

Milestones
Firs End
Burghfield Common
Reading
Berkshire
RG7 3EP


01 September 2016

Dear Sirs

Licence Application number: 16/01174/LQN
Supply of alcohol, live and recorded music at 'Burghfest'

I am writing to object to the licence application for 'Burghfest' which is scheduled to take place on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th September on the Common Recreation Ground, Burghfield Common.

I live just 50 yards from the recreation ground and am concerned over a number of issues. Although this event is being arranged for a very worthy charitable cause, the decision to put on the event was made by a very small group of people without any consultation with those living close to the park.

The fact that the organisers are hoping to attract in excess of 500 people (although 700 has been mentioned by the organisers) in what is effectively a village, is in my opinion unacceptable.

I have already witnessed excessive noise, swearing, public urination and street parking issues from the football that takes place there for 10 months of the year. There has also recently been a noticeable increase in anti-social behaviour from youths, to the point locals are scared to walk across the recreation ground. The Parish Council and police are now involved in those issues.

As locals, we have been told by the organisers that people will walk to the event or come by bus and there won't be any parking issues. However I see that Burghfest has been advertised as far afield as Surry, and I suggest people coming from this sort of distance will indeed use cars. I therefore have concerns about the immediate residential streets being full of cars and not being able to get access to my driveway. What is being done to keep the streets clear from cars?

I am concerned that a licence to consume alcohol over many hours during these 2 days will fuel anti-social behaviour and that males will not use the temporary toilet facilities, but will instead urinate against peoples walls and hedges, particularly as they leave the event. How will this be controlled by the organisers of Burghfest outside of the recreation ground?

There is to be live music and I presume tannoy's, and although I appreciate there are no recommended noise levels for live events, when you live as close as we do, then I am expecting to have all doors and windows closed in the entirety and not to be able to sit or work in the garden during the day. This is a will therefore affect the enjoyment of my own home for 2 days.

Finally I was asked by one of the organisers, who contacted me following my enquiry to the Parish Council, not to write an objection letter to the Licencing section of West Berkshire District Council. I find that suggestion unacceptable as it is my right to object if I so consider there to be issues that need resolving.

Kind regards



Louise Willson