

SANDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

At a Special Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 27 May 2014, it was unanimously agreed to OBJECT to an Application for a new, time limited premises licence for "Sunset Festival 2014" to be held at East Pidsley Farm, Pidsley Lane, Pidsley, Crediton, Devon, EX17 4EW from 28 August – 1 September 2014.

* (As part of the Meeting 22 Parishioners attended to voice their views in the Open Forum).

It was agreed to object to the four Licensing Objectives as follows :-

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

- There are concerns over Trespass to neighbouring properties (this occurred last year)
- There are concerns over Vandalism to neighbouring properties (this occurred last year)

Public Safety

- Problems over access by Emergency Vehicles to the Site (It is felt that this is a problem for both those attending the Event and for Local People living in this vicinity).
- Road Safety problems for Vehicles and Pedestrians.
- The One Way System is totally inadequate.
- There are potential problems in this part of the Parish with narrow lanes.
- Inadequate Farm Hygiene and concerns over Health issues
- Concern over the potential danger of cars and camper vans falling into the ditches on the sides of the roads/lanes in the Festival Area

The prevention of Public Nuisance

- Problems over Noise which is continuous and persistent as proved over previous years.
- Problems over noise apply to the whole Site and not just the Musical Stage areas.
- There are inadequate measures for Monitoring the Noise Levels and it is felt there should be an Independent Third Party responsible for this matter.
- Problems over phone contact as there is no Mobile Phone coverage in this area
- There is talk of a 24 hour phone being manned. How is this possible given the lack of Mobile Phone coverage ?
- This is a Rural Area and there are concerns for the Welfare of Livestock in this area.
- There will also be Disruption to Local Farming with a Loss of Income
- No consideration has been given to Peaceful Nature of this location with a Festival planned for Five days.

The protection of Children from Harm

- Inadequate Farm Hygiene

- Rusty Farm Machinery

CONDITIONS / FURTHER COMMENTS

- Is there Adequate Insurance Cover and has the Documentation been fully examined ?
- It is noted that Earth Banks are planned. Has a Tipping Licence been taken out for this Event ?
- Has a Traffic Order been taken out?
- It has been suggested that a Bond should be taken out in the event of the Organisers not adhering to all the Rules and Regulations of organising and running the Music Festival. *

FINALLY IT IS FELT THAT THE MID DEVON DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE SHOULD MAKE A FORMAL SITE VISIT, BEFORE MAKING ANY FORMAL DECISION, SO THAT THEY ARE AWARE OF THE LOCATION.

June 1st 2014

DOWRICH HOUSE

SAWDFORD

ANNEX 10

Tom Healey Ssg

Dear Tom

On behalf of my neighbours, we wish to
oppose the granting of a licence for the 'Sunset Musical
Festival' at East Pidsley
for the following reasons
Problem of Crime & Disorder

With 1500 people milling around, all the farmsteads &
buildings are at very high risk of burglaries & fire
Public Safety

The roads are very narrow, particularly in Sandford
& with harvest could well be at the busiest time
the danger with children & young people getting in the way of
heavily laden farm vehicles is very serious
Public Nuisance

5 days of continuous music is very unfair to the local
people, many are elderly, already some bed & breakfast businesses
are staying empty for the weekend.

The Protection of Children from harm

There is a very high risk from criminal activity
& picking up various diseases, inadequate water supplies to keep
everything clean

This site is very unsuitable for a function of this size
& I'm afraid there could be disasters there

Yours sincerely
Michael Lee de la Cruz, Cresswell, Cresswell & Sandford

Thomas Keating

From: Joanne Wright
Sent: 15 May 2014 08:30
To: Licensing
Subject: Sunset Festival 2014

Categories: Blue Category

Dear Sir/Madam

I understand that The Sunset Collective is planning to hold another Festival at East Pidsley this year and that an application has been received to have the event licensed, either by one or several simultaneous TENs. I feel that I must state my concerns about this, to make you aware of the problems that this Festival causes for residents of the area and to raise my particular alarm that such events might become even more regular (I have heard that Full Premises Licence might be applied for which would allow more events of this type to be held each year)..

1. Noise and disturbance of the peace

Last year we were disturbed both during the day and during the night by the noise of loud music. Although we live 2 km away from the site of the event, the persistent banging and throbbing of the bass and drums could clearly be heard and was particularly distressing at night. It prevented us from sleeping, even with the windows closed. We were told that the noise levels were being monitored but this seems to have been entirely ineffective. We did register our complaint with the local police but the noise persisted right through the weekend. This level of noise pollution is a real public nuisance and is an entirely inappropriate intrusion into the lives of a peaceful rural community.

2. Safety

I am also seriously concerned about safety at such events. The TEN does, I understand, limit numbers of attenders to about 500, but who will be monitoring this? And what if several simultaneous TENs are issued? Or a full Premises Licence? How would numbers be restricted or controlled then? Is the Festival area being properly fenced off and is there sufficient security in place to prevent gatecrashers and to control behaviour and ensure the safety of those attending the event as well as local people who are having it thrust upon them? What about the difficulties of getting emergency services to the site along our narrow country lanes? There could be a couple of thousand people piling into Sandford and the surrounding countryside. The impact that this would have on the local lanes which are completely unsuited to heavy traffic flow is unthinkable as is the danger that carloads of party-goers joyriding around would have on walkers and children in the area.

3. Crime Prevention

The Sunset Festival's own website certainly does not inspire confidence in this respect. I quote: "Although drugs are banned by law, some people will take them nevertheless and this can be overwhelming at events.....We do not encourage the use of illegal substances.....". This is a clear disclaimer of any responsibility for the behaviour of Festival-goers. Are the organisers going to be asked to ensure that the event is properly "policed" and held to account for any infringement of the law in regard not only of drug abuse but of any other criminal activity on site? And what about alcohol and drug generated crime off-site in the neighbouring communities? What about damage to the surrounding area (hedges, gates, stock) and the risk of damage/theft at neighbouring properties?

4. Child safety

Local children have, over the years played safely in and around our lanes and bridle paths. When our children were young they used to spend hours wandering between two or three of the local playing with other children of similar ages. We had no fears for their safety. They knew the rules we had set for them and they stuck to them. I am very

concerned that the intrusion of events such as this Festival would bring into the neighbourhood people who could, whether fuelled by alcohol and/or drugs or not, endanger today's generation of youngsters.

These are the reasons why I wish to register my objection to the issuing of the TENs licences and/or the full Premises Licence . I am not a killjoy but a very concerned resident. If I felt that proper security, safety, crime prevention and noise control (limiting both the levels and the hours at which it could be made) were in place, I would not be against a single Festival of an appropriate scale being held. But what is being proposed by the Sunset Festival ("it's going to be big, bright and not at all subtle") is absolutely inappropriate to the site at East Pidsley and will have a dreadful, and potentially frightening, effect on the local community. The thought that a full Premises Licence could mean several of these events annually, simply does not bear thinking about.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne Wright

HOWARD'S COTTAGE

NEWBUILDINGS

SANDFORD

EX17 4PP

Thomas Keating

From: MIKE KIRBY <
Sent: 15 May 2014 13:10
To: Licensing
Subject: RAVE - Sandford

Categories: Blue Category

My husband and I would like to object to the proposed "RAVE" which is to be held in Sandford. These events which have been held over the last years have always been a nuisance.. The noise goes on from very early in the morning until well into the night. Bearing in mind that in summer most people have their windows open, we have experienced a great deal of noise from the site although we have had windows closed (Double-glazed)! Many of the visitors arrive in very large, scruffy vans etc., which in themselves cause a lot of problems on our very narrow roads, over a number of days. There is nothing about these occasions that relates to this quiet, beautiful area, and we would therefore be obliged if you would reject this licence. We see this as the thin edge of the wedge, as they are apparently going to seek permission for eleven days next year. Yours faithfully, Mike and Sheila Kirby.

WOODBERE HOUSE , KENNERLEIGH,
CREDITON, DEVON, EX17 4RS

Thomas Keating

From: foxbarnard
 Sent: 16 May 2014 09:04
 To: Licensing
 Subject: re Application for event at East Pidsley

Categories: Blue Category

Re.The Sunset Collective Event at East Pidsley, 28th August to 1st September 2014

15th May 2014

I contact you as a near neighbour of the proposed event and wish my objections to be shared with the panel from MDCC charged with considering the application for a TEN.

1. This is not the first event of this kind to be held at East Pidsley so we living nearby have experience of its impact and failures:

1. excessive and continuous noise with intrusive bass beats that cannot be suppressed or ignored
2. promises made to the community about control and care not being fully complied with
3. benefits offered to the community (a donation to Sandford School) not being carried through despite a reminder letter being sent and acknowledged by the recipient

2. The event takes place on rented fields but is organised from elsewhere, London, I believe, and the website of the SUNSET company advertising the event should be tabled at the MDCC panel since it offers 'experiences' beyond those specified in an application...some of which seem to permit excessive noise and illegal activities.

' Although drugs are banned by law. Some people will take them nevertheless....We are non-judgemental, not pro or against personal choices...'

This verbatim extract seems to condone an illegal activity: to offer a blind eye to drug-taking which is not about personal choice but, simply, illegal.

4. As the panel may be aware, this area of mid-Devon is typically rural with narrow roads, hedge-banks and farm traffic, as well as service vehicles to those of us living here. Any additional traffic creates safety problems especially when drivers do not know the routes. And the volume of additional traffic will be in a narrow window of time.
5. Finally, previous events have been relatively short. This one lasts five days: quite excessive and much harder to supervise effectively and continuously to ensure public safety and prevent public nuisance.

Yours sincerely,
 Pamela Barnard.

ALLER DOWN COTTAGE
 COPPICE LANE, SANDFORD
 EX17 4EG



This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.

Kosmicare UK is a service dedicated to helping people undergoing difficult drug-related experiences at festivals and music events. We set up a safe space where people in crisis can find tailored support by experienced therapists. This idea was born from a harm reduction program created by the Multidisciplinary Association of Psychedelic Studies (MAPS).

Presently Kosmicare UK is a constituted community group, run by a group dedicated volunteers and funded through donations and gifts.

Although drugs are banned by law, some people will take them nevertheless and this can be overwhelming at events. Many such people need a safe space and support rather than medical intervention or security involvement. Kosmicare provides this in a way that encourages a negative experience to be turned into a positive healing experience or a process of self-awareness and self-discovery.

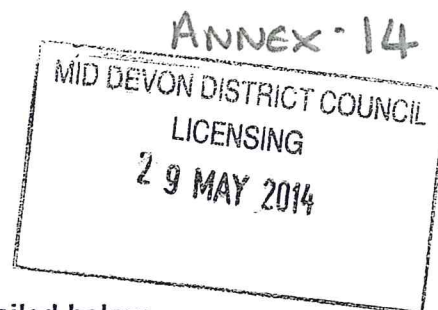
We do not encourage the use of illegal substances. We are non-judgemental, not pro or against personal choices, we are just there to care.

[Print](#) [Email](#)



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)	Mr. & Mrs. Woods
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	
Postal and email address	Bramblings, Stoneshill, Sandford, 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	Milk stolen last year from neighbour's doorstep. Lads then seen drinking milk as they walked up the hill.
Public safety	Yes	Traffic management plan uses the lane JackBack hill. This lane is a steep hill, single track, no passing places, used frequently by farm tractors, trailers etc. The route then joins a busy lane on a very dangerous blind bend. Only alternative would route traffic through Sandford village. This is a very dangerous plan.
To prevent public nuisance	Yes	Unable to be in the garden because of the extreme constant noise. Being unable to sleep due to the noise which in turn makes opening the window not an option. Even in a double glazed environment the music being heard above the television.
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: 29th May 2014.

Please see notes on reverse

Thomas Keating

From: jenny.hatchell
Sent: 14 May 2014 21:48
To: Licensing
Subject: Sunset Festival East Pidsley

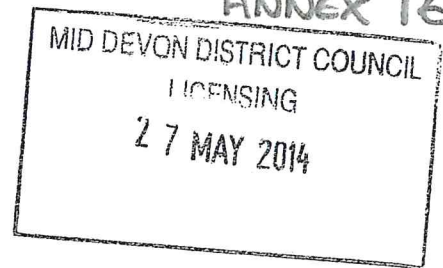
Categories: Blue Category

I hear from Mr Winter that you have now received a licence request for the Sunset Festival, East Pidsley Farm (Aug 28-Sept 1st).

Please please do not allow this to go ahead. I live between Sandford and East Village, about 3 miles from the site. Last year's festival played an unceasing penetrating dance beat for two days. In order to cope I was forced to stay inside the house with the double glazed windows closed all weekend, when I usually would be out in the garden. At night I had to wear earplugs to get to sleep despite the double glazing. Each hour I wished it was the last.

This is not a friendly Devon folk festival with singing and guitars but a noise nightmare. This festival may be lucrative for some but it is hell for others.

Yours sincerely,
Dr Jennifer Hatchell
Priorton Mill Cottage
Sandford, Crediton,
EX17 4BT.



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)	Andrew Jackson
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	
Postal and email address	Little Pidslev. Sandford, Crediton, Devon, EX17 4EL
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	Last year there were several instances of petty theft during the festival: no other crime was reported in this area all year. For example, the farmer opposite not only lost their potato money but several sacks of potatoes. Local farmers had to block their fields to prevent trespass which caused them considerable inconvenience in terms of access.
Public safety	Yes	<p>The proposed site is accessed along narrow, single track lanes both of which are quite steep. The festival site itself can be quite boggy being essentially a water meadow and, having observed this while walking through it on the public footpath at several times of year. In previous years, vehicles have got stuck in the car park/camping areas and had to be pulled from the field by tractors.</p> <p>The access to the site is very restricted being accessed in either direction by a single track road. Access to the main festival site (rather than the car parking) is down a steep hill: although some access down fields is proposed to various areas of the site, this is entirely unsuitable for emergency vehicles. Recent events at the Devon County Show have shown the considerable difficulties encountered even on a flat, easily accessed area: tractors were pulling 4x4s out of the site. The proposed site is nothing like the County Show being both in a valley and a water meadow (which contradicts the event management plan saying that it is "well drained" in 4.10. Furthermore, the proposed one way system brings traffic down a very steep hill onto a blind double bend: this will create a significant hazard not only for the festival goers but also for the general public travelling to or from Sandford. The roads around the site are also in poor condition so this presents a further hazard. I believe that the festival traffic will present a considerable danger not only to the local inhabitants but also the festival goers themselves.</p> <p>When I walked the public footpath earlier this year there was still rubbish left from last year's event – a sofa(!) for instance.</p>

		<p>Also the fences in the proposed site are in poor condition with barbed wire trailing around. This does not bode well for the festival goers' safety.</p> <p>In the event of an emergency, access by the emergency services would be very awkward. I have considerable misgivings for the safety of festival goers if the emergency services had to attend. Any vehicles stopping in the lane would block further access. Emergency vehicles crossing fields is a problem in itself as discussed above.</p> <p>In previous years, the landowner has kept stock on the festival areas until immediately before the event. This brings the danger of cryptosporidium to the festival goers.</p> <p>The Emergency Management procedures described in the Event Management plan are inadequate with respect to communications. There is also no mobile phone coverage at the site so informing the emergency services of any event would require either access to a land line or that someone drive to where a signal could be obtained.</p>
To prevent public nuisance	Yes	<p>This is an exceptionally quiet rural area. We have suffered with festivals using temporary event notices at this premises over the last three years. Every year, the licensing conditions with respect to noise and allocated times have been ignored. The noise has been so bad that we felt that we were being driven from our home (one year it vibrated objects on shelves within the house). Last year, a group from that festival called and said that the music would be turned up very loud on the Sunday night which it was – way above the permitted level. The proposal for the festival/rave this year is for an even larger event that will create even more noise not only from the festival but also from the camping and car parking area. I am uncertain whether noise limits apply only to the music in the festival area or it covers the whole festival site including car parking, camping, etc. If the sound limits apply only to the festival area then the proposed increase in attendees will surely generate even more noise further compounding the nuisance. (Setting aside noise from generators, camping music, cars, etc.)</p> <p>Furthermore, it seems both unreasonable and inconsiderate to permit five days of continuous noise. The nature of the music is such that it pervades the entire area and it is impossible to escape, particularly at night. While the organisers may say it is "within the permitted limits" that doesn't take into account the nature of the area. Once one has noticed the sound, it is almost impossible to ignore it: there is no respite – you can hope that it stops but it doesn't. I would bring the Noise Council's "Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts" to the Committee's attention which offers guidelines for events, particularly in rural areas. The festival's Sound Management Plan fails to address any of those guidelines satisfactorily. The noise is not conveniently measured in terms of decibels - which can underestimate the intrusiveness of the low frequency noise that seems to be a feature of the psytrance music promoted by the festival. I have attended and enjoyed festivals in the past but the music stops over-night: it never has here.</p> <p>I would also add that there are many businesses in this area who market themselves on the basis of the peace and tranquillity of the area. Last year, several of them felt forced to close because the festival could ruin their reputation. The proposed increase in size and scale of the festival would do nothing for them. A new business, caring for autistic adults</p>

		<p>has moved in above us this year: they would certainly be affected by noise from the festival.</p> <p>Other farmers have had to move their stock because of the noise from the concert.</p> <p>The event management plan states that "we have built a good relationship with local authorities and residents": I cannot answer for the local authorities but it is certainly not true that there is a good relationship with the residents. The residents feel that the festival constitutes a major nuisance being five days and nights of continuous noise.</p> <p>The event and sound management plans, while concentrating on that produced in the festival area, do not consider the ancillary noise generated from an event of the scale proposed. There are a large number of generators required to support the various activities both in the festival and camping/car-parking areas: although these may be "silenced", the number required makes that questionable. Furthermore, the amount of noise from the campsite of 1500 people will be considerable since no doubt they will be playing music too: last year there were complaints and there were fewer than 500 people in total.</p> <p>The Sound Management plan discusses the use of meters to note the sound levels. There is no mention of either the calibration certificates required for the meters (to indicate that they are accurate) or competence certificates required for the operators of such meters (to indicate that they are taking the meter readings correctly). How will any readings be corroborated independently?</p> <p>Essentially the noise from the festival presents a material interference with my use and enjoyment of my home: the same is true for many others in the area.</p>
To protect children from harm	Yes	<p>The farm has a large amount of rusty machinery which is scattered over many fields. There would be a considerable risk to any children attending the festival from that machinery given the lack of fencing over the farm.</p> <p>There are a number of barns in various stages of decay would presenting "interesting areas of exploration" for children but considerable risk given their lack of maintenance.</p>

<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>It might be advisable for the Licensing Sub Committee to make a site visit.</p> <p>If a licence is granted then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the festival to three days, • No music, recorded or live, between the hours of 0100 and 1000. • Noise restrictions to apply to all areas of the festival site: event arena, car parking and camping. • Site cleared of all old machinery and other hazards: inspected by MDDC EHO at organiser's expense. • Non festival areas restricted by properly installed and maintained fencing. • Telephone landlines to be brought in for emergency and contact.
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Signed:

Date: 27 May 2014

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)	R. Hammond
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	
Postal and email address	Stones Hill Farm Sandford Credon 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, Credon, 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	The noise from this event is excessive. Last year, the continual bass drum beat penetrated our whole house until the early hours of the morning - sleep was impossible.
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. **	The event should be limited to two days only. Music should cease at midnight.
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Signed:

Date:

15/5/14

Please see notes on reverse

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