



Dear Councillor

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE - THURSDAY, 11 MAY 2023

Please find enclosed a further objection for your consideration as part of this application.

**Agenda Item
No.**

To consider an application for a new Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003 made by the following:

Applicant: Backwoodsman Ltd

Premises: Grange Farm, Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire
PE28 2PH

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Objection

As residents of the village I feel that we have little option but to object to the current licence application made by Backwoodsman Ltd.

There has been a long term acceptance by many residents of the village to the “one off” annual Secret Garden Party, a festival that I attended in my youth and one I knew about when I moved to the village of Abbots Ripton. We decided our new home was worth one long weekend of noise to be able to live in the countryside in peace and quiet for the rest of the year.

However I was actually surprised, 2 took place [REDACTED], but I did not complain, I accepted the nuisance, sure that this idyllic village, community and home would be worth the little sleep, no internet or phone signal for a couple of weekends.

This application however significantly increases the nuisance of such events, although smaller, throughout the year. As a homeowner [REDACTED], I feel the unrestrictive nature of the application will be very disruptive to family life.

Historically there have been reports of a loss of privacy with late night unwanted and unwarranted overspill into the private properties within the village, this concerns me immensely and poses a significant health and safety risk.

The Parish council is currently working with the District council to improve the roads leading to the village, lower speed limits, a crossing and possible weight limits, it seems absurd that a license inviting thousands more vehicles to the area is being considered before improvements are made to the highways.

As mentioned above, the noise of the festivals is a concern and something I do not think I should have to tolerate if I am also going to be subjected to amplified or live music throughout the year, even if it is not as late it will impact my children’s quality of sleep and the peacefulness of our garden in the evening.

I understand the smaller events are capped at 4999 attendees but there are no limitations to the number of these events that can be carried out or the frequency. If this information could be shared, this may change the view of some parishioners.

With the increase in the number of events I would like to understand how this sits within the parameters of the General Permitted Development Order, that one assumes they operate under?

Unfortunately the applicant has not been forthcoming with basic local liaison prior to the application being submitted, if this had happened my neighbours and I would have been better informed and been in a position to discuss our concerns with the applicant. It is clear the worries and justified anxiety of the village are not a concern of the applicant and we cannot be reassured that the events will not result in very serious material harm or harm to our mental health.

Lastly, This license does not appear to have an end date, I feel the village would be more accepting of this

application if there was confidence that a review would be carried out every year or 2 years and that the applicant would be open to discussions or changes if it was in the best interest of the parishioners.