

2 Oak Drive
Burghfield Common
Reading
RG7 3JF



29th August 2016

Environmental Health
(Licensing)
West Berks District Council
Market Street
Newbury
RG14 5LD

Dear Sirs

RE: License Application 16/01174/LQN

I am writing regarding the above Application for the following reasons:

Residents of Burghfield Common and in particular those living in the vicinity of the Recreation Ground, have been totally misled by the original information given out by the organisers, saying it was a one-off event to raise money for the Air Ambulance. Of course this is a very worthy cause but we have not been given any information to verify this and could just be a way of trying to gain support for a drinking festival. The organisers are now trying to extend this to three or more times per year. Why would any village need to have an event like this three times a year?

The event in question and others to follow are to be held on Burghfield Common Recreation Ground. This amenity is surrounded by houses and central to a quite and rural residential area. The Recreation Ground has children's play areas and is used throughout the week-ends by families and dog walkers.

It will not be a safe area for children and young people throughout the week-ends in question as there will be people drinking from 11.00 am to 11.pm and it is possible that people will bring their own alcohol and continue to drink late into the night after the "official" bar has closed. As this is a two-day event, it is also likely that people will try to camp-out at the venue. This could cause further problems with litter, noise, drunken behaviour, vandalism and people using resident's gardens and driveways as toilets, which is totally unacceptable.

Who is going to police this event ? Will the organisers have any kind of Public Liability Insurance to cover for any damage which may be caused to resident's properties ?

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The type of event being planned is totally unsuitable for a village park. If the suggested 500+ people arrive, there is insufficient parking anywhere in the area and residents will either be blocked in to their driveways or not able to park outside their own home.

In summary, I do not believe that the "Burgfest" (whatever that may be?) should be run on the village Recreation Ground on the grounds of security, safety, access, parking issues, disturbance. Although supporting a charity is a good thing, this is not the place to do it and the risks of running it at this site are just too great.

The organisers are misleading the local residents with flyers which set expectations which differ from what they are actually intending. Their own website states that the reason for applying for this type of licence is so that more 499 people can attend.

On these grounds, I strongly object to this Licence being granted.

Yours faithfully

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.