

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

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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)

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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

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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.**

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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 4<sup>th</sup> 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**

<b>Resolutions</b>	<b>Licence</b>	<b>Applicant(S)</b>	<b>Premises</b>
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: <b>21/00812/LQN</b>	<b>Applicant:</b> Andrew Wyper	<b>Location:</b> Newbury Real Ale Festival – Land between Northcroft Leisure Centre & Newbury Cricket Club, Northcroft Lane  <b>Proposal:</b> 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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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