

Summary of Other Persons Responses

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
28/04/2024			
<p>Regarding the above application. We wish to understand the intention behind this application.</p> <p>The notice does not inform its reader if this is a specific license for one event (such as the St Neots Music Festival, due to take place in July) or for a cart-blanche licence for multiple events and activities on dates unspecified.</p> <p>Neither does the notice inform the reader of exactly what is meant by 'the performance of live music, recorded music, dance performances and theatre performances on Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays'. Nor does the notice inform the reader of the frequency of multiple events.</p> <p>Were the application to be for multiple events at weekends throughout the year, we would be concerned at the impact that would have on the infrastructure, especially the provision of car-parking.</p> <p>Multiple events would become a 'noise nuisance' – and we would be concerned about their impact on Priory Park itself, including mess, rubbish and refuse.</p> <p>We would have no objections to, or concerns about the application, if it is part of the process of organising the St Neots Music Festival, but your notice does not say so.</p> <p>Further Comments: 12/05/2024 Dear Sirs I refer to your letter dated 01st May 2024, in which you include a link to your public register. I have tried several times to use the link, but it only ever results in a notice of 'Invalid Request'</p> <p>Please forward a link that works, or better still, just address/reply to the concerns raised in our original letter to you.</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
07/05/2024			
<p>We wish to object to the open-ended nature of the licence being requested for Priory Park in St Neots. We have no objection to a single event like the one last summer, but a licence for every weekend and every bank holiday</p> <p>Further Comments: We are still not happy with the open-ended nature of this licence, and the prospect of having our street blocked with parked cars every month, plus the noise. If it were to be limited to no more than 2 or 3 times a year, we would remove our objection.</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
10/05/2024			
<p>Thank you for letter dated 7.5.24. I'm sorry but the information in your letter does not address any of our concerns. We are alarmed that your letter suggests that in theory, the Council is considering, allowing a 2 or 3 day event in Priory Park every month. This would make life at our address intolerable and is totally unreasonable.</p> <p>We believe that there should be tighter restrictions. It would be more acceptable if there was a restricted event season, such as 1st April to 31st August It should also be just 2 major events, with amplified music-- the St Neots Festival and 1 other, during that period. This gives residents of this estate options and opportunities as to how we individually wish to manage these events.</p> <p>Smaller events could successfully continue in Regatta Meadow and the revamped Market Square which have better parking and facilities. We believe that any Event Management Plan must also include parking to avoid the issues that we experienced last year.</p> <p>Finally, we consider that this information/consultation process has been conducted very poorly. We live 200 yards from the Park and yet the only notice that we saw was in Rowley Road/Longsands Road area at an obscure back entrance to the Park. It specified that responses to the application had to be written and posted. We understand that this is an outdated form and that responses could have been submitted by email, I wished to say that the obscure, limited and vague information available, along with an outdated method of response, has not facilitated residents, to fully and easily engage in this process.</p> <p>Further Comments: I wish to add another comment to my previous email. My husband and I don't use social media. Many of the residents on this estate are 'mature in age' and also don't use it.</p> <p>It has been brought to our attention that Mr Pitt has been conducting much of his campaign for Priory Park on social media, which could be perceived as discriminatory.</p> <p>Apparently, there's a post " I would love to have events every weekend in the park (although perhaps not organise them all myself!)----And hopefully we can also do the occasional pop-up event in Priory Park (as well as St Neots Festival) - this licence will allow for that ".</p> <p>Information that has implications for residents of St Neots, should be transparent, available and accessible to everyone, in conventional formats and not just social media.</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
10/05/2024			
<p data-bbox="71 275 1477 309">Thank you for your response dated 7th May 2024. However it does not mitigate all of my concerns:</p> <p data-bbox="71 344 1326 490">(1) While the provision of parking is not relevant to the planning for events, the impact of event parking on local safety is directly relevant. There is clear evidence to suggest that this impacts safety by restricting access down one of the main routes in and out of the town for emergency services. I would be shocked if the Ambulance Service or Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue (who are both based on the impacted road) deem it safe to have their route partially blocked. This is aside from the safety concerns relating to pedestrians – indeed a road restriction was placed not far from my house because of such an accident that was indirectly caused by the parking problems related to events in the park.</p> <p data-bbox="71 712 1501 857">(2) Your letter references various restrictions to events involving amplified and live music but it does not explicitly say all events – I am concerned that there is a loophole that could result in daily/weekly events. Especially given your note that says that the conditions do not apply to events where there is no regulated entertainment – how are these terms defined for the basis of the application?</p> <p data-bbox="71 896 1520 1075">(3) I do not consider that my points 5 and 6 have been adequately addressed. I have never, ever at any event anywhere seen security guards that care about damage to the local area or to litter issues. They may get involved to discourage violence among attendees, or to ensure that tickets are purchased, but they rarely care for the local environment. So, I would like to understand how this would be addressed.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1115 1466 1187">I reiterate my plea to reject the application. However, should the application progress to a hearing, then I request the opportunity to speak and present evidence at that hearing.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1225 389 1258">Further Comments –</p> <p data-bbox="71 1296 236 1330">10/05/2024</p> <p data-bbox="71 1335 1490 1406">Further to our discussion, attached are some photos showing the impact that parking for events has upon the main road out of St Neots (Huntingdon Road).</p> <p data-bbox="71 1444 1516 1516">This was for just one random day of an event, but it is a routine situation when there are events in the park. It was even worse during the Festival event in June/July last year.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1554 1482 1626">As mentioned, my wife has been hit by a car while on this pavement, is just such circumstances, of there being an event – which is why we feel so strongly about it.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1664 1493 1736">Clearly there is no reasonable access for Emergency Services at times like this and there is a direct impact on safety for pedestrians.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1774 1497 1809">I will bring hard copies of these images to the hearing. <i>**Images already attached with Appendix D.1</i></p> <p data-bbox="71 1848 236 1881">14/05/2024</p> <p data-bbox="71 1886 1457 1957">Further to my earlier emails, I would like to formally raise the following additional objections to the application:</p>			

1. It appears that the application for the event has not fully complied with the council's stated processes, specifically:
 - The application form was not submitted within at least 3 months prior to the first planned event on the 6th/7th July – since the application was apparently made on the 19th April.
 - Given that the event is large, and the event application was made on 19th April then the application has also breached the requirement to attend the Event Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) at least three months prior to the event. This is clearly an important aspect as matters such as Health and Safety and Traffic Management Plans need to be considered.
 - The application form submitted clearly states that the issues such as Public safety, public nuisance and Traffic management will all be addressed in the Event Management Plan for each event, and that this will be issued “no later than three months prior to date of the event”. This clearly represents another breach since the application itself was submitted less than 3 months before the first event date.

I have been denied access to view the critical Event Management Plan (see email below), which is directly relevant to the areas of my objections. I must therefore insist that I be given time at the hearing to question and potentially raise additional points around this area that is currently being kept secret, despite being of obvious public interest and relevance.

My concern is that the initial event (St Neots festival) is already being advertised online, and on social media, despite the existence of the review hearing. This would appear to reflect a disregard and contempt for the views of residents like myself. Last year's event was a disaster from the perspective of road safety and yet the organisers feel at liberty to proceed without having yet received formal approval.

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
10/05/2024			
See attachment Appendix D.1			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
11/05/2024			
<p data-bbox="92 286 1362 369">We wish to oppose and object to the application for a premises licence for Priory Park, Huntingdon Rd PE19 1RF by Mr Benjamin Michael Pitt made on the 19th April 2024.</p> <p data-bbox="92 421 1453 629">We are residents living opposite Priory Park on Huntingdon Rd and have grave concerns about the social and environmental impact of this application on the local vicinity should the application be successful. Namely, increased vehicle parking resulting in single lane traffic, anti-social behaviour caused by alcohol and probable substance misuse and increased litter deposited in the area.</p> <p data-bbox="92 680 1238 719">I hope you will consider our objections favourably before granting this licence.</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
10/05/2024			
<p>We refer to the above application by Ben Pitt on Behalf of Neotists CIC which we have read.</p> <p>We object to the application on the basis that is far too widely based and not restricted to the single event of the St Neots Festival.</p> <p>St Neots Festival is clearly referred to, but 'other public events ' are also included without any explanation or definition. If this license is to be granted it must be limited to the one event of the St Neots Festival and not any other undefined events. We object to there being any more than one such event and this being limited to only the weekend of 5 & 6 July 2024 as referred to in the application.</p> <p>We note that this one event is limited to a capacity no more than 5000 attendees and there will be no supply or sale of alcohol all as stipulated in the application (Section 15).</p> <p>Please be aware that Priory Park is a very popular public space especially for dog walkers and footballers. This is an essential amenity for the whole local community and access must not be restricted by additional events such as those proposed in the application to the detriment of the public. This amenity must not be compromised.</p> <p>The application refers to music and other entertainments. Consequently, all loudspeakers/audio devices must be directed away from any residences as is the usual requirement to avoid any public nuisance.</p> <p>We are also very concerned about the parking and traffic management during the St Neots Festival weekend. Whenever there are football matches or other events held in Priory Park, Huntingdon Road becomes almost impassable with cars parking in all the adjacent residential roads causing severe disruption for access and egress by the residents. Parking spaces in the park are wholly inadequate for large events.</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
13/05/2024			
<p data-bbox="84 277 1254 331">With reference to, Application for a Premises Licence under, Licencing Act 2003. Ref: SNF 2024</p> <p data-bbox="84 347 1241 403">Pursuant to the Notice of Application for a premises Licence posted on bins and boards in and around Priory Park.</p> <p data-bbox="84 418 1254 472">We wish to make the following Representations concerning this application, SNF 2024.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="137 492 1278 595">1 We wish to make it very clear from the outset that we are not against the Neotists' CIC staging the second St Neots Festival during the weekend of 6th - 7th July 2024, despite its enlargement generally, and, in particular from two to four stages of entertainment. <li data-bbox="137 658 1310 815">2 Our strong representation to your Council as owner of Priory Park is that the application is completely open-ended and has no end date. The operating schedule requests the licence to start on 5th July 2024 and the next section is left blank. We do not see any valid reason why one organization should be given a licence for part of Priory Park forever, apart from the applicant wishes to have control of that part of the park for ever and their convenience. <li data-bbox="137 878 1315 981">3 We believe the licence should be limited to a single event and subsequent annual applications be made, if required. This enables the HDC as owners of The Park and the other users of The Park and residents to monitor future activities and make representations if thought necessary. <li data-bbox="137 1043 1310 1200">4 Practically speaking granting an open-ended licence is unworkable for a considerable period of time because the Festival area is used as football pitches for adult and children's football from when the football season begins; say August; and ends in May each year. Also, the Festival area is used for annual Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire cross country events, so the granting of a perpetual licence is totally wrong, inappropriate, and impractical. <li data-bbox="137 1263 1305 1397">5 The Festival Director, Mr. Ben Pitt, of the Applicant although not a Director of Neotists CIC has acknowledged in email correspondence "It (the licence) doesn't mean a free for all of events though – each one would need to get permission from the Council as it owns The Park". Exactly. So why grant a perpetual licence in the first place? There is no logic in doing so. <li data-bbox="137 1460 1310 1541">6 In the application, Supply of Alcohol, "Will you be selling or supplying alcohol?" the space completed is "No". We recall alcohol was available on-site last year and the site plan for Festival 2024 shows four bars: Banquet Inn <p data-bbox="687 1556 703 1579" style="text-align: center;">1</p>			

by the Nisa stage, Sip & Savour by the 2nd stage, Tipsy Bubbles by the 4th stage and Mel's Happy Daze in the Bar Compound. So, whilst the Applicant may not be selling alcohol itself, it must be granting concessions or have other arrangements to sell or supply alcohol of some sort by these FOUR BARS. Is there a limit? Does the Premises Licence of HDC permit this? IF so, we object strongly and believe the sale of alcohol in Priory Park should be dealt with on an individual bar/point of sale basis, by separate licence, and not permitted under an open-ended application for a Premises Licence so control is exercised by HDC to protect the public, habitat, and environment of Priory Park.

- We conclude by repeating we are not against St Neots Festival '24 being held or indeed the Neotists CIC, but we believe annual control of Festivals and alcohol sales in Priory Park is far more practical, democratic, and desirable for all concerned.

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
14/05/2024			

We are writing to object about the licence application submitted on the 19th April 2024 by Benjamin Michael Pitt for the performance of live music, recorded music, dance performances and theatre performances within Priory Park St Neots(the park). It is our firm belief that the use of Priory Park for such regular events is totally inappropriate and will have a detrimental impact on our local community and wildlife. We are of the view that the following common sense points are sufficient not to hold such regular events in our park:

1. The park is bounded mainly by residential properties and sound pollution generated by these music events (as well as the noise caused by diesel generators) will have a detrimental affect our lives. i.e. would you put up with neighbours who played loud music most weekends and Bank holidays for 10+ hours?
2. The movement of vehicles and those attending any venues at the Park will cause serious problems for the local community, be it parking on or trespassing private property. The park has very limited car parking spaces and the surrounding parking is limited. This issue in the past has resulted in conflict, and raises serious **safety** concerns for anyone attending or living close to the event e.g. vehicle having to use pavements due to insufficient space on the carriage way (such as Huntingdon road when football matches are held in the park)
3. There is the undoubted environmental impact on wildlife in the park. The park sustains a wide range of life, from insects through to many bird species (woodpeckers, owls, crows, jackdaws etc..) - to squirrels, deer, foxes. All of these species are reliant on the park and the loud sounds and the regular large crowds will have an undesirable impact on all of these creatures. The authorities caring for the park are quite rightly promoting biodiversity within the park and this ethos would be jeopardised by these frequently held events.
4. There will be the problem of anti-social behaviour which is normally linked to events where alcohol and other intoxicants can be obtained. Unless strict measures are put in place, and the necessary assurances made to control unruly behaviour, this will be unacceptable to us.

Additionally, there is insufficient detail within the 'Notice of Application For A Premises Licence' and the following points need to be clarified:

- a. What is the maximum number of attendees at these events 10,000 or 100? This is a huge concern.
- b. Where will vehicles park? In the park, at the roadside etc..?
- c. Where will the stage or stages and associated equipment be positioned?
- d. Will there be toilet facilities and if so where will they be placed?
- e. Will there be any security measures? And what form will they take
- f. Will there be side stalls (serving food and alcohol etc..)?
- g. How will the events minimise disruption to wildlife and the local community?
- h. How frequent are these events? Every bank holiday and every other weekend
- i. Will the events take place all year round?
- j. Will events go ahead in bad weather, such as rain? This would potentially cause significant damage to the park's ground i.e. the grassed areas.

k. How will you prevent the travelling community from accessing the park and setting up residency while the park is being used for these music events. In the past, we have had many problems their use of the park.

We would like to make it clear that we have no objection to annual events taking place, such as the St Neots 2 day festival, football jamborees, running events and even a Sealed Knot re-enactment etc.. but we do object to frequent music events that will harm and adversely impact both wildlife and the local community. St Neots has many other events held throughout the year, so we are of the view that there is no call for more and more frequent events, especially those held in the Park.

We look forward to your response on this matter.

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
15/05/2024			
<p>Dear Licensing Advisor</p> <p>I have been made aware of an application for a licence by Mr Ben Pitt on behalf of the Neotists for live music on Saturdays and Sundays and the August Bank Holiday throughout the summer on Priory Park St Neots.</p> <p>I am strongly objecting to this licence application.</p> <p>Last year the St Neots festival took place over one weekend in July on the park and this took a great deal of organising. There is not adequate parking for any event in Priory Park so police cones were put out all along Huntingdon Road and the entrance to Barringer Way (opposite Priory Park) as well as the entrances to Park Way and The Crescent. Whilst this stopped poor parking where the cones were placed, vehicles were dumped further into these side roads, causing driveways to be obstructed and visibility reduced for users of these estates, which resulting in several near misses of potential accidents, with cars unable to see around corners due to poor parking on junctions. This occurred over one weekend, which was enough to deal with. Every Saturday morning there is very poor parking along Huntingdon Road all through the winter due to sporting events on Priory Park (football and running events). To think we not only have to cope with not been able to drive along Huntingdon Road safely most Saturday mornings (the police and Cambs Highways have both been informed but nothing has been instigated) with cars having to mount the pavement as there is only enough space for one vehicle to travel along due to the restricted width of the road due to the parking. So once the football season has finished on Priory Park we can enjoy the park and have one weekend of disruption in the summer with the festival. However this licence application is for events any Saturday or Sunday all summer, well into the evening, with no need to give notice to any of these residents that are severely affected. Priory Park is abutted by several residential areas that will be severely impacted by the noise, litter and disruption.</p> <p>The licence should only be allowed for the summer festival weekend and not an open licence as requested this year. The festival duration licence should only be given with very clear strong parking restrictions as part of the conditions whereby cones are placed all along Huntingdon Road (from the roundabout with Mill Lane all along Huntingdon Road way past the sorting office) and all along Barringer Way main thoroughfare, all along Parkway and along a great depth of The Crescent so that it is not worthwhile inconsiderate drivers walking that far and then they may consider using the</p>			

appropriate parking on the Rugby Field with marshals assisting those crossing over Huntingdon Road to the festival.

The wildlife in the park is stunning over the summer, in the late evenings the muntjacs are around, the hedgehogs are out as well as the foxes and the nesting birds. This is not a park for continuous party events. It is a beautiful open space for people to enjoy and the wildlife to venture out in the evenings. No thought has been given to the impact continuous loud music at weekends will have on our wildlife, has any ecological assessment been carried out to see what the impacts could be?

Therefore on safety grounds, due to poor parking, for disruption including noise levels and for the impact on wildlife, a one off licence should be given as a maximum for the weekend of 6/7 July for Priory Park only with full parking conditions. But please do not allow an open summer licence for use every weekend on this beautiful parkland as this will have detrimental impacts. How will impacted residents be informed of these sudden events if there is an open licence with no control over the disruption it will cause? Riverside park has adequate parking and toilets and has always been a park for events (fun fairs etc), this should continue to be considered for these events.

Thank you for taking this into consideration. If an open licence is given then I will seek further advice.

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
15/05/2024			
<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I understand from notices posted at random on lamp-posts and waste bins locally that a premises license is being considered for Priory Park.</p> <p>I am deeply concerned that this is an open-ended application without specific dates. As a resident of the adjacent estate, the likelihood of unacceptable levels of noise and disruption due to increased traffic is extremely high, especially given that the Rugby Club also host events with loud music from time to time.</p> <p>Huntingdon Road and this area is already chaotic on many Saturday mornings in the football season as a result of inconsiderate parking.</p> <p>I therefore wish to register my objection to this application.</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
16/05/2024			
<p>I am writing about the proposed license to have music in Priory Park St Neots at weekends and bank Holidays. I am concerned about the noise levels and what the noise levels might mean for quality of life to people in the neighbouring streets. I don't mind a 'once a year' festival, but would strongly object to live music more often than that</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
16/05/2024			
<p>As a resident of one of the estates neighbouring Priory Park, I must object to the application by Benjamin Michael Pitt for blanket permission for live and recorded music performance in Priory Park on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays throughout the summer.</p> <p>Experience has shown that the type of people who broadcast live and recorded music from areas near residential properties have no concept of what is an acceptable level of volume. Also, if the rugby club holds an event on the same day, the two factions will compete to prove who has the loudest amplifier just as happened last year, and we residents in between are blasted by two simultaneous deafening and tuneless dins from both sides. For our health and well-being, it is completely unacceptable.</p> <p>Last year we were plagued by load revving engines and the stench of burning rubber coming from the rugby club.</p> <p>The noise of the motorbikes using New Street / B1041 as a drag strip every Sunday is proof that the police cannot uphold the law in the town. Please do not force us to bother them with noise complaints regarding live "music" as well.</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
16/05/2024			
<p>Please do not grant such a licence for the playing of music in Priory Park on weekends. Granting this licence will change the nature of the park from a peaceful environment into a place that will be avoided by many on the weekend. What we have now is very special. Do not spoil it. An event such as an occasional Festival is very much appreciated and enjoyed by many. Music every weekend ? No no no.</p> <p>You requested that we should not include comments on the environment and parking. These are huge issues, please consider these before even discussing the music licence.</p> <p>Rate payer and resident of St</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
16/05/2024			
<p data-bbox="71 275 424 311">To whom it may concern</p> <p data-bbox="71 344 1106 380">I am writing to put forward my objection to this application. I live at XXXX</p> <p data-bbox="71 418 1453 495">I moved my family to this peaceful estate in 2020 and the St Neots Festival last year was our first experience of a large weekend party in Priory Park.</p> <p data-bbox="71 528 1509 604">I'm concerned at the 'conditions' attached to the Licence, in particular the possibility of regular parties in the Park, with all the noise, crowds and parking issues associated with that.</p> <p data-bbox="71 638 1461 748">We have a young child who goes to bed early as you'd expect and last year during the festival we could hear the music clear as day in our house until the cut off off time which was well past his bedtime and inevitably affected him going to sleep.</p> <p data-bbox="71 784 1489 860">Furthermore, our usually quiet streets were used as car parks and the park we love to visit and play in, as you would expect, took the brunt of so many people passing through it.</p> <p data-bbox="71 896 1513 1005">I'm not adverse to 1 or 2 events there in a year but to open it up to the possibilities of numerous events across a year is unacceptable. If this is approved it would no doubt affect house prices as well as various other aspects of our lives here.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1041 1461 1117">This licence has been raised with complete disregard of the residents in the area and needs to be revised. Therefore please accept this as my fervent objection to the proposal.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1153 1112 1189">I look forward to hearing back from you on this matter and the next steps.</p>			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
16/05/2024			
<p data-bbox="71 1366 1517 1476">With ref to the application made by Mr Pitt for an open ended licence for live / recorded music, dance and theatre performances in Priory Park for Saturdays, Sundays and Bank holidays I wish to raise my objections.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1512 1522 1659">I am a local resident and paid a premium to live in this great location adjacent to Priory Park. I walk in it daily. I frequently litter pick after sporting functions to help maintain its beauty. I'm a member of Friends of Priory Park. I value its beauty and peace and enjoying seeing people enjoying and respecting this special place.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1695 1517 1843">I took part in the '23 St Neots Festival and congratulate the volunteers and organising committee who were involved in the planning for over a year. There were local inconveniences in terms of noise, rowdy behaviour and irresponsible parking over the 2 days, but there were so many benefits to the St Neots Community which brought a feel good factor.</p> <p data-bbox="71 1879 1505 2027">The Festival's success was dependent upon good planning, volunteer help, good security and an excellent clean up team to restore the Park to its pristine state. I'm not sure if Mr Pitt realises the need for local goodwill and volunteer help for what sounds like a commercial venture. Is he aiming to make money or to raise funds for local charities? St Neots Festival raised lots of money for local</p>			

charities and showcased local talent.

I'm not keen on the idea of monthly pop up festivals. This is not Glastonbury with its once a year huge infrastructure including organised car parking, toilets, First Aid, food etc.

Priory Park has limited parking. Local residents can be inconvenienced and cars parked irresponsibly along Huntingdon Rd and on verges can inhibit access for Emergency Services, all sited on this road.

The noise from proposed regular weekend events would be disruptive. Priory Park with its rolling landscape and amazing collection of trees, is also home to birds and wild life. I'm lucky to enjoy the peace and relaxation and I would not welcome a change of purpose for our lovely Park.

I could go on about my feelings to preserve and enhance the dwindling open spaces in our rapidly expanding town. There are lots of planning application for new dwellings but I've yet to see more land set aside to enjoy nature and relaxation. We need these spaces for their original purpose, not to develop commercial exploitation.

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
14/05/2024			
See attachment Appendix D.2			

Date Received	Name	Address	Contact
15/04/2024			
See attachment Appendix D.3			