



Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM

Your name / organisation name / name of body you represent	Sophie Pear
Postal and email address	REDACTED
Contact telephone number	REDACTED

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	Noisily Festival Ltd
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	Terrace Hills Farm, Eastwell Road, Knipton, Grantham, NG32 1EX.

Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

<i>Licensing Objective</i>	<i>Yes Or No</i>	<i>Please detail the evidence supporting your representation or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary</i>
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<p>To prevent crime and disorder</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The area that Noisily Festival are proposing to hold a festival in is rural. Crime levels in this area are low, in part due to proactive policing teams in this area. However, these are small teams. We do not have the local policing capacity or facilities to deal with the crime generated by this event. We are a long drive from a major policing hub and custody suite. In 2019, the last time the Noisily Festival was held, multiple offenders were found with MDMA, a class A drug, in their possession by police (source: Freedom of Information request to Leicestershire Police, reference 004079/21). Possession of a Class A drug would require the police to arrest the person and take them to the nearest Leicestershire Police custody suite - this currently being Keyham Lane Custody in Leicester - 24 miles from NG32 1EX. This would abstract police officers away from the site for hours, increasing the risk of further crime taking place, and further risk to the public. Also at risk are police on the site whose colleagues are a long distance away should they require emergency assistance.</p> <p>At the 2019 Noisily festival there were also multiple thefts of mobile phones, laptop and cash (source: Freedom of Information request to Leicestershire Police, reference 004079/21).. In a very rural area where people are thankfully very rarely victims of crime, people from this community would be at risk of becoming victims of acquisitive crime by thieves drawn to the area due to seemingly easy pickings at the festival.</p> <p>Worryingly, another report made by Leicestershire Police detailed that drugs and weapons were surrendered in amnesty bins around the site (source: Freedom of Information request to Leicestershire Police, reference 004079/21). Despite the fact that these items were surrendered, it is fair to assume that other weapons were not surrendered in the amnesty bins, meaning that the risk of serious offences against the person is greatly raised.</p> <p>Despite the fact that Noisily Festival states that they ‘do not permit the use of illegal substances’, they state that they are advocates of ‘psychedelic awareness’ and the ‘science behind experiences’ (source: www.noisilyfestival.com). This appears to be a thinly veiled advocacy for drug use and the website goes on to state that they collaborate with ‘The Psychedelic Society, a collective of experts who “advocate the careful use of psychedelics as a tool for personal and spiritual development”’. According to the Noisily Festival, they believe that “the profound experiences of unity and interconnectedness reliably brought about by strong psychedelic trips can help people to live lives of great love, compassion and joy’. The Psychedelic Society itself has an ongoing campaign to try and legalise the use of ‘magic mushrooms’ (source: www.psychedelicsociety.org.uk) which are also a Class A drug.</p> <p>It is clear that the festival promotes itself as somewhere for people to use psychedelic substances and along with the previous reported crimes already listed, the use of illegal Class A drugs is both prevalent and encouraged.</p>
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<p>Public safety</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>As a result of the drug problem at Noisily Festival, the risk of other offences occurring is high. If the number of people is as high as anecdotally reported - up to 10,000 people - the risk of there being drink and drug driving is extremely high. The area is isolated with no shops within walking distance, and no nearby transport links, requiring anyone who needs to travel out of the site to drive. The roads are wholly unsuitable in the area for this volume of traffic- some being single track roads but all being completely unlit. Pedestrians who use the area to walk dogs, horse riders and any other road users would be at risk from the sheer volume of traffic and potential drink and drug drivers.</p> <p>The vast site proposed spans public footpaths and lanes used by walkers, and as a regular user of the woods it is worrying to think that we may have to share the footpaths with people carrying weapons and class A drugs.</p> <p>The wooded area itself has a very steep escarpment which is dangerous even in the best of conditions, and when people are under the influence it would be a deadly hazard. Having used these footpaths for 30 years I am still very careful around the drops. Even if the festival was held away from the escarpment, the sheer volume of people along with curiosity would no doubt mean that people end up attempting the climb up or down. Along with the escarpment is a very large lake nearby and easily accessible on foot- surely a attractive prospect to people who have overheated in the summer months. People under the influence of MDMA are especially at risk of overheating. Any serious injuries would mean attending the nearest A&E which is the QMC in Nottingham - 20 miles away. There are no nearby ambulance stations. The proposed site would be difficult for any ambulances to get to.</p> <p>The area is thick with woodland, being difficult to navigate and extremely challenging to carry out searches for lost or injured people. Sadly a local person was found deceased within the woodland recently and it took professional trained search teams 3 days to locate her body. Again the topography of the land, including the farmland surrounding the woods, lends itself to being an inhospitable place for anybody lost, injured or under the influence.</p> <p>MDMA is a dangerous drug, with 82 people dying in England and Wales as a result of taking it in 2020. The prevalent use of this at the Noisily Festival would risk the increase of that figure, whilst continuing to put the emergency services and the NHS under strain for the sake of recreational drug use.</p> <p>Although it is impossible to predict the effects of COVID so far in advance, it is fair to assume that the disease will still be prevalent and there may potentially be further variants circulating. Bringing such a huge amount of people from all areas of the country or world to a small and close community could potentially be devastating for the many elderly and vulnerable people living here.</p>
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To prevent public nuisance

The Noisily Festival is an electronic/ drum and bass festival which is extremely noisy - there are multiple videos on Youtube which demonstrate the type of music played. The nature of the music means that low frequency bass sounds will be extremely heavy and it is extremely close to residential villages.

The Vale of Belvoir is a rural, peaceful community. We don't have big roads or even towns. We don't have much traffic. The serenity of this area is the reason we choose to live here. I work very long hours and it is important, like most, to get a good night's sleep to be able to concentrate at work. I am a light sleeper, finding it difficult to sleep even with traffic sounds- this is just one of the reasons why I choose to live in a quiet and peaceful village. I know that the volume of traffic and especially the excessive noise and volume of the festival will prevent me from sleeping for the duration. The only alternative address I can stay at is even closer to the festival.

One aspect which the applicant has not discussed is the effect not just from the duration of the festival but the period to prepare and set it up, and the period taken to deconstruct it. I understand that a festival of this size could take 2 -3 weeks at least to set up and then I presume at least the same again to deconstruct. A vast amount of waste and litter will be created and the local lanes - which get churned up even with local farming traffic - will be absolutely destroyed by not only vehicles from the 10,000 attendees but also the HGVS that are undoubtedly required to haul the site structure and all aspects of it to and from the site. We do not have the infrastructure to facilitate this.

As previously mentioned, but also relevant to this category, is the effect the sheer volume of people and traffic will have on local people and the deprivation of our peace and safety. Although I regularly use the footpaths in the woods and the local lanes to walk and run, I would not feel safe using them during the festival knowing that people are potentially using Class A drugs and carrying weapons. Local people or people who use the area for quiet recreation such as cycling will be deprived of their ability to use the area due to volume of traffic and other people, and potentially the state of the roads before and after. Should this take 3 weeks before and 3 weeks after the event, that is a huge proportion of the summer that will be spoilt by the festival.

Although there is no section for environmental concerns, I feel that damage to the environment is a public nuisance. The amount of litter created will create untold damage and within a wooded area be impossible to full clear up. As local people we love and take care of the area and I have concerns that the people attending would not hold the area in high regard, seeing it as a site rather than our home.

The proposed time of the festival is during the nesting season. The Belvoir Estate - including the woods - carried out a survey in 2019 whereby 120 bird species were documented on its land. 22 of these species are 'red listed', bird species which are of conservation concern as they are at risk of extinction (source: www.belvoircastle.com/conservation). Both Ospreys and a white-tailed Eagle have been seen in the woods. As a wildlife

		<p>lover (like many in this area) it is unbearable to think that we could jeopardise the future of some species for the sake of a music festival.</p>
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<p>To protect children from harm</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Previously mentioned points are extremely relevant in this section with children being more vulnerable than adults. Children use the woods regularly, sometimes alone. With the dangers of the aforementioned weapons and drugs, it would not be safe for children to be alone in the woods during the festival. The construction and deconstruction phases would also create hazards- it is common for curious children to gain access to construction sites and then be injured or trapped. It is unfair to not allow children out unsupervised during the summer months when all they want to do is go out and play. As a child we regularly went up into the woods. I think it is still common for teenagers to sneak out up to the woods and camp up there- perhaps unknown to their parents- and the thought of them being exposed to drugs users from the festival potentially with weapons is worrying.</p> <p>Children's sleep patterns would be undoubtedly disturbed by the excessive noise caused by the festival which is proposed during term time.</p> <p>The excessive amount of traffic is likely to put children at risk who, living in a rural community, may not be used to being around busy roads.</p>
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<p>Please suggest any conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy your representation or other suggestions you would like the Licensing Sub Committee to take into account (see note 2).</p>	<p>There are no conditions that Noisily Festival could put in place that would remedy my representation. I strongly feel that the application is disrespectful to the community, area and the environment. The area is wholly inappropriate for a festival of this nature and size. There would be immeasurable damage to wildlife. The advocacy of illegal drug use is indicative of how much respect the organisers have for the law. I do not think that the local community, who live here for the peace, quiet and rural lifestyle, should have a noisy and vast festival imposed on them. The festival, in any format, would deem this area to be intolerable for people who live here for the qualities that the festival would deprive them of. I feel that this application should be rejected in its entirety and that there are no conditions that could be put in place to make it acceptable.</p>
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Signed: Sophie Pear
Please see notes on reverse

Date: 21/12/21

NOTES

1. This form must be returned within the statutory period of 28 days from the date the application was displayed on the premises of the date given in the public notice in a local newspaper or other local publication.
2. These can only relate to the four licensing objectives.
3. If you do make a representation you will be expected to attend a meeting of the Licensing Authority's Committee and any subsequent appeal proceeding. If you do not attend, the Committee will consider any representations that you have made.
4. Please return this form when completed to:

The Licensing Officer
Melton Borough Council
Parkside
Station Approach
Melton Mowbray
LE13 1GH

Tel: 01664 502502
Email: licensing@melton.gov.uk