

Mid Devon Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL
LICENSING
03 JUN 2014
ANNEX 29

This representation is made about the premises to be licensed as detailed below

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 3)	SARAH HANMER
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	
Postal and email address	WITHYWINDS, STONES HILL, SANDFORD, CREDITON EX17 4EF
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	EAST PIDSELEY FARM
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	PIDSELEY LANE, SANDFORD CREDITON, EX17 4EF

Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 4)

Licensing Objective	Yes Or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder		
Public safety	YES	Due to inaccessibility of the roads. See attached.
To prevent public nuisance	YES	Due to past experience of loud noise day and night See attached.
To protect children from harm		

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. **	
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Date: 1st June 2014

Representation: Sunset Festival, East Pidsley Farm, Pidsley Lane, Sandford, 28 Aug – 1 Sep 2014

I wish to officially and fervently object to the proposed Sunset Festival at East Pidsley Farm taking place this year or indeed anytime at all in the future.

2013 Festival noise

Last year my partner and I were subjected to an onslaught of noise from what we later learnt was known locally as "Roddy's Rave". Most disturbing was the particularly offensive bass tone thumping for several days during this event, which continued on into the evening and indeed the same level of noise persisted for all or most of the night. Despite closing all the windows, the noise penetrated the property. We subsequently had little to no sleep for several nights, whilst the event continued, which not only affected my health, but also my work due to sleep deprivation. I periodically suffer from chest infections and I am asthmatic, so it is necessary for me to have plenty of air, which was not feasible at that time, due to closing the windows at night in an attempt to shut out as much noise as possible, though the bass thumping was still very much in evidence.

We were kept awake the previous year, but at that stage we did not know why or where this atrocious sound was coming from and thought it was a "one off" party, so we were horrified when it occurred again last year with even more intensity. The noise of the continuous bass thumping is unpleasant and became an increasing irritant, particularly when we were trying to go to sleep.

Wildlife

I am Devon born and bred and have nothing against people enjoying themselves and indeed I love good music and a party, but this type of 5 day and night event should not be permitted to take place in this vicinity, as it totally destroys the ambience of this rural area of Devon where many people live and work in harmony with nature. I am also concerned about the local wildlife, as it has been proven that loud noise and lighting has a detrimental effect on the wellbeing of wildlife, let alone the fact that some local farmers are worried about their livestock.

Sound management plan

I have read with dismay the "sound management plan" as submitted by the festival organisers and I fail to see how the sound management will improve, albeit instead of 500 people in attendance and probably one or maybe 2 stages as in the past, they are planning at least 4 stages and 1500 people, hence, with the best will in the world, it will, in all probability be noisier. How can building 4ft earth barriers, using fallen trees and bales of hay prevent intrusive sound travelling to neighbouring houses?

Thoroughfares and vehicles

During this event last year, numerous vehicles, some with loud exhausts and fumes sped up and down the narrow twisty road past our house at all times of the day and night, several with extremely dubious looking occupants, which caused us to be vigilant of our property and also our dog. Occasionally marijuana could be smelt emitting from the cars as they passed.

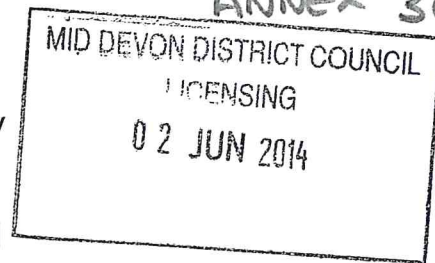
Driving around these very narrow lanes with minimum passing places will be even more of a nightmare for everyone, with an influx of an extra 600 (this number was suggested by the organisers) vehicles, which will include camper vans and it is likely that our local "roads" are unfamiliar to many of the drivers who are likely to attend the Festival. I am aware that part of the circuit will be one way, however what happens if and when a vehicle breaks down? It will undoubtedly make this year's chaos at the Devon County Show look like a walk in the park.

Resume

Surely we should be allowed to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of our own homes and gardens, which after all is why we live here. It would be unwise to go away at a time when this festival is taking place (as disrespectfully suggested by one of the organisers), as this could present an open invitation for those with less than trustworthy motives.

I feel sure there are more appropriate sites for such a festival but I personally am adamant that the Sunset Festival should not go ahead at Pidsley Farm, due to the vexation I have previously experienced and also my lack of faith in the organisers' (none of whom are local) strategic plan or their capabilities and understanding of this area. During the meeting at the village hall, one of the organisers did mention that the site was not suitable.

Mid Devon Licensing Authority
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Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 3)	Susan and David Crosby
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	
Postal and email address	Stoneshill Cottage Stoneshill, EX17 4EF
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	East Pidsley Farm
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	East Pidsley, Sandford, Crediton, EX17 4EW

Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 4)

Licensing Objective	Yes or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder		
Public safety		
To prevent public nuisance		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the previous events the organisers have failed to adhere to correct sound levels, this is accepted in their sound management plan and they also accept that they'd failed to respond correctly to complaints; we have little confidence that they will do so at this event. 2. The noise levels in previous years have been unacceptable and over a long period of time due to the music starting at 10 am and continuing for approximately 14 to 15 hours. The music is of a repetitive nature with a very deep bass. During both past events we have had to close our windows at night in order to try and sleep which was difficult, this can mean no sleep until 1 or 2 am. 3. 15 to 16 hours of loud music on more than one day is completely unacceptable, the whole of the weekend is disrupted by continuous music from 10am and into the night. 4. In their sound management plan it states that local residents will be contacted by formal letter, we

		<p>received no such letter. The meeting where the sound manager was to be present was scheduled on a bank holiday, when many people would be on holiday and we ourselves were unable to attend.</p> <p>5. There is no monitoring of sound levels it seems by outside agencies. To a lay person a 40db night time restriction sound level means nothing, dependant upon the wind direction and lay of the land sound can travel a great distance. How are we to know if the sound exceeds the specified limits, if it's loud and disruptive, it's disruptive.</p> <p>6. If the council grant the licence they should be on hand to monitor the sound levels and deal with any issues, they should not expect residents who are affected by the noise to have to deal with the situation on their own, which is what appears to have happened at previous events.</p> <p>7. We had no prior warning of the previous two events, and we had no information provided to us as to what hours they were allowed to play music until or how loud the music could be played, furthermore we had no information as to whom we could make a complaint to regarding noise nuisance. We thought the first gathering was a one off and we tolerated the noise, we were concerned when the 2013 event appeared. Both events had unacceptable sound levels, we merely tolerated them on both occasions and we are very concerned that the event is escalating in size and duration.</p>
To protect children from harm		

<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. **</p>	<p>Suggestions if council seriously considering granting licence :</p> <p>1 Organisers set up a test system, and both supporters of event and opponents listen at various points.</p> <p>2The length of the festival and the hours that music is permitted is reduced.</p> <p>3 The council to monitor sound levels throughout the event.</p> <p>4 The organisers to be held accountable for breaches of sound levels by facing financial penalties and be prevented from holding further events and licences at the premises.</p>
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Signed:

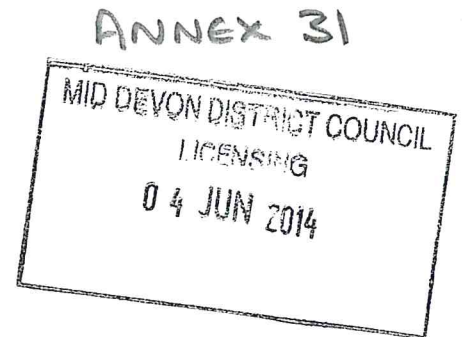
Date:

Please see notes on reverse

NOTES

Licensing Department
Environmental Department
Mid Devon District Council
Phoenix House
Tiverton
Devon

Swannaton
Sandford
Credton
Devon
EX17 4EW



29/5/14

Dear Licensing and Environmental Officers,

Ref: Sunset festival 2014, East Pidsley Farm, Sandford, Credton, Devon EX17 4EW

I write as an immediate neighbour to this property and to object to the application to the hold a festival there at the end of August.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

The roads around this property are very narrow and in a poor state of repair with broken surfaces, potholes and are frequently flooded. The proposal to make a one way system with traffic going down past West Pidsley, Yarmleigh and up to Jack Backs crossroads is unworkable. The road is winding and narrow with few passing places. There is a ditch on the side of the steep rise to Jack Backs where cars in the past have fallen and become stranded. In addition this would limit the exit from our property to using this route. We operate a legitimate farming business here involving tractors with associated equipment and would seldom choose to follow that road out, it will therefore be an infringement on our right to access the road from Sandford to Kennerleigh via the shorter route past East Pidsley.

The roads leading to Jack Backs crossroads are popular with walkers and cyclists and it would also pose a safety risk to them.

Should either ourselves or any of the other properties in the vicinity need emergency services it is unlikely that they would be able to gain access in the short time one would expect to receive help.

Last year a vast quantity of refuse was left out for normal household council collection which is an abuse of our services. One person observed a large hole being dug in the field at East Pidsley for the burying of rubbish after the festival.

CRIME AND DISORDER:

Farms are especially vulnerable to crime. Valuable equipment and livestock will be at risk from an influx of visitors. There were incidents last year of theft, trespass and arson involving a large bale of straw being set fire to in one of the neighbour's fields by a festival goer.

It is unlikely that the police will be able to provide adequate cover when they are already stretched attending to urban areas. There is no mobile phone reception in the East Pidsley area.

PUBLIC NUISANCE:

The noise levels have caused enormous distress and anger to the local community and contrast markedly with the normal peace and quiet in this area. The sound recordist sent by the council last year to monitor normal sound levels here commented that the equipment was unable to record any sound before the festival because it is so quiet here.

The website states excessive lighting will be used and this will be very disappointing as this is one of the few remaining areas in the country where there is total absence of artificial light at night.

The organisers intend closing the public right of way which crosses the entire length of the field from one road to the other. However, I have taken advice from the NFU legal team and it is not possible for any individual or event organiser to close a footpath. One cannot deny the public access to the footpath in order to make private commercial gain. Whilst a form does exist to apply to the county council for a temporary closure this is only for work to be carried out on the footpath not to hold a private event and even then there have to be provisions made for an alternative route which in this case would not be feasible. The only other example of a footpath being closed for other reasons was in the widespread foot and mouth epidemic of 2001 which was clearly under exceptional circumstances.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM:

East Pidsley has cattle and sheep grazing on the fields on which the festival will take place. The organisers have stated that compost toilets will be used, however it is essential that people have access to running water to wash hands adequately. There was a serious case recently at an open farm where young children contracted E coli 107 and were very ill requiring intensive care treatment (ref Farmers Weekly 9/5/14 'Godstone farm e coli victims win £1m payout'). The Health Protection Agency provide guidance on avoiding infection at festivals and give clear instructions about the necessity for hand washing and not relying on hand gels etc.

The whole site at East Pidsley is littered with scrap metal and redundant machinery posing a real safety risk.

I recommend that the council refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Stephens

Mid Devon Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM

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Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 3)	Ms DENISE MINGHAM
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	
Postal and email address	CLAMPITT, STONES HILL, SANDFORD. E17 4EF
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	EAST PIDSLY FARM
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	East Pidsley, CREDITON, EX17 4EW

Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 4)

Licensing Objective	Yes Or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	YES	It is difficult to see how 1300 people could be ^{effectively} monitored for the effects of Alcohol and/or drugs.
Public safety	YES	The narrow and winding lanes leading to the site could deny or delay access for the Emergency Services to all people in this area.
To prevent public nuisance	YES	The constant bass beat from last year's event was horrendous and invasive. Trying to do anything that required concentration (indoor sport) was impossible. Each night the incessant noise prevented sleep of any quality at all.
To protect children from harm	YES	Being a carer for someone who has had two strokes I do need to be alert on a daily basis. I would be concerned about young children being present in this environment and the effectiveness of any monitoring and by whom?

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. **	
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Signed:

Date: 29-5-14

Please see notes on reverse



NOTES

1. 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 in your absence.
2. This form must be returned within the statutory period of 28 days from
 - a) The date the application was displayed on the premises
 - b) The date of the public notice placed in a local newspaper or other local publication.
3. You may make a representation wherever you live in relation to the premises but your representation must be relevant.
4. These can only relate to the four licensing objectives.
5. Your representation will be passed to the applicant, to allow them the opportunity of addressing your concerns. Your representations will be published in the report available to the Licensing Committee, which will be publicly available. Names and addresses will only be withheld from the Committee report at your request.
6. Please return this form when completed to:

Mid Devon Licensing Authority
Phoenix House
Phoenix Lane
Tiverton
Devon EX16 6PP

Tel: 01884 244617/8/9

Fax: 01884 234256

Email: mparish@middevon.gov.uk

Mid Devon Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM

This representation is made about the premises to be licensed as detailed below

Your name/ organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 3)	MS. H. A. CORRIN
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	N/A
Postal and email address	Clampitt, Stouze Hill, Sandford, Crediton, Devon, EX17 4EF
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	East Pidsley Farm
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	East Pidsley, Sandford, Crediton, EX17 4EW

Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 4)

Licensing Objective	Yes or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	Yes	See Note 1 attached.
Public safety	Yes	See Note 2 attached.
To prevent public nuisance	Yes	See Note 3 attached.
To protect children from harm	Yes	See Note 4 attached.

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. **	
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Signed: _____

Date: 29th May, 2014

Please see notes on reverse



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- NOTE 1 - Crime and Disorder. At a meeting with the Organisers on Sunday, 25th May, 2014, they stated they were expecting 600 vehicles, but that someone, unknown to them, had advertised this event in the press as a rave. This could double the attendance to approximately 2,500 people. I doubt very much if the organisers alone could control any under-age alcohol consumption or the use of illegal drugs, without confrontation.
- NOTE 2 - Public Safety. Without a Police presence the number of vehicles on country lanes approaching the site, in some cases only 4 metres wide, could prevent access for the "Blue Light" emergency services to deal immediately with any life-threatening situations.
- NOTE 3 - Public Nuisance. On both previous occasions so far, I have been denied the enjoyment of my garden during the day and from quality sleep during the night - and into the early hours of the morning - by excessively loud persistent pounding music, which also prevents concentration on any other indoor hobbies such as reading.
- NOTE 4 - Protection of Children. At the end of a two-and-a-half hour meeting, the organisers did not instill in me any confidence in their ability to effectively manage such a large event for five days and four nights. In fact, their presentation left more questions unanswered, for example, There does not appear to be any special measures for the protection of young children from any sort of abuse in this type of environment.

Mid Devon Licensing Authority
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REPRESENTATION FORM

This representation is made about the premises to be licensed as detailed below

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 3)	JILL BURSTON
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	
Postal and email address	ASHRIDGE FARM, SANDFORD CREDITON, DEVON, EX17 4EW
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	EAST PIDSELY FARM
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	East Pidsley, CREDITON, EX17 4EW

Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 4)

Licensing Objective	Yes Or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder		
Public safety		
To prevent public nuisance	Yes	Please see attached letter.
To protect children from harm		

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. **	
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Signed:

Date: 2-6-2014

Please see notes on reverse

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Email: mparish@middevon.gov.uk

I run a bed & breakfast business near to where the sun set festival is planned at the end of August,

From past festivals held, we have had no notice of these adverts, our guest where every understanding but the noise from the festival has been unbearable I can still hear the bass, and the vibrations in the bedrooms

last year we had to close for the week of the Festival and again this year we advertise our B-B as a working organic farm situated in a quiet and picturesque area of Mid Devon.

I'm very concern^{ed} ~~ed~~ the effect it ~~has~~ has on the farming community, having to run a business with two nights of disturbed sleep.

2-6-2014

Mid Devon Licensing Authority
Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM

This representation is made about the premises to be licensed as detailed below

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 3)	RICHARD BURSTON
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	
Postal and email address	ASHBRIDGE FARM SANDFORD CREDITON
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	EAST PIDSLEY FARM
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	East Pidsley, CREDITON, EX17 4EW

Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 4)

Licensing Objective	Yes Or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	YES	
Public safety	YES	
To prevent public nuisance	YES	YES
To protect children from harm	YES	YES

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. **	
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Signed:

Date: 3rd June 2014

Please see notes on reverse

NOTES

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Preventing crime and disorder

At the public meeting arranged by the organizers they stated that owing to the publicity by the press and the Sandford website, that the festival was a Rave, there was a very real possibility that "we have shot ourselves in the foot" (being the people objecting) "because calling it a rave would attract large or very large numbers of ravers descending on the festival"

In the light of this comment the 6 security staff employed by the festival and the lack of any security fencing around the site could lead to a uncontrollable situation arising.

There is a public footpath running past or through the site means that any body would be able to walk into the site

Public safety

The roads are narrow country roads and if there is to be the numbers of large converted buses and vans traveling to and from the site as in previous years, this will lead to considerable congestion in the area.

To prevent public nuisance

The fact that there will be music played, live and recorded, 24/7 for 4/5 days will be a cause of public nuisance. The last 2 years the rubbish from the festival was distributed around the area to look as if it was refuse put out by house holds. We had 8 black bin liners put out with our rubbish for 2 weeks running which were not ours. All along the road the same thing happened.

To protect children from harm

In previous years there was no thought of safety regarding the danger of farm machinery and hay/silage bale.

Suggestions of conditions

Security fence be erected and a lot more security staff .

Site moved away from public footpath.

Restrict any music being played to the hours between 9 a.m. until 11 p.m (live or recorded)
This must include any played by campers.

Health and Safety Executive officers inspect the site prior to the event and conduct a risk assessment

Strict controls on rubbish disposal.

3/6/14

Thomas Keating

From: Richard
Sent: 05 June 2014 09:53
To: Licensing
Cc: Michael Lee; Margaret Squires; Sally Gabriel
Subject: Sunset festival
Attachments: Richard Burston.vcf

Categories: Blue Category

Sir

I have received the following advice on the matter of the footpaths on or near a Festival site

Special events closures

- Can last for up to three days
- Only one such closure can occur on a public right of way per year
- At least three weeks' notice to prepare and seal the Order
- Closure can not be for commercial gain.

Five day closure for works

- Issued where works are proposed to be executed on or near a public right of way and it may be necessary for the safety and convenience of path users to close the footpath
- Under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 section 15(7) a path can be closed for this purpose for up to five days
- There can be a charge for such closures
- A minimum notice period of seven days before the path is to be closed in order to prepare notices
- A five day closure notice cannot be extended other than by arranging for a six month temporary closure order (see below)

Please bring this to the notice of the licensing committee.

Richard Burston

