

Representations from other persons

1.

As a local resident living in very close proximity of the festival site (my house is within 50 metres of site) I would like to note my support of the proposed application. This is a local FAMILY focused event in Brockworth very well supported and attended by the local community of which some of its proceeds are donated to local groups and clubs and also raises money for national charities. In previous events there have been no issues directly related to the event so therefore as a resident living in close proximity of the event I give it full support if adequate security is in place as it has been in the previous years.

2.

As somebody who lives directly opposite the event and one of the people most likely to be impacted. I am in full support I find that this event is a fantastic event for me and my 6 year old daughter, we generally go every year as a family and enjoy a fantastically organised event. The days that we don't go we don't find the noise to distracting and can still enjoy sitting in the garden. As a long member of the local community and a coach in the Brockworth mini rugby section I have found this event has become a big event in the Brockworth community and is fantastic for Brockworth and has actually employed people from the community to work the event and help organise it. In summary this is a well organised and great event for Brockworth and long may it continue.

3.

This is a family friendly local community event which has been successfully and professionally managed for several years now. It is great fun for all and worth a visit.

4.

I fully support this event, which is now an important date for our community. I live local and think this is a well-run festival and is great for locals, families, and all who attend. Long may it continue!

5.

I have been attending this event since its conception along with my partner and children, this local event is well attended by young and old from around the county. it is a valuable addition to the events that are already held in Brockworth / Tewksbury, and long may it continue.

6.

Amazing local event that is very well run and causes no problems. Things like this should be encouraged

7.

This event is a fantastic community event! It's aimed at all ages, from young to the old. It's a great day for the whole family. It's an event that all look forward to every year! As a villager the atmosphere during the build-up and on the actual event around the community is amazing!

8.

Completely support this event on the grounds that:-_ It is a fantastic well run event that has become a welcome addition to the social calendar for people of Gloucestershire and beyond. Many people benefit from a fantastic day or weekend out over the bank holiday. The event has a positive impact on the local economy including shops, restaurants/bars, taxis public services and a large number of local companies and trades involved inside the event itself, including catering, security, support services and leisure. Arrests and anti-social problems related to the event over its duration have been negligible especially considering the volume of people that attend. This is an event to be celebrated, enjoyed and supported not quashed!!

9.

I am in support of the application for the Witcombe Cider Festival. It is a great weekend for families and the community to get together.

10.

Having attending the last 2 years I have enjoyed them. It is well organised and brings money into the local community.

11.

This is the only yearly event we have in the ward, that is good for the parish, plus bring business to the local area and we have had no problem over the last few times the event has been on, so I believe this license should be granted

12.

As a local resident of Brockworth and have been for many years I am in full support for this event as I like many others see it as a positive thing for our village. I believe that it has many positive aspects which local people benefit from such as: local jobs are created, its good PR for our village, brings in extra trade to other local businesses and also creates a real feel good factor for all that attend and the local community in general. The event is ran very professionally and is well organised. having spoken to local residents who live close to the venue most are happy with measures that are put in place to minimise risk of damage to their properties or anti-social behaviour in the area. the event is also family friendly which for me is another positive characteristic and I do take my children and feel that it is a very safe place for them to be. The festival also finishes at a reasonable time which is a good compromise for local residents. I also believe that the organisers are very approachable and have offered local residents opportunities for consultation and discussion so that their views are taken into account. It would be a massive shame if this local event was not supported and helped to grow into a regular fixture for this community.

13.

I wholly support this local event and have been to it since it started as I live within half a mile of the location. Members of my family attend this event and our ages range from 56 down to mid-20s. It's a truly local event for local people and should be encouraged and I know local projects profit from the event.

14.

I am writing to oppose any extension to the licence permitted for the Witcombe cider festival. In the flier sent round, the claim is made that it has become "increasingly popular with the local community", I write as one who does not share this view. Abbotswood Road is a quiet residential area on the other side of the A46 from the fields where the festival is held. Our road is very different in character to these open fields and in contrast to the houses alongside the festival on the A46, few attempts have been made to keep us 'in the loop' about changes to the festival. In recent years we at the top of Abbotswood Road have been assailed by the extremely loud music and fairground noise from the festival, barely any distance from our house. It has been impossible to sit in the house, let alone the garden, during the festival due to the levels of noise travelling both through the air and the ground. We have been unable to entertain family or friends at our home during the Bank Holiday, even watching the television has been impossible. If the weather is hot, keeping the windows closed is very unpleasant. When the music finishes, there is a further noisy period when people are leaving the site. Any proposals for camping in the adjacent fields would no doubt involve some noise of festival-goers continuing their entertainment into the night. I notice that the application requests extending the camping specifically for people coming from outside the area, confusingly, it also claims that the increase in permitted numbers is to allow more local people to attend! The prospect of the festival being extended to 3, let alone 4, days is extremely worrying. I would ask licensees to consider the needs of residents over the commercial considerations of those running the festival.

15.

Witcombe is a small village. It will be overwhelmed with 3,000 people. The cider festival is very popular, extending it to 4 days I feel will attract trouble, especially through the consumption of alcohol.

16.

I am objecting to the extension of the license application submitted by Joseph Pointon as the revellers cut through the Abbotswood estate at the end of the days and are very loud, very drunk and arguments ensue, disturbing sleep of the residents. With the new application it would be 4 nights instead of the 2 now allowed and also the festival not closing till 00.00hrs would cause considerable disruption and noise. Also the numbers attending would be doubled from 1500 to 3,000 and plans to allow camping in the adjoining fields would also cause a noise problem. I hope you will take my objection into consideration.

17.

As residents of Abbotswood Road living just across the road from the Festival we strongly object to the extension from 2 days to 4 days for the following reasons:- Noise ! We can tolerate it for 2 nights but not for 4. Also it does not end at the given time. Revellers continue long into the night/morning. If you allow camping who knows how long people will be making noise. There are babies and small children living nearby. Living in a cul de sac with a footpath running across the top we will get people walking, making noise and possibly throwing up, not pleasant. If it is hot we will not be able to enjoy sitting in our own gardens or having our windows open. Fairground rides were visible from our

house last year, invasion of privacy, this starts before the music. We would be afraid to leave our property for fear of burglary, damage to cars and property by persons the worse for drink. Glastonbury started small!!!! Drugs could be a problem as well. We are not killjoys we enjoy live music ourselves but in appropriate venues/conditions. Please consider this is a bank holiday weekend and we should be able to have visitors/family without worrying what may happen. 2 DAYS IS AMPLE. It's all about money!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Find a more remote venue...Cheltenham Racecourse. And it's not in Witcombe it's in Brockworth.

18.

We have a number of objections to this festival. Firstly the noise level as our property is directly opposite the entrance to the site and we have a constant banging and vibration throughout the house. Secondly we were appalled last year to return home from work on a Friday evening and find a fair ground ride towering above our garden meaning we had absolutely no privacy for the duration of the festival. Thirdly the noise and disruption we had as people were leaving the festival in the early hours of the morning is totally unacceptable to a professional working family who expect to have peace and quiet at a week end. Extending the length of this festival only makes matters much worse. We have objected in the past but our objections have been ignored. Any extension of this event in any capacity is totally unwelcomed. An alternative venue should be sought away from residential properties. We can only reiterate how strongly we object to this application.

19.

I have submitted a written letter and supporting email attachments and these have been hand delivered to Tewkesbury Borough Council Offices. My husband and I are strongly disputing / objecting to the application for the new licence for the Witcombe Cider Festival 2018. To extend the licence across four days and for longer time frames is totally inconsiderate to home owners around the site and to the local community. Additionally, the extension of camping will encourage sustained partying throughout the night further impacting on all. I very much look forward to being invited to any consultation regarding this application and keenly encourage Tewkesbury Borough Council to open this debate to local residents, allowing people to share their concerns.

20.

The parish council received 7 complaints from residents about the increase in numbers and days. The residents and the Parish Council accepted the festival in the form that it is at present but is strongly opposed to the increase of days and numbers.

21.

To whom it may concern.

This application to expand the parameters of the previous year's scope obviously do not live on the Abbotswood estate. Situated on the opposite side of the Painswick road to the said event we suffered the full brunt of the noise pollution produced in past years with window shaking volume. This is not the place for such events and extending the licence is going to make living in such close proximity even more unbearable. Having resided at Lasne crescent for thirty odd years I object vehemently to this site even for 2 days per year spoiling my peace! (Glastonbury we are not)

22.

Re Application number 17/00437/LIQPRM

As an interested neighbouring party, we wish to object to the application. The focus of my objection to the licensing application is the prevention of public nuisance. The Licensing sub-committee will be aware that this is no longer a "Cider Festival" where background music entertainment is provided by local artists, but more of a full "Music Festival and Funfare", with licenced bar. The focus of my objection to the licensing application is the prevention of public nuisance. In particular the considerable disturbance being caused by the noise and lights from the equipment used at the event taking place late at night.

We live at

the road from the site of the proposed festival. We had not been notified of any previous applications or grants of licences in spite of our locality. We can only speak from experience of the festival held in 2016. Fairground equipment was erected close to the road, within 100 metres of the rear of our property. This equipment ran throughout the day, stopping only after the festival had closed shortly after midnight (but not before). As the equipment was at height this was in direct sight line, with no noise or light damping/ shelter to our own and our neighbours back bedrooms. Aerial "white knuckle" rides were placed in direct line of sight of our property; these not only had constant sound (including the screaming of the riders) but had flashing lights and emitted a siren.

We believe it is standard that the event manager's mobile phone number to be available to neighbouring residents to contact if there is a problem during events, no such consideration was given in 2016, noise levels continued unabated at unbearable levels until past midnight, together with the flashing lights. Enjoyment of our garden during the day, and ability to use our master bedroom until the fairground equipment was closed off was impossible.

The site of the festival slopes away from the road, and thus there was only background disturbance from the music (there may have been more but it was inaudible over the levels of fairground sound – particularly the sirens which sounded frequently and accompanied the rides). It would have been quite possible for the organisers to locate the rides below the road horizon to eliminate the spread of the noise and disturbance from flashing lights, but no such consideration was made.

We believe that the crowds of people enjoying the festival were well managed and we felt there was no problems in our neighbourhood from the crowd dispersal at the end of the evening. In order that local residents can also enjoy a bank holiday weekend we ask that the licensing sub-committee of Tewkesbury Borough Council look to its precedents and place fair and standard conditions on the

grant of the licence. We also ask that it be made incumbent on the organisers to make all local residents aware of those restrictions, so they can report directly to both the organiser and Tewkesbury Borough Council as soon as a breach of those restrictions is made or perceived.

The conditions we believe are essential in the elimination or restriction of the nuisance incurred are:

- The licence be granted only for the Saturday and Sunday, until such a time that the local residents can agree that no undue public nuisance was incurred the previous year.
- No Fairground equipment is used within line of sight or sound (at any point of the ride trajectory) of any neighbouring properties at any time.
- Use of fairground equipment to be between 12.00 (midday) and 21.00 only each day
- Music Noise Levels (MNL) must be monitored at such intervals and from such locations as have been agreed in writing with an Environmental Health Officer from Tewkesbury Borough Council with a maximum Music Noise Level (MNL) of 65dB measured at one metre from the façade of local premises (at all window levels) to be achieved between the hours of 09:00 to 23:00.

- Music taking place outdoors on the licensed site and occurring between 23:00 hours and midnight, such sound sources must be virtually not audible or discernible. 'Virtually not audible or discernible' shall be interpreted as the noise being barely audible and discernible at the façade of any noise sensitive local dwelling and, as a consequence, would be inaudible within that dwelling.
- Camping be permitted, but not within 400m of the public road, with campers informed that there will be a ban on all open fires, loud music, fireworks etc.
- The organiser makes all local residents within 800m of the perimeter of the event aware of all restrictions imposed by the licensing sub-committee and provide a mobile telephone number (manned at all times of the festival and for 7 days thereafter) so they can report directly to both the organiser and Environmental Health Officer from Tewkesbury Borough Council as soon as a breach of those restrictions is made or perceived. All calls to be recorded and a report given to the Environmental Health Officer from Tewkesbury Borough Council of the number of calls received at the end of the event, together with the nature of the call (Noise disturbance, Dispersal of festival goers, litter, parking in local streets etc.,).

23.

Dear Sirs,

Licence Application Witcombe Cider Festival

I am writing regarding the application for a new licence for the Witcombe Cider Festival. I am against the festival being increased in size.

I am the owner of land adjacent to the site and the access to my land at the time of the festival is difficult. Previously my boundary hedge has been damaged and as a consequence, my cattle escaped. In the past a large number of those attending the festival have trespassed on to my land. The area is designated as being of outstanding natural beauty. The flora and fauna will be disturbed. I am responsible for protecting the land.

I consider that the venue for the festival is totally unsuitable. It is very close to homes. I am informed that the time for closure is midnight but with people camping, the noise will surely go on all night. Any screening would have little protection for the residents.

I firmly believe that the festival should not be increased in size when considering the location, the close proximity of homes, farmland and stock and road access.

24.

KE. WITOMBE CIDOR FESTIVAL

Dear Sir,

With regard to the above it is understood that Mr Joseph Pointon is attempting to extend the number of days from 2 to 4, ie Friday to Monday.

Living opposite the field we did not object to the two days that the festival ran previously, but 4 days is a step too far and wish to object to the granting of the extra two days. It is a Bank

holiday weekend that we would like to enjoy peacefully.
Yours faithfully.

25.

Re: Witcombe Cider Festival Licence Ref: Part Parcel 6568

Mr Pointon came to see us on the 13th January 2017 regarding his future plans for the Festival. He informed us that he was intending to increase the capacity for both Saturday and Sunday. Family and friends that would normally be working at the Festival over the weekend had expressed a desire to enjoy an evening just for themselves and Mr Pointon said he would like to open the Festival in its normal format on the Friday evening for them. We asked Mr Pointon on several occasions throughout the conversation if it was his intention to open the Friday evening to the public and the response was categorically no. Mr Oakley said he could not give a reaction to this as he had been dealing with the death of his mother.

We then had an email from Mr Cook which stated the proposed changes would be:

Increase the maximum capacity from 1,500 - 2,500

Extend the duration of the event to include Friday evening 5.00pm - midnight.

It is with great concern that having read the public notice currently displayed on a lamp post outside our house there is an application for a new licence with greater capacity and extra days plus camping.

Major concerns given that the Festival completely surrounds our property would be the potential exposure to:

- Increased public nuisance
 - Increased anti-social behaviour
 - Increase drunkenness
-
- The potential for crime and disorder at dispersal
 - Increase in noise levels which includes the funfair
 - Increase in traffic on the A46
 - Increased footfall to 3,000 Saturday/Sunday & 1500 on Friday (extra 4,500) Plus staff working at the festival. If the Bank Holiday Monday is also included that is a potential total of 10,500 plus staff over that weekend.

- If the Festival is to include the Friday from 5pm – midnight and in the future all day Bank Holiday Monday we will then be exposed to around another 17 hours of music and noise from patrons. Security Staff have very little authority when it comes to controlling crowd's especially drunken behaviour.

- **Camping** - in the Decision Notice from the Council meeting 21st May 2014 stated 'no camping is to be provided on the site itself or at any other place in relation to patrons, and/or any other persons either attending or being involved with the event'. This was put in place due to camping the previous year and we were kept awake by noise from the campsite during the night. In the application to introduce camping again it does not state how many camping pitches there intends to be or is it just a free for all? In the minutes from the Council meeting 21st May 2014 it stated that "removing the provision for camping had the potential to reduce the overall numbers attending the event", this clearly is not the case. The licence holder understood that "dispensing with the campsite meant that he could dedicate his full attention to the Festival site and to making sure everything ran smoothly, which was his priority". "Dispensing with the campsite was likely to reduce the number of vehicles entering and exiting the car park, especially drivers who were unfamiliar with the area, which would reduce road safety risks".

Will the same security firm, Simms Security Solutions be present at the Festival as this is not mentioned in the licence application?

In the accompanying letter together from Mr Cook, Licensing Consultant, it includes that if the application is granted;

The number of Registered Doorstaff/Security employed will be increased

The heras fencing between the Festival site and the neighbouring properties will be covered with fabric screening material to provide a much higher degree of privacy for neighbours

CCTV installed at the entrance to the festival

Temporary signs (notice of consideration) will be attached to the lamp-posts along the Painswick Road asking patrons to be considerate to residents and keep noise levels low. (This was done the first year and all that happened outside our property is that the signs were torn off thrown in our garden and patrons then proceeded to jump in and damage our hedge)

These extra measures should already be implemented by a responsible licence holder as a matter of course regardless of a new licence being granted.

The site was at near capacity in 2016 and we do not believe the site, road and surrounding area would be able to support the numbers and traffic proposed. We cannot see that there is room for this kind of expansion.

Over the last four years we have accepted and are tolerant of the Festival in its existing form given the measures that were implemented in the Decision Notices from previous Council meetings.

Enough is enough. Each year we are never sure what we will be confronted with. We cannot believe we are here going through this process once again when all the restrictions that have been placed on the licence holder were put in place to reduce the exposure to the licensing objectives and to help protect the neighbouring residents.

On a Bank Holiday Weekend we feel we cannot use and enjoy our garden or have the windows opened due to the impact that the noise has on our home and would certainly not be able to have our grandchildren to stay. Our bedrooms are illuminated from the floodlights until the early hours of the morning plus the noise from the generators. This has considerable impact on our lives and our wellbeing. At the end of the festival we are disturbed by the noise into the early hours from the funfair being dismantled. As well as the patrons right to enjoy a Bank Holiday Weekend is it not our right to enjoy the same in our own home?

The current festival of two days is long enough and proves the conditions as laid down by Tewkesbury Borough Council Licensing Board have worked so far. Therefore for the reasons stated in this letter we oppose the application.

26.

Re: Witcombe Cider Festival 2017

I write with concern regarding a new application submitted to Tewkesbury Borough Council for a 'change to the license' for the above festival.

I was horrified to see that the licence holder is applying to not only increase the numbers allowed to attend the festival, over what was originally a two day event, but to extend the festival to include the Friday preceding the weekend and potentially the following Bank Holiday Monday, making it a four day event.

From previous experience with the Festival my concerns are:

Noise Levels: With the growth of the Festival will come increased noise levels not only in volume but in magnitude.

Public Nuisance/Anti Social Behaviour: We already experience problems during dispersal late at night and unsocial behaviour throughout the period of the event.

Road Safety: The A46 is a busy road during Bank Holiday periods and also a main route for ambulance and fire services. Such an increase in numbers would generate excess traffic. Should only 1/3 of the festival goers drive cars, it would bring an additional 2500 vehicles on to this busy road. Taxi cabs blocking driveways and making three-point turns in the middle of the road cause considerable safety issues.

Health & Safety: The site cannot safely accommodate such high volumes descending into an area that has insufficient infrastructure.

Crime and Disorder: Damage to properties has occurred in the past and doubling the numbers will only increase this risk.

Child Welfare: Children are being subjected to late night drunken behaviour, excessive noise and alcohol.

Over the past 4 years the licence holder has failed to fulfil his commitment to keep residents informed of his plans. Claims that regular contact is made has not been upheld. I have received absolutely no communication from him regarding his latest plans - he has never once visited my home in four years.

Following the initial licensing appeal I believe it had been decided there would be no camping, the live music would be restricted to the two days, with a maximum of 1500 people per day. The licence holder is now requesting 1500 on the Friday and 3000 on Saturday and again 3000 on the Sunday. Also that camping will be reinstated.

I question why the licence holder has, via social media, promoted the Festival increasing to 2500 but has applied for an increase to 3000. Is it down to negotiating skills with Tewkesbury Borough Council?

It is a privilege to live in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and one should question why residentially we have tight restrictions, yet someone who owns what is classed as agricultural grazing land can introduce thousands of people onto this land turning it into Area of Outstanding Destruction

Marketing what has turned into a Music/Rock Festival, disguised as promoting local ciders is a complete farce. This is a serious invasion of the countryside for the purpose of making vast financial gains.

I therefore strongly oppose any amendments to the existing license or application for a new license.

27.

RE: Licensing Application 17/00437/LIQPRM

I write to register my total objection to the above application in respect of "The Witcombe Cider Festival.

I and other residents living on the Painswick Rd and in close proximity to the Part Parcel Land 6568 in question have, over the last 3 years since the original approval to hold the festival was granted have had to suffer from the following problems and interruptions to our way of life.

I detail as follows the basis of my objections.

1. Constant and excessive noise levels from the music from 10.00am to 11.00pm and for the existing 3 days duration of the festival. **WILL THIS BE EXTENDED TO MIDNIGHT IF THE NEW APPLICATION IS APPROVED?**
2. Constant and excessive screaming noise levels from those patrons using the Fairground equipment, again from approximately 10am to 11.00pm over the 3 days. **WILL THIS BE EXTENDED TO MIDNIGHT IF THE NEW APPLICATION IS APPROVED?**
3. With the existing drinks license being granted until 11.00pm, with "Drinking up" time added this increases to 11.30pm/midnight. **THIS WILL NO DOUBT EXTEND TO 12.30am/1am OF THE FOLLOWING DAY.**
4. The A46 main road is a busy road with cars travelling in both directions for most of the day and going into the night. This applies to Emergency Services vehicles, especially ambulances that I believe service the Painswick and Stroud area's The road is also heavily used by HGV and local farmers with their agriculture vehicles. **THE NEW APPLICATION INCLUDES A BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY WHICH INEVITABLY WILL INCREASE TRAFFIC LEVELS IN BOTH DIRECTIONS (To avoid using the already busy M5) WITH BOTH HGV's and HOLIDAY MAKERS RETURNING HOME.**
5. I also note that Mr Pointon is seeking to have a camping site facility for those wishing to stay for the duration of the festival. Surely this will lead to even longer night time periods of noise i.e. Music etc.
6. At an "After Event" meeting 2 years ago, Mr Pointon stated that if he chose to extend the festival, he would seek an alternative location to the existing one, and that he would keep local residents duly informed. I can categorially state I have had no contact with any person connected to the festival to inform or seek my opinion in respect of these latest proposals.

7. It is my opinion and that of other concerned residents that the existing site cannot cope with more people and traffic. (1500 people on the Friday, 3000 people on the Saturday and 3000 people on the Sunday.
7. It is my opinion and that of other concerned residents that the existing site cannot cope with more people and traffic. (1500 people on the Friday, 3000 people on the Saturday and 3000 people on the Sunday.
8. I have lived in Brockworth for well over 30 years and am proud of our village The Parish and Borough Council have been unstinting in their endeavours to upgrade the whole area. We have Gloucester Business Park, one of the smartest in the county, bringing in new businesses, creating employment for local people, bringing in new residents and thus encouraging developers to create new housing. (Coopers Edge and the recently announced building of 1500 houses are such an example)
9. We have had to witness patrons going back home late at night using our driveways as toilets, in my case up to 6 people at a time. Quite apart from the noise for most of the day we are on tender hooks at night and feel unduly stressed.
10. Brockworth sits in an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and we the residents are proud of this fact. This application and at the existing location is wrong.
11. Finally, we who are not interested in attending the festival feel that as this is a Bank Holiday weekend for all, we have the right to enjoy it in whatever way we see fit. This application will deny us this right.

Please consider our concerns when deliberating this application.

28.

To Whom It May Concern

Brockworth residents were not informed about the Cider Festival when it first started as most of us would have said no right at the start, so you can imagine that we do not want any more disruption and noise than we already have to put up with.

I have written before to you to state that fields a road away from a large residential area , made up of many young families , is not the right site for a music festival.

It clogs up the area with traffic and the noise level is intolerable. Extending the days and the time it finishes is unacceptable.

If you lived here would you want it on your door step?

Many people have to work over the bank holiday so losing sleep for two nights is bad enough so please don't increase it to four.

I have no problem with people having fun, but not on a site next to so many residents. Suggest to Mr Pointon that he move his Cider Festival to Cheltenham Race Course and leave us in peace.

29.

My husband and I are writing to strongly dispute the application for the new licence for the Witcombe Cider Festival 2018.

The two day Cider Festival has negatively impacted greatly on our bank holiday weekend, and that of our neighbours in the local community.

Prior to the first Festival a representative from Tewkesbury Borough Council visited and assured us that it would be closely monitored, that noise levels would be controlled and that there would be a 11pm cut off to ensure the local community wasn't affected too badly.

The last two years has been intolerable. The continual 12.00 – 11.00pm blaring, thumping music is totally draining. Added to the music is the screaming from the fair ground, crowd roaring encouraged by the DJ's and performers, the loud alcohol induced bad language and the smell and smoke from fast food sellers, all impacting hugely on our own wellbeing.

The opportunity to enjoy the bank holiday weekend is rendered impossible. Even with our windows firmly closed it is challenging to listen to our own chosen music or TV and it has stopped us carrying out our own family gatherings which we have always done in the past. Sitting in the house or out in the garden is totally out of the question.

We have been ignored by the local council and environmental health have been unhelpful. Brockworth Parish Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council have failed to respond to my emails and all local Councillors received a letter from local residents with me as the first point of contact. I received not one reply (*attached are emails and letters sent*).

As Residents, in September 2015 we were delighted to be told that there would be an open meeting where we could share our concerns. This quickly changed to be a closed meeting with the land owner/organiser and chosen attendees and I was informed by the Brockworth PC Clerk that Residents were NOT invited and to get this message out to anyone who were intending to attend. Another local Resident was 'threatened' by the land owner/organiser that if he continues to complain he will plant trees around his property so he can't see out.

To extend the licence across four days and for longer time frames is totally inconsiderate to home owners around the site and to the local community. Additionally, the extension of camping will encourage sustained partying throughout the night further impacting on all.

I very much look forward to being invited to any consultation regarding this application and keenly encourage Tewkesbury Borough Council to open this debate to local residents, allowing people to share their concerns.

30.

RE: Cider Festival Licence Application No. 17/00437/LIQPMR

I am writing in connection to the above licensing application for the Cider Festival over the August Bank Holiday Weekend.

The local residents and I have all come to live with the festival as it has been for the last four years on this site.

I strongly object to the new application for the increase in the number of people attending, to 2,500 on Saturday and Sunday, with 1,500 on Friday evening. In addition, they have requested to hold it next year on a Bank Holiday Monday and requested camping, which is not permitted under the existing license.

This site is definitely not suitable to hold those extra numbers of people as it is situated on a very busy and dangerous part of the A46. I am also concerned about the extra parking area and the camping being on the same site. All these points need to be discussed before any decision can be taken.

The other concern I have is the noise this festival creates. During the debriefing at the end of last year's festival, the Environmental Officer was asked if he had any readings of the decibels. His reply was "Tewkesbury does not have the money to send anyone over the weekend to do this". This leaves the noise levels to be as loud as they like as they know no one from the environmental department will be there.

If the Environmental Officer's statement is correct and Tewkesbury Borough has neither the manpower or money to cover these events, then should a license be granted to any event which has music. I am sure you would be aware that potentially the biggest complaint from festivals is the noise levels.

Should it be decided to hold a meeting regarding this then I am prepared to attend.

31.

Ref: Witcombe Cider Festival New License Application 17/00437/LIQPRM

As a resident of Painswick Road, and hence a neighbouring property to the land that is home to the Cider Festival, I have taken this opportunity to write to you with my concerns over the proposed new license.

- As a local resident we have come to begrudgingly accept the festival under its current licence. Losing two days of a three day bank holiday weekend to the festival is bad enough as we don't feel that we can go away and enjoy the long weekend, but at least it allows us a peaceful Monday before returning to the rigors of work. I really would be against entertaining the idea of a four day festival, and hence enduring a 4 day weekend of loud music and staying up late to ensure that the revellers pass by my property without the need to cause any trouble.
- We have had 'security' personnel situated outside some of the properties as promised. However, last year, these were essentially 'stewards' and I have little confidence that they would be effective if there was any trouble.
- We have had no correspondence from the organiser (Mr Pointon) at all reference the new licence. Over the past weeks/months I have been kept abreast of events from my neighbour. I eventually made contact with Mr Cook (who submitted the licence application) who then sent me a copy of the application, but by this point I had missed out on any of the discussions which had gone on between Mr Pointon and two of my neighbours. I have passed my email address to Mr Pointon on more than one occasion and was promised I would be on the circulation list.
- The numbers that are mentioned on the new licence fill me with dread on a noise as well as on a health and safety level. During the Cheese Roll the road is closed to help cope with the increased foot fall along our road. With what will be more than 3,000 potentially attending on a daily basis and then the majority leaving when the music and bars shut, there is a great chance for noise and disruption to those of us that neighbour the event, as well as a safety issue along the road, in the dark, when the road will not be closed to traffic. Buses have been mentioned but I doubt there is room on the site for buses to pull off the main road and turn around. Even if there was room, wet weather could cause all manner of trouble.
- Hucclecote has a Summer Fair (which only lasts one day) that is supported by both local businesses and residents, but this has benefit for both parties. Witcombe Cider festival has none of these attributes. Yes Mr Pointon sells his local cider but I'm not aware that any of the other businesses on site are local or that any of the money made gets ploughed back into the local community.
- Mr Pointons entrepreneurial endeavours can be applauded but surely if he wishes to grow the festival he should find a site that is better situated (away from such a main road and residential areas).

I trust you will take the above into consideration when deciding on whether to grant the new licence.

32.

I wish to object to the application on the following grounds:

Health and Safety.

Security: the welfare of the public is at risk because this event has no official protection presence of the Police Service. The significant increase in public number attendance that has been proposed puts the event on a par with the numbers seen for the local Cheese Roll event. The Cheese Roll event has

much needed Police presence and this event runs for a short period on a single afternoon - whereas this Cider Festival event is proposing to be run for 4 days with significantly more people in attendance, extensive hours through to late night, with no official police in attendance. The event is an alcohol based promotion and alcohol related disorder incidents, statistically, inevitably will rise. The event is targeting a large and young audience with no credible security measures or plans available that an independent body can certify as being appropriate or safe for an event on this scale.

Given the heightened security in place in the UK currently, what can event organisers offer in terms of anti-terror measures such as searches prior to entry – as seen elsewhere in the UK for similar events and most recently at the Little Mix pop concert at held Kingsholm? What security assurances can the event organisers offer in the absence of Police presence or police consultation?

What drug surveillance and prevention measures will be in place given the target audience and themed nature of the event?

What process is in place to deal with various public order offences and what response times and levels from the Police are available?

Have the Police endorsed this application?

At the very least I would propose that the event organisers pay for the services of the Police to attend the event given the proposed size and alcohol themed nature. The event organisers should also make public, in advance, the security contract service arrangements in place (minus any sensitive commercial cost arrangement if necessary) with the security service provider - so that the detail and content can be assessed for rigour and risk mitigation proposals. The event organisers also need to identify and evidence that the chosen supplier of security is a credible source and subject matter expert to oversee security. This should also be supported by evidence of back-ground screening checks of security personnel employed, their training levels attained and qualifications to manage an event of this size.

Local properties will need to be protected outside of the event perimeter from public intrusion or trespass; residents including myself have suffered from this nuisance in the past and it is on public record as a source of previous issues encountered. What preventative measures can the event organisers confirm for an event which is on a much larger scale?

My property was broken into very shortly after last year's event with windows and doors badly damaged in gaining entry with an expensive insurance bill resulting. This was likely to have occurred as a result of my property being watched by a person or persons unknown over a number of days of the event, notably due to its proximity to the event (it is virtually opposite the entrance). I choose to take a holiday and be away during last year's event because of the amount of noise and disturbance the event creates. Now I fear I have to stay for the next event to prevent this happening again but will end up suffering an even greater amount of noise, lack of sleep, worry and disturbance if the event is getting bigger and longer. I am having to consider selling the property to escape this annual event which is growing and growing beyond being a local Cider Festival. The event may even adversely affect the property price as very few people would wish to have an event of this size so close to their property, especially if young children are in the family.

Medical

How many trained first aid staff and manned stations will be available over the 4 days?

What medical emergency equipment will be available and on site for the duration of the event?

What emergency evacuation plans are in place for the event?

What emergency response levels can all 3 services (Ambulance, Police, Fire services) provide for an event of this size and have they been consulted? Will the responses be made public?

Traffic: The Painswick Road is heavily used by fast moving traffic – this is well known and Highway Agency statistics can be accessed for volume estimates. The significant increase in numbers of the public walking to and from the site throughout the event is a high-risk factor as are the numerous unlit local Public Way paths in the surrounding area. The public must walk along a narrow pavement next to the fast-moving Painswick Road in order to access the main site entrance. In past year's we have witnessed members of the public exiting the site that appeared to have consumed excess levels of alcohol and attempt to navigate the narrow pavement along the length of Painswick Road (which is a reasonable distance from the main roundabout on Ermin Street). This resulted in groups of people who simply ended up walking in the road (either through sheer numbers of people or intoxication or both) thus bringing fast moving traffic into dangerous proximity contact with people and consequently risking a higher incident of accidents or fatalities.

- How will event organisers manage protecting the public in large numbers walking to and from the site next to a fast and heavily used road?
- What speed restrictions will be in place and are event organisers applying to the Highways Agency for temporary speed restrictions and road safety signs?
- How many car parking spaces will be reserved for staff and how many car parking spaces will be reserved for the public to use? Significantly increasing the size and duration of the event means that staff numbers will also increase proportionally, therefore staff will occupy a greater number of spaces from the already limited spaces available on the field that event organisers have proposed.
- What provision is there for overspill parking once the car park is full? How will the organisers safely turn vehicles away from the site without forcing 3 point turns on the Painswick Road? How will the organisers stop local resident's driveways being used as turning areas? What distances in all directions will be coned off to prevent parking by travellers once the car park is full? What impacts are being assessed on the traffic volume increase and with which agencies are the organisers working for relief plans? Have the organisers considered the extension day (Monday) also being a national bank holiday and thereby heavier traffic than usual also being a complication factor?
- What additional public transport is being organised for the event to limit the public oversubscribing the car parking spaces available? What proof is available that public transport has been provisioned for with local bus companies? Which bus stop locations are

designated as drop off points and how will crowds be controlled whilst awaiting these services? Up to what time of night will any additional public transport services be operating? How will the usually limited operating Sunday Service be supplemented for the Sunday in question?

- How much traffic is expected in setting up the event (contractors vehicles) prior to opening to the public? How many days prior will set up be required and how many days after closure of the event to the public will the field be occupied with contractor vehicles? Will prolonged traffic measures be required and in place before and after the event? If an extended period of traffic measures is required, will residents be advised?

Environmental

NOISE

The event last year was extremely noisy up until very late at night. This was due to a number of factors, namely

- the speaker levels from the performing music bands, especially the bass levels which could be picked up from a considerable distance from the venue. Moving to an extended event period will result in music for 3 consecutive nights and an extended period of intrusion for residents. The number of performing bands are also increasing meaning the noise will last longer each day in addition to the event being longer in days. What decibel level restrictions are to be put in place and have the organisers consulted the Environment Agency on this aspect? If so, what proof can be shared with residents that these concerns have been addressed and will be monitored for enforcement?
- the responding crowd noise, either joining in with the music or cheering at the end of each song or set at times was louder than the music. This element cannot be controlled and therefore a disturbance to local residents
- screams from those using the funfair rides. In particular, one funfair ride was designed where participants were at elevated height levels and the resultant screams travelled quite some distance. The ride was situated close to the main Painswick Road and its proximity failed to take into account the distance noise travels at night thereby affecting residents in all directions.
- If an application for camping is made, what guarantees can the organisers offer local residents for controlling noise after the event officially ends at night? How will it prevent noise disturbances emanating from the camping field by revellers?

POLLUTION

How will the organisers offset the increase in traffic pollution? Will the pollution levels be monitored at the event (and by whom) for data event impact assessment on future licensing requests?

What additional tonnage in general rubbish is forecast to be generated as a result of increasing the attendance and event duration levels? Is a licensed professional provider of waste removal services contracted to clear the site after the event and will this be evidenced and made public? How many waste receptacles will be provisioned for the event and at what frequency will accumulated rubbish be removed from site?

What toilet facilities are proposed for the extended event, taking into account new camping requirements in the application? What ratio increase of toilets to public attendance figures is being proposed as a result of doubling the attendance numbers? How will the event organiser deal with members of the public urinating in public places or residential gardens at night as has been witnessed in previous years? Will waste removal vehicles be required to access the site during the event due to the attendance levels and expected increase in waste?

What restoration period for natural vegetation has been calculated for the site and will the expansion application result in changes to the existing natural landscape (tree removal / hedge removal)?

Have provisions been made for cattle or other livestock to be relocated from neighbouring farms due to the noise pollution?

If adverse or inclement weather occurs, what provisions have been made in case the car park field becomes muddy and vehicles unable to exit the site? Will temporary car matting be used to prevent such an occurrence and protect the landscape?

How will the organisers prevent lighting of open camp fires and late night barbeques in the camping field that is being proposed?

How will the organisers prevent leeching of any contaminants from equipment or vehicles into the environment? What environmental plans are in place to cover all scenarios at a major event such as this?

33.

Objection to Witcombe Cider Festival (WCF) Application for a New Licence

I am a resident of Painswick Road and my house is situated adjacent to, and overlooking, the Festival field.

The WCF have applied for a new licence to replace their current one. The new application proposes a significant extension to the numbers of people in attendance (*from 3000 to 11300 (increase of 276%)*) and the number of days of operation (*from 2 to 4 days (increase of 100%)*). It also now proposes camping close to the Festival site despite this being previously banned.

I object strongly to the new application for the reasons stated below. I have provided further detail to support my view in the attached Annex.

The Festival has a significant impact on my life and wellbeing both during the Festival itself and over the bracketing periods. The noise and light disturbance generated by the Festival means that I am forced to leave the property whilst it is in progress - at my own expense. I am unable to enjoy my own property over the Bank Holiday weekend during the current 2 days of the Festival. If I am in the house, as I am not always able to get away, I cannot comfortably use my house or garden. My partner and her daughter will not come to the property over that period due to the disturbance and invasion of privacy. As a minimum, I make arrangements for my dog to be elsewhere as he is disturbed by the activities. The proposed increase to 4 days will only exacerbate this situation making it even more intolerable and completely destroying the whole Bank Holiday period for me and my family. There would also be an extended set up and clear up period associated with a longer Festival that adds to the disturbance. The funfair elements associated with the Festival are a particular nuisance; the generators for the associated vehicles are often left running overnight causing further noise and set up/clearance continues well after Festival hours.

When I am absent I have the continued anxiety that my property will be safe. This is also the case when I am in the house. The impact on my wellbeing, continuously dealing with these issues, before, during and after cannot be underestimated. Currently, security personnel are stationed outside the property as a response to the well-documented anti-social behaviours that were substantial in the early days of the Festival. Increasing numbers will increase the possibility that such behaviour would once again be evident. The fact that I need to have security guards outside the property is not pleasant and, by its nature, creates an intimidating environment. I now face the prospect of this period being doubled. This an uncomfortable environment that is imposed upon me late into the early hours of the morning.

The increase in numbers of people, some having drunk considerable amount of alcohol, will mean increased disturbance at the time of main dispersal, which is clearly after dark. During the discussions for the current licence, the safety of the main A46 was a concern leading to the introduction some of the present conditions on the licence. Increasing the capacity and duration of the Festival will only place more pressure on the road and local facilities and see a greater footfall of noisy and rowdy Festival goers leaving the site and passing the front of my house. The proposals for buses will not mitigate the larger crowd dispersing late at night (see Annex) and may even exacerbate the situation as people have to queue and wait.

Camping associated with the Festival was banned on the previous licence due to the after-hours disturbance this caused. The request for camping, now for increased numbers, adds to add to the probability of further disturbance, particularly as security personnel will only be on site until the main dispersal has concluded and cannot police continued drinking or noise in the campsite. In his covering letter Mr Cook suggests that the Festival is local “.... *Allowing local people to enjoy a popular music festival at relatively low cost and without the environmental damage caused by*

unnecessary travel.” If the Festival is truly solely for the benefit of the local people then 2 days should be sufficient and there should be no requirement for camping.

The communication from the applicant and his agent with the local residents over this new licence has been minimal, erratic and confusing. I was not informed or consulted on a 4th day for the Festival or the prospect of camping until the formal application was served. The proposed numbers attending have varied widely in different accounts.

In the interest of balance and reasonableness I have reluctantly come to tolerate the Festival in its current form, with the associated conditions on the licence. To increase its size and duration, in a residential area, is inappropriate and I do not support any measures to increase its capacity or duration or the addition of associated camping. I believe that to increase the size of the Festival will amplify my current anxiety and inconvenience beyond a point that is tolerable and proportionate.

Regards

Attached: Detailed points regarding the Witcombe Cider Festival application

Annex

Detailed points regarding the Witcombe Cider Festival application.

Road Safety. I continue to have concerns over the safety of the road. The main A46 is a busy road and the entrances to the site are situated close to a blind hill and bend. Increasing the amount of traffic and pedestrians on this road is to increase the probability of injury. This hazard is well known. In Oct 2008, Tewkesbury Borough Council issued a refusal of permission for development (08/01137/FUL) for the siting of two field shelters and change of land use for the keeping of horses in the very field used for carparks and proposed camping by the Festival. These were to be accessed by single vehicles using the gated entrance onto the A46. The reason given for refusal of permission was *“The site fronts a section of the A46 County Principal Route (Painswick Road) where vehicle speeds are relatively high and visibility at the access is restricted. The proposed development would therefore be detrimental to highway safety contrary to Policies RCB6 and TPT1 of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011 – March 2006”*. The road has become considerably busier since then.

Capacity. I do not understand the pressure to increase the numbers attending the Festival. The organisers appear to have the capacity, ahead of a new licence being considered, to offer a free child's ticket with every adult one sold (WCF twitter feed dated 27 May 2017). The provision of free children's tickets to "*The UK's Largest Cider Festival*" (WCF Facebook general advertising) is not, to my mind, a comfortable, or acceptable, concept. This includes impressionable teenagers. This is difficult to balance with the concept of protection of children from harm and the influence of alcohol, as this is advertised as a Cider Festival not a Music Festival. In addition, the applied for Friday evening dates have been presumptuously advertised on the internet for months well in advance of an application being made for a licence.

Camping. A condition on the current licence is that there should be no camping close to the Festival. This was due to the noise and disturbance that was experienced when this was allowed for the first Festival on the site. The organisers are unable to prevent people from continuing with drink and music on the camp site once the main site has been closed. If this is a local Festival there should be no call for camping. Mr Cook's covering letter is very vague about proposed numbers. Is it planned for 10s of people or 100s to camp? What is the capacity/facilities?

Provision of Buses. The new licence plans for buses to operate on site from 9pm (after dark). There is no mention where these buses will pick up from hence where the queues will form. The capacity of 4 buses (estimated 200 persons) is very limited and will certainly not match the thousands of people that will want to leave after any headline acts. Thus people will have to wait longer in queues or simply will not wait for a bus to return (A minimum of 30/40 minutes from Gloucester or Cheltenham centre). There is no mention of until what time the buses are contracted (last bus time). Consequently, even more people will be passing the houses, including mine, in Painswick Road on foot as the only feasible dispersal route is down the A46 toward the Crosshands roundabout. This raises the probability for disorder to a higher level.

Additional Measures. A number of measures in Mr Cook's covering letter to the application appear to be conditional on the new licence being granted. CCTV will be provided *if* the application succeeds; I would suggest that if the technology is available then it should apply to the current Festival. Temporary signs (notices of consideration) should be attached to the lamp posts no matter the size of the Festival. I am surprised that this is not being done already.

Communication. The communication from the applicant and his agent with the local residents has been both erratic and confusing. As a condition of the current licence the licence holder is required to "*distribute a monthly bulletin to ALL(sic) interested parties*". I have received a single visit by the applicant (04 Apr 17) and, in 2017, 1 bulletin (31 May 17). None of my immediate neighbours have received any direct communication from the applicant or his agent. In each communication I have been presented with differing plans and promises making it very difficult to take a

position on what is proposed for the Festival. On 04 Apr 17 Mr Pointon gave categorical assurances to me personally that there would be no camping or a 4th day sought for the Festival. In addition, he wanted a 'small gathering of family and friends' on the Friday (as the Festival field would be set up by then) and to increase numbers on the main 2 days to 2500 total. In an email of 03 May 17 Mr Pointon's agent outlines different attendance numbers and does not mention a 4th day or camping. Having asked to be kept informed of any further proposals the first notification of plans for Bank Holiday Monday, and the camping, have come to me with the official application for a new licence. Good neighbourly relations are based on transparency and trust. By the way, the misleading scale of tents on the applicant's site layout drawing does not convey the proximity of the site facilities to neighbouring properties. In fact, the main marquee is shown as smaller than my house! Given the lack of transparency of the plans for the Festival, and the changing nature of the figures/days, I am finding it difficult to trust all of the assurances and promises that are being made are kept and I am certainly not feeling like a valued neighbour.

Reference Witcombe Cider Festival (Application Number 17/00437/LIQPRM)

Dear Sir/Madam

We are responding to the Licensing Act Public Notice that was put through our door a couple of weeks ago.

We understand that the licensing application is intending to;

- increase the Witcombe Cider Festival from 2 days to 4 days;
- increase capacity on Saturday / Sunday from 1500 to 3000 each day;
- increase capacity on Friday from 0 to 1500;
- increase capacity on Monday from 0 to 3000; and
- allow camping for an unspecified number of people for the whole August Bank Holiday weekend.

As residents we have a number of specific concerns.

First of all we have had no correspondence from the organisers to discuss these changes. As the organisers are intending to double the length of the festival and increase the capacity by more than triple (3,000 to 10,500) we believe this is unacceptable.

In its current form the festival can reasonably be considered a local event for Brockworth (although we don't understand why it is the Witcombe Cider Festival). Whilst it is disruptive to the immediate area over the August Bank Holiday we regard it as tolerable for 2 days.

However doubling the numbers seems to be less about it being a local event, the proposed addition of camping suggests to us that the organisers no longer see it as a local event.

In addition the proposed extension of the duration from 2 days to three days and then to four days means that the disruption that we experience will be extended to the entire August Bank Holiday weekend which we consider to be intolerable.

We have not addressed any issues like fire safety, road safety, transport or public order etc. as we are confident that the local and responsible authorities will address these and any other additional issues as necessary.

However noting that Tewkesbury Council close the Painswick Road for the Cheese Rolling Bank Holiday Monday; is it the Council's intention to close the Painswick Road during part or all of the August Bank Holiday Witcombe Cider Festival? We would like to understand if this is a consideration.

To conclude we would urge Tewkesbury Borough Council to reject the proposed licence change in its entirety on the basis that the loss of amenity and public nuisance experienced by the local residents would be intolerable. We believe that the current licence remains acceptable on condition that the mitigation measures developed over previous years of the festival remain in place and are actively managed.