

Firstly thank you for providing further detail of this application and due process.

Further to 09/05/2024:

My phone call with yourself and detail of my previous letter dated 29/04/2024, now also attached to this email, on behalf of my wife [REDACTED] and myself.

- Please can the initial letter detail be aligned for consideration as part of this Objection to the Priory Park Licence Application as necessary, regarding an overall view of the sum of the general objections.
- **N.B. For speed and clarity of response, I have made my further notations in Blue text.**

**For consultation, due to the lack of posting of the application detail around the site, and many people who use this site choosing not to use / view social media. This means I would suggest many local residents are not aware of the licence application and thereby to discuss the implications.**

- **This by default will have negated responses to HDC.**
- **The posted application stated responses by letter only. In turn would deter people who normally would email, and as in my case cause potential further delays, or none receipt.**

**As my letter to HDC of (29/04/2024), stated as not received, hence no response, until I initiated by phone contact on 09/05/2024. This has also reduced the window for consultation.**

**Additional conditions agreed by the Environmental Health team, HDC & Applicant.**

- **There should be no more than one event involving amplified live and/or recorded music/sound per calendar month.**

**This would still allow a three day function/event, being classed as one overall event. i.e. Saturday, Sunday, and Bank Holiday Mondays.**

**We would find this completely unacceptable as our home is only three hundred meters from the park, and we should not be subjected to noise, nuisance, and disturbance.**

**As it stands a total of twelve events per year, potentially some lasting three days. No "rest bite", for adjacent inhabitants. As to occupy the attendees, by increasing the number of stages to be used from last year, even if two stages take perhaps a ten minute break, the remainder will continue with sound, so no actual down time over potentially 10.5 hours on a Saturday, and 9.5 hours on a Sunday and Bank Holiday. For a three day event, equating to 29.5 hrs of continuous action. Not including, set-up and clear up time with all that entails, metal work, skips, display vehicles, and**

staff. As per last year's festival an additional hour plus on the Sunday evening. Attendees can leave after two, three hours, those of us residing, have continued disturbance over thirty plus hours.

The way the original application has been "Couched", it implies licence being required due to the St. Neots Festival Event, but not showing clearly in the posted application the degree of clarity regarding the additional level of function capacity requested.

- No two events involving amplified live and/or recorded music/sound should be held on consecutive weekends at Priory Park.

This implies even with above, we now have potential overall of two event's per month. twenty four in the calendar year. We object strongly to Priory Park being used as a party venue.

- The only events involving amplified live and/or recorded music/sound held under this licence on Priory Park should be those organised by St Neotists CIC.

Noted.

- This does not apply to events where there is no regulated entertainment.

Within this note, we will still be accommodating further days, with some noise disturbance, from other bodies, who as now are already using loud hailers, for events such as running, fitness, dance, football. All of which are we would suggest very necessary, and within the correct use of the park. So again this would make overall a considerable number of days annually.

### **1. The Prevention of Crime and Disorder:**

By the number of people who will through the event access by passing through, and parking, in the surrounding roads and cul-de-sac's. There are further issues for household security, and resident's vehicles, in what have been quiet areas, and very often the very reason inhabitants chose to live in these areas. We live here and will have no escape from the continuous noise nuisance, which spills over beyond the site for party antics, often fueled by particularly alcohol.

### **2. Public Safety:**

Although we understand it is not the responsibility of the applicants to address parking. We do believe it is for HDC and their relevant sub-committees, this must be addressed, for Public Safety.

Particularly regarding access for children and those requiring some level of physical mobility support, at a site not set up for these type of events. The infer structure is not in place.

Huntingdon Road is a main artery for large volumes of traffic, on a normal day, hence the relatively recent reduced speed limit and traffic calming. Priory Hill likewise.

As my letter states, due to Park design / access changes since a large "Re-enactment", was staged some years ago there was the facility to use part of the park for car parking, which by definition helped, but did not alleviate on road issues and "Near miss incidents" Huntingdon road was solidly parked causing the road at times to grind to a halt. We have seen buses, delivery vehicles, and emergency personnel struggling to navigate in safety. I would suggest as ourselves we have not complained in the past as more of a one off event, but this will not now be the case. So the noise of extra traffic, congestion fumes and in-appropriate parking, even on existing legitimate football matches on a Saturday, can cause antisocial behavior, if individuals are challenged by local residents.

Many people will need to cross this road at designated points which are not traffic light or Zebra crossing controlled. Hence traffic parked along the road edge, creates a corridor of some distance, where children, and cyclists in particular are not easily seen behind these vehicles. Couple that with driver frustration due to severely, impeded progress along the road, and blind spots, this increases potential incidents significantly, particularly when vehicles park half on the pavement / grass verge or vehicles do the same to progress. This will not be safe particularly as in close proximity to child play areas.

This spills over into adjacent roads as per the last St. Neots Festival, with I believe approximately 12,000 attendees. If this new licence facility is granted, that could equate to some 20,000 attendees due to the size of the park and extensive recent surrounding housing development's, i.e. Loves Farm and the Winteringham, developments, and those adjacent to the A1.

With virtually no on-site parking provision, and lack of infrastructure to safeguard the individuals at these access and exit points, how does that safeguard attendees and local inhabitants in these areas due to the massive increase in density of event users.

People in general will drive if they can as near as possible to the site, rather than walk any distance and sometimes park inadvertently causing obstruction, when they have become time pressured.

Safety first please.

If the sub-committee has already been considered, then we respectfully suggest, after these comments, this should be done again, otherwise the general public has had any direct input to that finding, other than by well intended committee members, who may not have had the benefit of local views.

### **3. The Prevention of Public Nuisance:**

Please note comments from above, regarding the areas under the 2003 Act, that reduce our living and working amenity and environment, if this licence is granted.

There is no infrastructure in place for facilities.

However at the other sites currently used for events, such as Regatta Meadows, Riverside Park. There are permanent restaurants, catering facilities, toilets, and off-road parking, available.

**In St. Neots there is a substantial regeneration project currently ongoing at the Priory Centre and Market Square, both of which offer the type of events that Mr. Pitt, is wanting. These venues have all the infrastructure / parking already in place, without causing stress, anxiety, and noise to residential homes nearby.**

**St Neots has a vast entertainment schedule across the year, when you take into account, museum activities, Priory Centre music events, theatre events, shows, dances and fairs. Regatta meadows events and sporting events, riverside park, music and sport and family events, which have taken place successfully over many years. Priory Park has always been a peaceful and beautiful area of St. Neots, offering a peaceful haven to residents of all ages.**

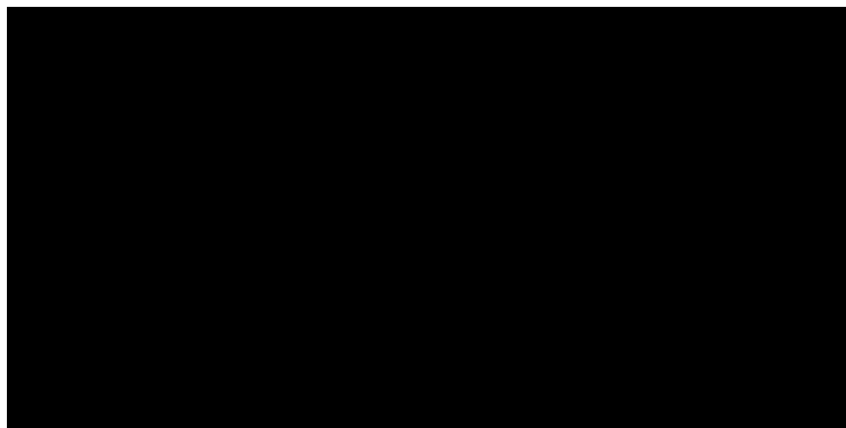
**This does not appear compatible or acceptable.**

**4. The Prevention of Children from Harm:**

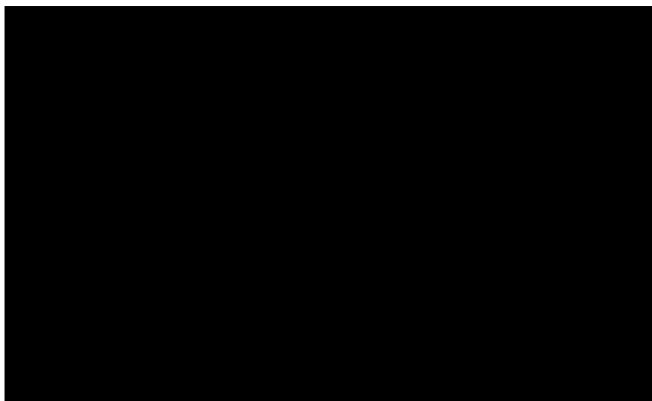
**We have not the data to comment, therefore leave in the authorities decision making remit.**

- **We await your further communication.**

**Kind regards**



**Attached letter below:**



**Huntingdonshire District Council,  
Licensing Section,  
Pathfinder House,  
St. Mary's Street, Huntingdon,  
Cambs,  
PE29 3TN.**

29/04/2024

**Ref: AP/HDC. / PP1.**

**Notice of Application for a premises Licence. Benjamin  
Michael Pitt 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024.**

**Priory Park, off Huntingdon Road, St. Neots PE19 1RF.**

I wish to register my concern as noted below.

I have only seen one notice posted, at Priory Park, not on a main entrance regarding this licence application, and believe if it had been more prominent, there would be more detail registered with yourselves.

**Outline application:**

**An extremely all-encompassing request, for what appears if granted, an automatic renewal for some years ahead. With the ability to access the individual's event dates, without question. Any Saturday, Sunday, Bank Holidays, that the applicant wishes to facilitate if granted, with no clear definition of the event/s.**

**Priory Park is a very large site compared with others in St. Neots, and therefore could/would accommodate vast numbers, with all the issues extra capacity brings. I question the infrastructure to accommodate, and the suitability for this outdoor space.**

**Parking issues:**

**As other events there will be a considerable increase of parking along the main roads, particularly, Huntingdon road and into the local closes, affecting thoroughfares and access. This has already been getting worse with existing events. Due to landscaping changes to address other issues at Priory Park. There is no longer the facility to allow organisers, (with permission), as in the past to access and use part of the park itself, for parking, on the grass area adjacent to Priory Hill. Where in the past before changes were made, I would suggest up to at least 150 vehicles were accommodated, and were thereby off road. Even when this was available there was considerable vehicle parking on adjacent roads.**

**Sound levels.**

**Depending on the type of event, varying noise levels, and times quoted into the evenings affecting people's rest days. Particularly children bed times, night shift workers, trying to sleep. With quoted 8-30 pm or 9-30 pm, finishes. Then no doubt closing down / removal noise, for equipment, and waste such as skips, to allow the park to function for the following day.**

**Thank you for your consideration.**

