Partnership | Bracknell Forest
West Berkshire
Wokingham

A shared service provided by
Bracknell Forest Council,
West Berkshire Council and
Wokingham Borough Council



Appendix 1:

1. Newbury Real Ale Festival Noise Management Plan 2021
2. Letter dated 14th September sent to Sara Dutfield
3. Letter received dated 17th September from Sara Dutfield

1. Newbury Real Ale Festival Noise Management Plan 2021

The Newbury Real Ale Festival exists for the local community. It is the sole intention of all organisers and musicians to provide an event that is enjoyable and safe for all the residents of Newbury and the surrounding area.

This Noise Management Plan contains the methodology which shall be employed to control sound produced on the premises, in order to comply with the premises licence. It includes all of the arrangements for preventing public nuisance and consultation with the local community and shall include the sections specified by the license recommendations, as agreed with the Environmental Health Dept., West Berkshire Council.

The event takes great pride in setting a serious target of zero complaints and proactively looks to achieve this target every year through a combination of excessive noise prevention measures, having a dedicated noise assessment team and working in partnership with all relevant statutory and community organisations.

The date of the event is Saturday 11th September 2021.

2 a) Inventory of all sound systems to be used on the site.

Main stage (used between noon-22:00 latest – target finish 21:15)

12 x FBT Muse 210a Line Array Mid/Hi Element

8 x FBT Mitus 218 Dual Subwoofer

2 x Flying Frames WF3082

2 x 32A to 4 x 16A Distro

2 x 16A to 32A powercon

4 x 16A to 20A powercon

2 x 8pole 4mm 8core to 4 x 2pole 4mm 2core

1 x Soundcraft SI Impact Mixing desk

2 x QSC GX5 Monitor amplifiers

4 x HK Audio Pro 15 Monitors

PA Tower

2 x Alspaw 6.5m 750kg Line Array Tower

Accoustic Monitoring

VLIKE Digital Audio Sound Level Meter (30dB to 130dB range, accurate to 0.1dB)

2 b) A schedule of contact details for those who are responsible for the sound systems.

Richard Milner – *Livewire*

telephone: +44 (0)7824 496119

e-mail: Richmilnero@yahoo.co.uk

Martin Burton – *Livewire*

telephone: +44 (0)7876 394868

e-mail: martin.burton@vodafone.com

Livewire are responsible for the supply, maintenance and management of the sound stage and broadcast equipment. Furthermore, they are responsible for managing the sound balance of the music acts.

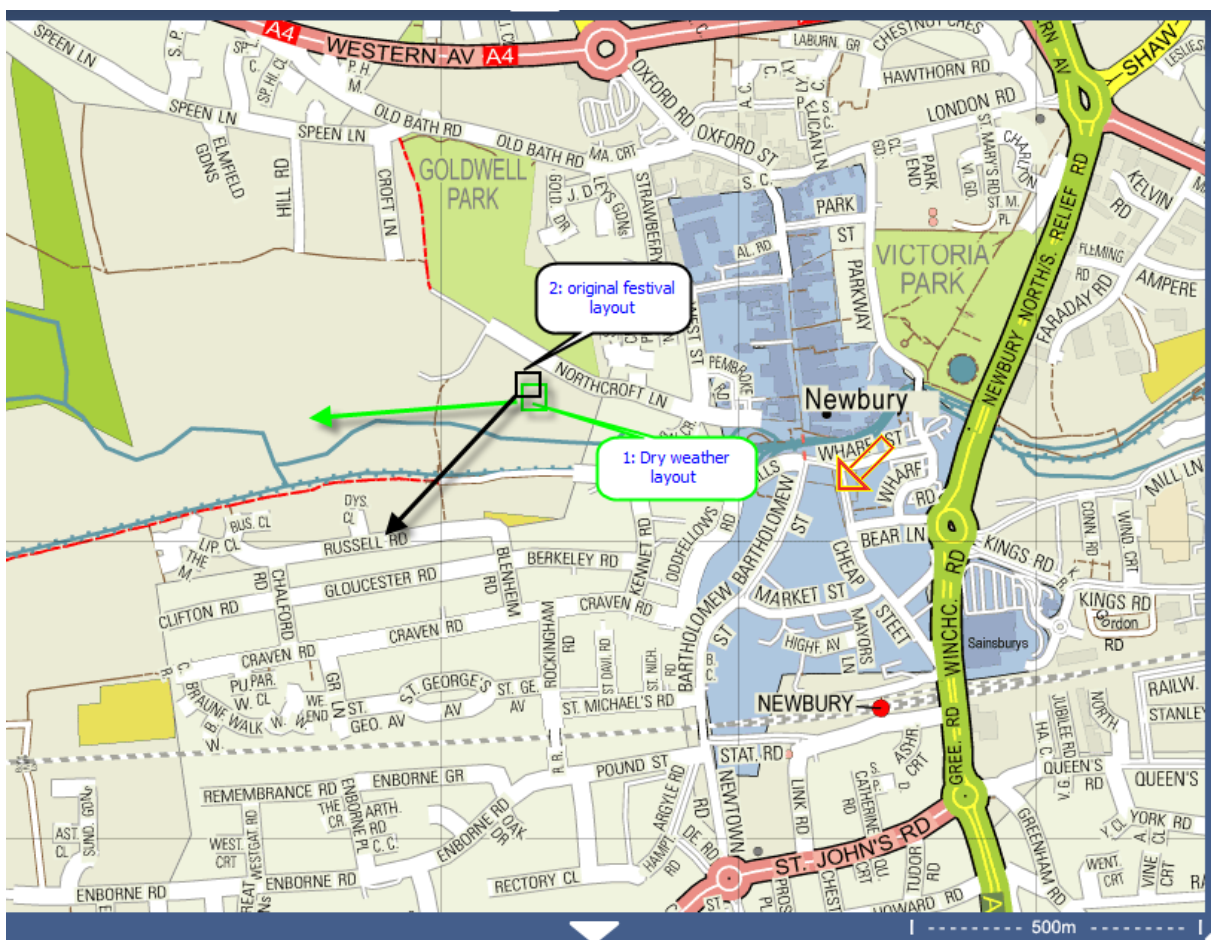
2 c) A list of stages together with, a schedule of their location, orientation & shut down times.

2 sound systems will be used:

1- Open air main stage Start: 12:00 Finish time: Target 21:15, latest **21:30**

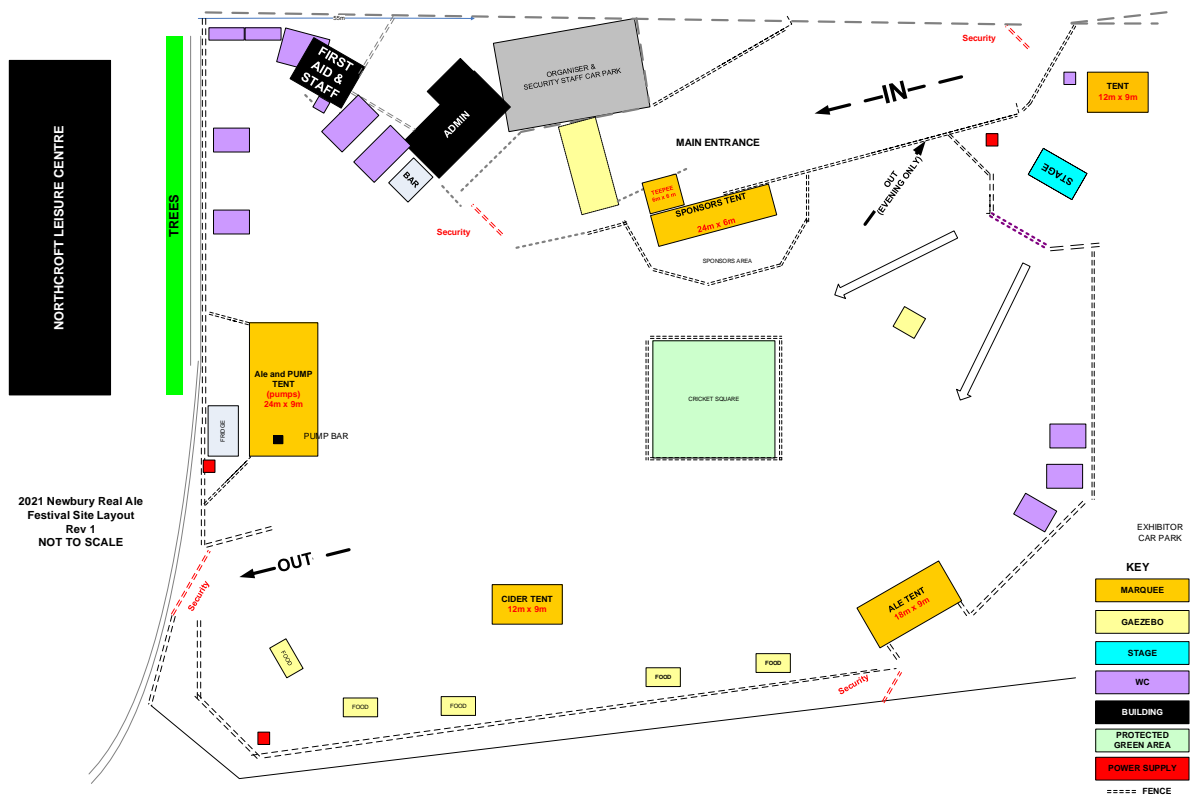
The licence for recorded and live music has been set at 22:00. Note: the last live music act will commence by 20:00 and it is fully intended to cease all music by 21:30 at the latest.

There will be 2 possible layouts used, selected on the day of set up according to weather conditions during set up and the weather and wind direction forecast for the weekend.



Layout / Orientation 1: This provides the most effective sound dispersion, broadcasting into open space and using the trees and the Northcroft Leisure Centre building to absorb sound.

The stage is deliberately positioned to project towards the middle of the Northcroft pitch, with the aim of using the natural environmental features of the local area to ensure “self-regulation”. The target noise level is to be able to hold a normal conversation at the marquees (marked in yellow)



As shown in the following schematic, the directional sound system shall be positioned so that the sound shall project towards Northcroft Leisure Centre. The selection of this layout, together with an improved sound system shall significantly improve noise dissipation:

- 1) If the sound is too loud or has projected too far, the acoustic soundwaves made by the drum beat will ricochet off the Northcroft Leisure Centre wall. This causes an echo effect, making it impossible for the bands to play. This method has been used for 5 years and has proven successful in providing immediate feedback to the sound crew during the sound check process, allowing suitable adjustments to be made to ensure clear sound quality and acceptable noise levels.
- 2) There is a small stage located in the marquee in front of the leisure centre, suitable for playing acoustic music. If the sound from the main stage is too loud, then it overwhelms the sound from this stage and makes it impossible for those acts to perform. Immediate feedback is then given by the marquee sound team to the main stage in order to ensure minimised sound conflict for customers.

The location of sound assessment will be tailored to the source of noise. This is detailed in the following pages.

2 e) Management command and communication structure /methods for ensuring that permitted noise levels and finish times are not exceeded.

The regulations agreed with West Berkshire Council have been included in the document Newbury Real Ale Festival 2021 - Power Staging and Music Requirements. This document is referred to in a legal contract for sound equipment and professional services provided by *Livewire*.

Please refer to the Licence application for full details of the organisational chart. In summary, the chain of authority is as follows, in descending order:

1. Sara Dutfield – General Manager / DPS

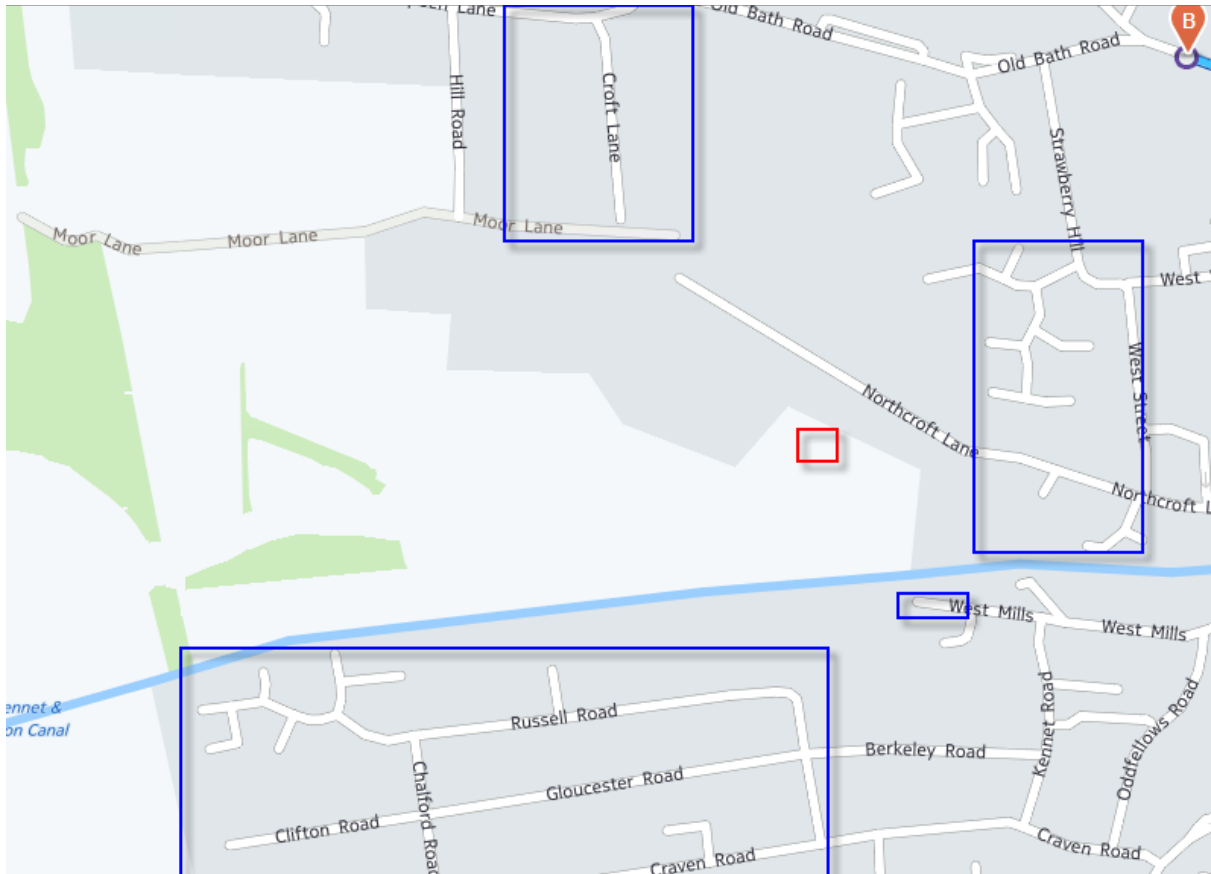
The instruction / decision of the DPS is final.

2. Mike Burge – Head of Risk and Public Safety
3. Vincent Butler – Site Manager
4. Richard Milner – *Livewire*

2 f) Publication and dissemination of information to the public and arrangements for provision and staffing of a hotline number for dealing with complaints

A letter drop will be performed within 7 days of the event, where access is possible. This will be the same geographical area, irrespective of the site orientation used.

The following map illustrates the locations of this communication. The area includes Swan Court (off Northcroft Lane), Mallard Court and West Mills Island, Blenheim Road to its junction with Craven Road.



The communication will contain the following details

- Times of music for the event
- Contact email address.
- Contact telephone number from Thurs 6th Sept through to Sunday 9th Sept. This is manned at all times. This telephone will be held by one of the senior members of the organising team at all times throughout the event, where the phone can be heard.

2 g) Action to be taken by the Event Organiser following complaints.

1. A complaints and feedback telephone line is manned at all times, from Thursday 9th Sept to Sunday 12th Sept.
2. All feedback and complaints will be discussed in a courteous manner
3. All complaints will be taken seriously and formally recorded, as to the nature of complaint and location and time (name and address or contact number will not be requested, unless provided)
4. A cross reference will be made of the location against the last previous check
5. If considered appropriate one of the organising team will visit the area of complaint
6. If the complaint is considered to be valid, the appropriate the site manager and the head of the sound team will personally visit the area complaint and make a decision as to the adjustment necessary
7. An instruction will then be sent to the sound stage to adjust the sound level and the attendees will only return to site once rectification has been made.
8. In the event of a complaint being considered unfounded, then the will attempt to make contact with the complainant and provide appropriate reasons. This will be added to the complaint log.

4. Contact Details for the Premises Licence Holder or a nominated representative during the course of an event.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Vincent Butler – Site Manager | telephone: | +44 (0)7884 181 336 |
| | e-mail: | vbutler2007@hotmail.com |
| Sara Dutfield – DPS | telephone: | +44 (0)7786 260897 |
| | e-mail: | sara.dutfield@gmail.com |

5. Noise levels from music and assessment methods shall be agreed in writing with the Licensing Authority no later than 14 days in advance of the event.

Defined as: 'sound systems shall be operated so residents nearby can use and enjoy their properties without being disturbed by excessive noise'.

“Disturbance” by music can be subjective, according to preference for music style. Therefore, the criteria for assessment has previously been agreed with West Berkshire Council Environmental Health, as follows:

- Sound volume
- Clarity of sound
- Clarity of lyrical tune
- Bass / beat

The genre of music is not considered to be applicable in the assessment, unless the sound is distorted or the playing of such music causes offence.

- Swearing is not permitted or tolerated at any time. Any act will receive a single, final warning in the event of inappropriate language being used and if that warning is not respected, the act will be immediately terminated by the sound crew.

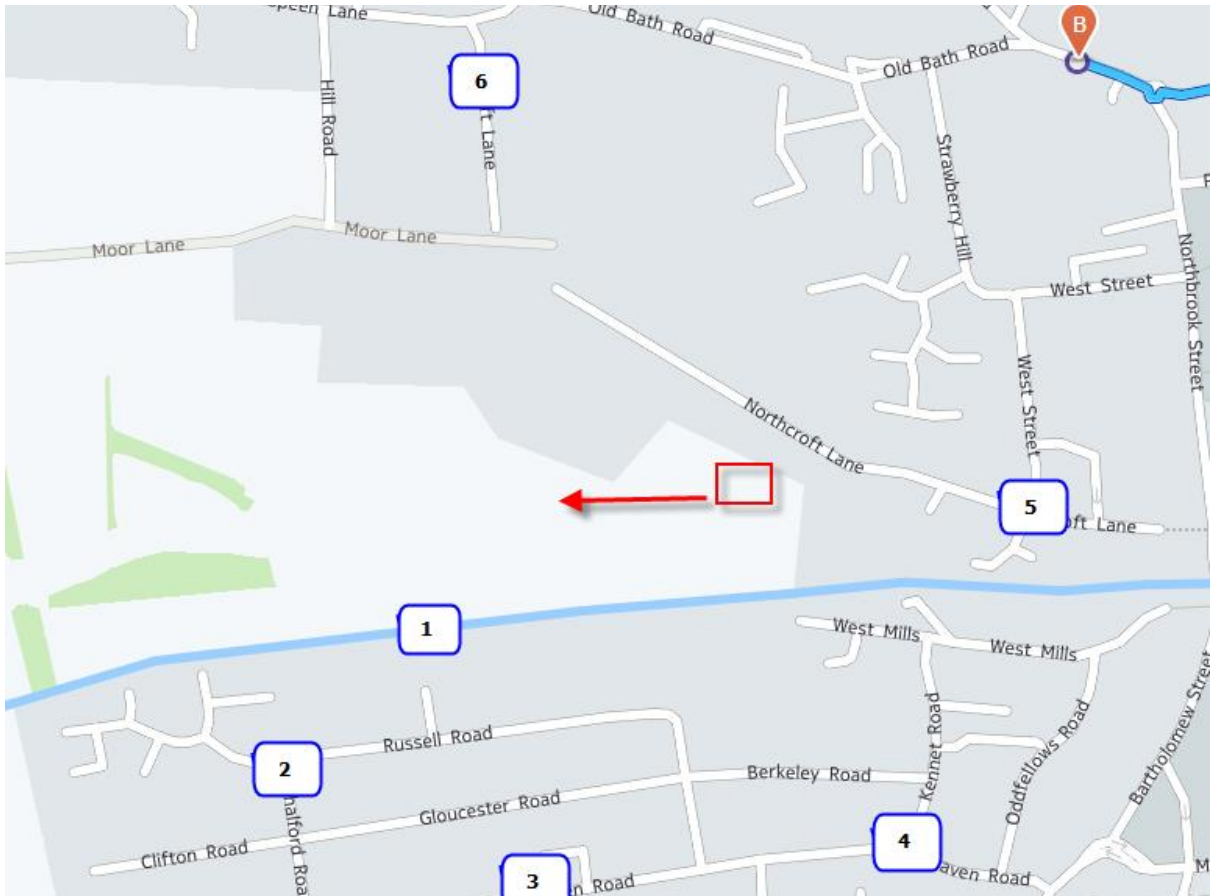
The check list on the final page of this document will be used to record the assessment of the sound at each location, according to the required frequency of check.

The DPS and Site Manager shall appoint a responsible person to assess and record details of assessments made, to ensure compliance. Each check will be signed and retained for review during and after the event.

6. Noise levels from music shall be assessed at locations to be agreed in writing with the Licensing Authority no later than 14 days in advance of the event.

The noise assessment locations will be tailored to the orientation selected during set up.

Noise / Assessment Locations - Layout / Orientation 1: (Dry weather only)



Assessment Points

- 1: Monkey Bridge
- 2: Russell Road / Lipscombe Close
- 3: Craven Road / Green Lane
- 4: Intersection of West Street / Northcroft Lane
- 5: Intersection of Craven Road / Kennet Road
- 6: Croft Lane

Action to be taken by the Event Organiser to monitor environmental sound disturbance.

1. The monitoring of sound levels will commence from the commencement of sound checks at approximately 9.30am on the day of the event. During that time, the sound crew will check a range of sound types and also each piece of noise-producing equipment, including drums. Some of these tests are deliberately designed to check for ricochet effects from the surrounding buildings, as outlined in Section 2c. The noise assessor will guide the sound crew in order to ensure that these checks do not last for an unnecessary duration and are proportionate to the time of day.
2. During the event a periodic audit will be performed by the designated noise assessor within 30 mins of the specified check times, at the specified locations according to the plan
3. The assessor will listen to the emitted sound in the vicinity of the area and also check with local residents as to their interpretation of the sound levels
4. The assessor will also record the noise levels, using the portable acoustic monitoring device.
5. Based on the assessment, a decision will be taken whether to adjust the sound levels at that time.
6. Should there be any discrepancy in the interpretation of the sound levels or environmental feedback, the DPS or his/here delegate will make the final decision. The protocol will be to reduce the sound levels.
7. A recheck will be performed in order to ensure that this actions have been successful in mitigating the environmental disturbance.

In the unlikely event that the DPS considers is necessary to suspend the event or stop the music from either the sound stage or the acoustic music marquee, the execution of this action will be supported by the security team and logged accordingly.

5. Newbury Real Ale Festival Noise Check list

Date: 14th Sept 2019

| | <i>Location 1</i> | <i>Location 2</i> | <i>Location 3</i> | <i>Location 4</i> | <i>Location 5</i> | <i>Location 6</i> |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Street Name Name of Reviewer Assessment</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>11:00 Sound check</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Prior to event / 1st act</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Act 3</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>16:30pm / New Act</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>18:00 / New Act</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>20:00 / New Act</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>21:00</i> | | | | | | |

**Assessment Key: OK – acceptable
Taken**

? – Questioned

X – Action Requested

V – Action

2. 14th September 2021

Sara Duffield

**Public Protection Partnership
Environmental Health and Licensing**
West Berkshire District Council
Council Offices
Market Street Newbury
Berkshire RG14 5LD

Our Ref: 21/02257/EP_A2

Your Ref: *

Please ask for: Russell Davidson

Direct Line: 01635 503242

Fax: 01635 519172

e-mail:

Russell.Davidson@westberks.gov.uk

Dear Sara,

**Re: Noise From Newbury Real Ale Festival
Land Between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club, Northcroft
Lane, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 1RS**

I write to express my concern with the recent running of the above event.

As you are aware a site meeting was held with your sound technicians (Richard Milner – who advised that all the noise management was contracted to another Company – of whom James Hollamby was responsible for) on the day before the event to run through the monitoring and noise level requirements. A noise level of 65 dB LAeq 15mins at the flats towards the rear of the site was agreed. The sound technicians would also undertake their own monitoring and this would be logged. We exchanged telephone numbers so any problems that occurred during the event could be quickly rectified. These are all requirements in your Premise Licence.

On the day of the event I met with James at around 6pm and had a look through the log which looked fine. I then proceeded to undertake monitoring in the agreed position. The band 'Hells Bells' were playing. After 10 minutes I stopped recording as the level was 71 dB A. I then contacted James in order to get the levels reduced. Although a reduction in noise levels was eventually achieved the compliance level of 65dB A was never reached.

Following this I entered the site again at around 7.30pm and went to speak with James and the rest of the sound technicians. I expressed my concerns and frustrations sternly to them and again told them the noise limit that must be achieved. They apologised and agreed with my request.

A gap of around one and half hours then occurred before the final band started just after 9pm. I did contact James to find out what was happening but did not receive a reply. Various instruments were tested during this time, although short in duration it was extremely loud.

The final band 'Reef' started playing just after 9pm. Monitoring showed a level of 77dB LAeq after 10 minutes. This level was totally unacceptable especially after having spoken to the technicians beforehand. I contacted James to advise this and

no reply was received. I then decided to go to the site to speak with yourself as the general manager/DPS. I spoke with security at the entrance advising that I needed to speak with yourself regarding the excessive noise levels. They advised that they would get in contact with you via the radio. I received a message back from them explaining that you were busy and that I was not allowed onto the site.

I then returned to the monitoring position and recorded the noise levels until the event finished just after 10pm. Recordings show the noise levels were between 70 to 76 dBA.

5 noise complaints have been received following the event, one of which was over 2km away from the site. Could you advise whether any complaints were received to the event directly and what action was taken? Please could you also submit the written logs of the noise checks undertaken by your sound technicians.

Your Premise Licence contains conditions which must be complied with and the Council are now investigating all the various enforcement options.

I would appreciate any comments you may have regarding the above points.

Yours faithfully

Russell Davidson

Russell Davidson
Senior Scientific
Officer

PUBLIC PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP

A SHARED SERVICE PROVIDED BY BRACKNELL FOREST COUNCIL, WEST BERKSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL AND WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

3. 17th September 2021

Russell Davidson Senior Scientific Officer

Public Protection Partnership Environmental Health and Licensing West Berkshire District Council Council Offices

Market Street Newbury RG14 5LD

RE: NEWBURY REAL ALE FESTIVAL 2021

Newbury Real Ale Festival Northcroft Lane

Newbury Berkshire RG14 1RS

Dear Russell

I write in response to your letter dated 14th September 2021 and in respect of the recently held Newbury Real Ale Festival and specifically dealing with noise matters. The event organisers take the details extremely seriously and apologise unreservedly for any inconvenience that may have been experienced by the residents of the local community.

As you are aware for the 2021 event, the organisers contracted the sound and stage arrangements to UK Stage Events and James Hollamby was responsible for sound monitoring on the day itself. You met with James on the Friday (as you note) and the means and location of monitoring, as well as the noise levels were agreed. UK Stage Events had suitable qualified people on site to undertake that monitoring and this was undertaken through the event. I have attached the noise monitoring logs undertaken, including actions taken.

It has been independently confirmed to me that reductions to sound levels were made on several occasions as a result of your feedback, including during Hells Bells. The sound was reduced over the course of a song to ensure there wasn't a sudden significant adverse change to the sound quality.

The gap between the final two bands was a result of a power issue on site, which took a significant time to overcome. It is acknowledged that 'Reef' therefore started at 9pm. This did unfortunately mean that some people had left the event and the amount of people in the crows was less than expected. It also meant that Reef's set was truncated extensively to comply with the 10pm curfew of the festival, as specified by the license. Both Vince Butler (one of my fellow organisers) and I separately monitored the progress of set and were in radio contact with each other and the sound crew to make sure this happened. Both of our watches indicated that all music stopped completely at 21:57.

It is fully accepted that during Reef's set up some bursts of loud noise were emitted for a very short time, this was done whilst the gain on each of the channels was reset and stopped as quickly as possible. During the performance, the sound crew made every reasonable effort to keep within the agreed boundaries. These actions were witnessed by Vince who can testify to the actions performed by James and the team and can be shown on the monitoring logs. They even tried to bring the sound further below agreed levels to compensate for the reduction of spectator body mass and cloud cover which would normally absorb environmental noise. The delay to the final act also caused an extended period of silence and this may have given reasonable expectations to those not at the event that all noise had ceased.

During Reef's set up and performance The UK StageEvents crew were battling against unforeseen serious technical issues and they adjusted the main sound system as far down as it possibly could go without causing the sound system to collapse. You will see from the logs that this was a continuous process throughout their set and resulted in the agreed levels being reached prior to their set ending.

I was not made aware at any point that you had tried to come onto the site whilst Reef were playing, nor that you had asked to speak to me. I can confirm that at no point were the security team instructed that you should be refused entry. To the contrary, I had instructed them when I saw you earlier in the day that, as a statutory body representative, you must be allowed entry at any point. The message you received about me being "busy" was not one that came from me

or any of my team and I will be contacting them accordingly to ask for an explanation. Furthermore, in the Noise Management Plan submitted to WBC, the personal phone numbers of myself, Vince Butler and Richard Milner, were all specified in order to provide a mechanism of direct contact at any time.

I do understand that you had sent a text message to an employee of the Council who was on site as a customer and that she replied to you at around 21:40 asking if you wanted one of the organiser team to come and tell security to let you in, which you declined. I saw her shortly afterwards and she told me you had tried to enter earlier to speak to me but that you had subsequently left. This was the first time I was aware of any noise problems.

In terms of complaints we received no calls or text messages to the hotline phone held on site and have had nothing since via that means.

We did receive a single email from a resident in Greenham which arrived after the music had finished. The email complaint related to the noise levels and also the use of fireworks in the local Greenham area by another event. I replied to the individual on Sunday morning apologising for any disturbance, explaining the final band has started slightly late due to technical difficulties but that we had turned all music off by 10pm and clarifying that we did not have any fireworks. I thanked her for her email and the feedback and said we would be speaking to the Council's EHO team and looking to make improvements for next year.

Whilst it is undisputed that the Council has received noise complaints we would like it noted that there were other noise sources in the local vicinity on Saturday evening. Once the crowds had left the team were clearing up and rock music could be heard from the market place. The email we received from the resident in Greenham also confirms that there were other sources of noise and fireworks continuing beyond the time we had closed.

My fellow organisers and I volunteer to organise the Newbury Real Ale Festival for the benefit of the local community and were delighted that we were able to resurrect the event and make 4500 people smile throughout the day. We are acutely aware of the requirements of our licence and have sought to bring in competent and suitable qualified experts to ensure that we meet those requirements.

The resumption of music after a prolong period may have caused inconvenience in its own right and, in hindsight, a lower level could have been set by our team for the short period beyond our originally planned completion time.

At no point did the organising team or any of its staff deliberately seek cause any nuisance as a result of the event and the noise levels were, at all times, adjusted to meet the agreed levels.

We are disappointed and upset that the expectations of WBC have not been met on this occasion and are already looking at ways in which improvements can be made in 2022.

We would like to work with you and your team to ensure this does not happen in the future and would request a meeting to discuss further the measures we can put in place to do that.

Yours sincerely,

Sara Dutfield

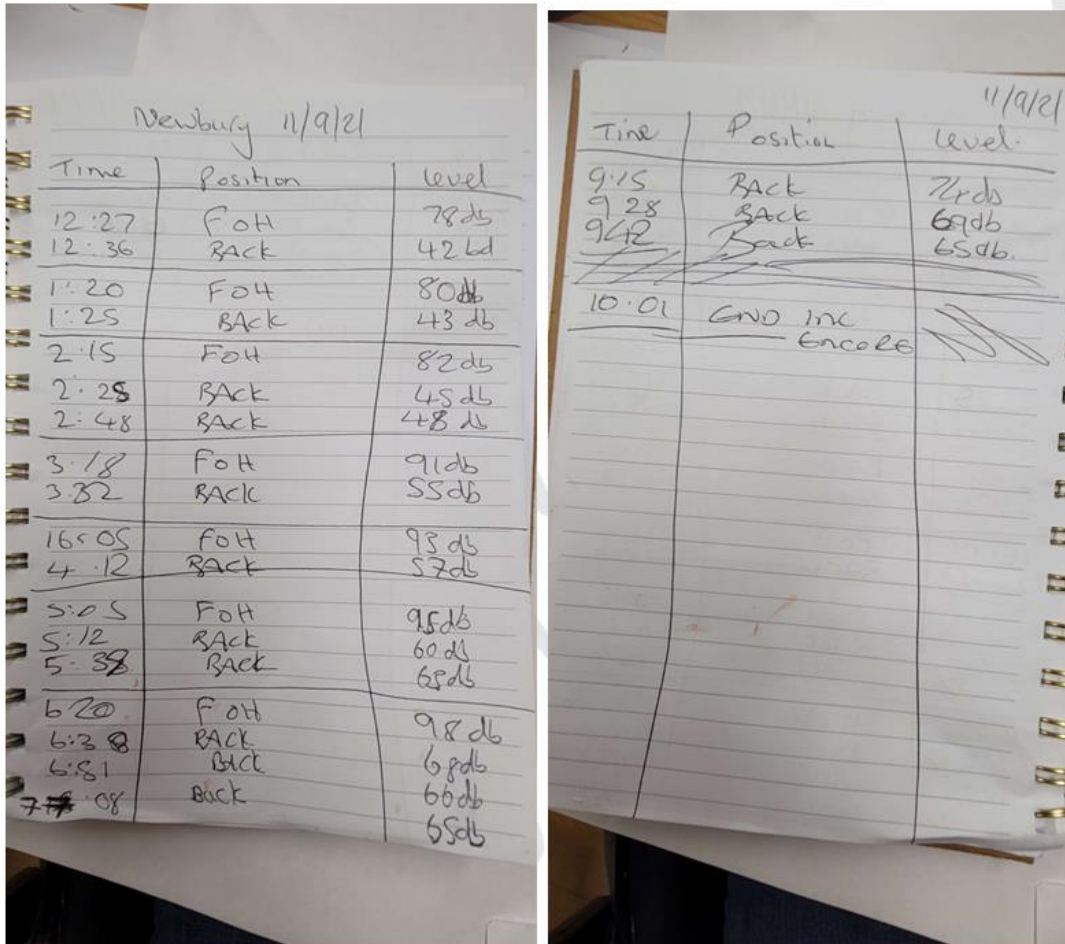
On behalf of Newbury Real Ale Festival

Noise Level Record: - Newbury Real Ale Festival – 11/09/2021

| Time: | Position in field: | Level: | Actions: |
|---|--------------------|--------|---|
| 12:27 | Front Of House | 78db | None Required |
| 12:36 | Back of Field | 42db | None Required |
| 1:20pm | Front Of House | 80db | None Required |
| 1:25pm | Back of Field | 43db | None Required |
| 2:15pm | Front Of House | 82db | None Required |
| 2:25pm | Back of Field | 45db | None Required |
| 2:48pm | Back of Field | 48db | None Required |
| 3:18pm | Front Of House | 91db | None Required |
| 3:32pm | Back of Field | 55db | None Required |
| 4:05pm | Front Of House | 93db | None Required |
| 4:12pm | Back of Field | 57db | None Required |
| 5:05pm | Front Of House | 95db | None Required |
| 5:12pm | Back of Field | 60db | None Required |
| 5:38pm | Back of Field | 63db | None Required |
| 6:20pm | Front Of House | 98db | None Required |
| 6:38pm | Back of Field | 68db | Sound Levels reduced by FOH Engineer |
| Levels to be re-checked during performance. | | | |
| 6:51pm | Back of Field | 66db | New sound level reported to FOH Engineer for a further reduction. |
| 7:08pm | Back of Field | 65db | None Required |
| 9:15pm | Back of Field | 74db | Sound Levels reported to "Reef Guest Engineer" and asked to reduce levels and further tests to be carried out. |
| 9:28pm | Back of Field | 69db | Stage guitar/bass amps and "on stage levels" requested to be lowered to allow further reduction of FOH Sound system |
| 9:42pm | Back of Field | 65db | None Required. |
| 10:01pm | ----- | ----- | ----- END OF ENCORE & SHOW ----- |

Operative Name: Chloe Johnson . Position: Volunteer . Sound Level Meter: AZ
 Instrument AZ8922 S/N 3125507 .

Images From Notes on the Day:



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