

Rep 1

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 3:16 PM

To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>

Subject: WK202320096 Thoulstone Park application 23 August

Dear Council,

My wife and I have been bitterly opposed to the concept of Thoulstone Park being used as a venue for Music Festivals since the first of them in 2013 – The Sunrise Festival. At that stage we were much relieved that John Freegard, who was then Senior Public Protection Officer EP (North West) Public Protection included the following in an email to two locally affected residents:-

“We have concluded that this site is not the best site for this festival and I have advised the Licensing Team and my hierarchy that Public Protection would certainly object to any future Licence Application for this site due to “proximity of noise sensitive receptors” constraints.”

We took this to be Council policy unless and until overturned by Councillors.

My reasons for objecting to the use of the marquee and its surrounds for any musical activity are as follows:-

The prevention of crime and disorder.

The widespread sale of drugs was apparent at the Sunrise Festival and apparently at the recent TEN Get On Festival on 4 August. This is illegal and is likely to lead to disorder. It is extremely likely that this practice will continue at future Events.

Public safety

The drugs issue is also likely to lead to danger to public safety on the neighbouring roads. Additionally, the only entrances to and exits from Thoulstone Park are to and from the very busy A36 and are entirely unsafe for anything but very intermittent traffic. Indeed, there was a fatality there on 11 August, although unrelated to the TEN festival.

The prevention of public nuisance

There is substantial public nuisance in terms of loud music, particularly low beat, and at levels below the limits proposed, which may anyhow be inadequately regulated. The nuisance is likely to be a disincentive to attracting guests to Hesdin Manor and to any other local hospitality or lodging establishments. In our case, we often have friends staying at weekends who come for rural peace and quiet. Additionally, a local farmer's horses have been severely stressed by the noise.

An additional public nuisance to all affected local residents is the need to continue to repeat our objections every time a Music Festival takes place.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Short Street, Chapmanslade

[REDACTED]

Rep 2

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 5:47 PM

To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>

Subject: WK202320096 Thoulstone Park application

WK202320096

Thoulstone Park application

11 September 2023

Dear Council,

I have been opposed to the concept of Thoulstone Park being used as a venue for Music Festivals since the first of them in 2013 – The Sunrise Festival.

My reasons for objecting to the use of the marquee and its surrounds for any musical activity are as follows:-

The prevention of crime and disorder.

The widespread sale of drugs was apparent at the Sunrise Festival and apparently at the recent TEN Get On Festival on 4 August. This is illegal and is likely to lead to disorder. It is extremely likely that this practice will continue at future Events.

Public safety

The drugs issue is also likely to lead to danger to public safety on the neighbouring roads. Additionally, the only entrances to and exits from Thoulstone Park are to and from the very busy A36 and are entirely unsafe for anything but very intermittent traffic. Indeed, there was a fatality there on 11 August, although unrelated to the TEN festival.

I also have young children and worry about wandering people coming into our lovely and quiet hamlet. I am concerned for their safety playing outside while these festivals are going on very close to our house.

The prevention of public nuisance

There is substantial public nuisance in terms of loud music, particularly low beat, and at levels below the limits proposed, which may anyhow be inadequately regulated. The nuisance is likely to be a disincentive to attracting guests to Hesdin Manor and to any other local hospitality or lodging establishments. In our case, we often have friends staying at weekends who come for rural peace and quiet. Additionally, my children have been kept up at night with the pounding bass sound.

An additional public nuisance to all affected local residents is the need to continue to repeat our objections every time a Music Festival takes place.

Thank you
[REDACTED]

Short Street
Chapmanslade



Rep 3

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 5:44 PM

To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>

Subject: WK202320096 Thoulstone Park application

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WK202320096

Thoulstone Park application

12 September

Dear Council,

I have been opposed to the concept of Thoulstone Park being used as a venue for Music Festivals since the first of them in 2013 – The Sunrise Festival.

My reasons for objecting to the use of the marquee and its surrounds for any musical activity are as follows:-

The prevention of crime and disorder.

The widespread sale of drugs was apparent at the Sunrise Festival and apparently at the recent TEN Get On Festival on 4 August. This is illegal and is likely to lead to disorder. It is extremely likely that this practice will continue at future Events.

Public safety

The drugs issue is also likely to lead to danger to public safety on the neighbouring roads. Additionally, the only entrances to and exits from Thoulstone Park are to and from the very busy A36 and are entirely unsafe for anything but very intermittent traffic. Indeed, there was a fatality there on 11 August, although unrelated to the TEN festival.

I also have young children and worry about wandering people coming into our lovely and quiet hamlet. I am concerned for their safety playing outside while these festivals are going on very close to our house.

The prevention of public nuisance

There is substantial public nuisance in terms of loud music, particularly low beat, and at levels below the limits proposed, which may anyhow be inadequately regulated. The nuisance is likely to be a disincentive to attracting guests to Hesdin Manor and to any other local hospitality or lodging establishments. In our case, we often have friends staying at weekends who come for rural peace and quiet. Additionally, my children have been kept up at night with the pounding bass sound.

An additional public nuisance to all affected local residents is the need to continue to repeat our objections every time a Music Festival takes place.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Short Street
Chapmanslade

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Rep 4

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 September 2023 12:54
To: [Morse, Trish](#); [PublicprotectionSouth](#)
Cc: [Parks, Bill](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: New premises license application WK202320096 for Thoulstone Park Limited,

To: Environmental Health (Wiltshire Council)

Subject: New premises license application WK202320096 for Thoulstone Park Limited, Thoustone, Wiltshire made by A&J Hughes-Hallet.

Dear Trish,

Thank you for your helpful response regarding the noise and vibration complaint we raised back in August about the 'Get On Festival' held at Thoulstone Park under a temporary events notice.

Based on the real-life experience of this previous event, I would like to raise an objection to the latest premises license application being made by Alka and James Hughes-Hallet for Thoulstone Park Limited.

The latest application proposes to hold amplified music events and staged performances both within a new proposed marquee and outdoors arena holding up to 150 seated persons and 400 standing persons. The application also seeks approval for 7 day a week events between 12:00 to 23:00 (weekdays) and up to midnight for a Friday and Saturday night.

I would therefore ask if the licensing committee could consider the following key concerns that have not been adequately answered within the premises license application form:

Context

Thoulstone Park is in an area that is bounded by agricultural farms, rural villages and private dwellings. Based on the experience of the recent August music event held at Thoulstone ('Get On Festival'), the latest application raises several serious concerns that have not been adequately addressed by the applicants:

- 1) We now live in a period where much greater consideration needs to be given to the protection of local farms and wildlife, as we encounter greater uncertainty over UK food security and the effects of climate change. Allowing an outdoor music event in a rural location will clearly pose a significant threat to the well-being of the natural habitat, livestock and pets, that seems unnecessary when other more suitable venues already exist within Wiltshire for the outdoor performance of live music.
- 2) The private dwellings and rural villages that surround Thoulstone were clearly affected by the increased noise, vibration and light pollution from the last event held at this site. Based on the latest proposal, there is insufficient information in the

application to demonstrate how the applicants will physically reduce the noise, light and vibration noting the intent to use a canvas marquee and outdoor staging. In your previous email response, you referred to contacting my local MP. I would therefore like to make the premises licensing committee aware that The House of Lords Science and Technology Committee is currently undertaking an expert review of the effects of noise and light pollution on humans to assess how well local councils apply the current regulatory frameworks and whether such policies could be further improved (see link to: [The effects of artificial light and noise on human health - Committees - UK Parliament](#)).

The following extract is provided from the summary section of HL Paper 232 published on 19th July 2023 - [The neglected pollutants: the effects of artificial light and noise on human health \(parliament.uk\)](#) : *Environmental noise and light pollution contribute to a range of adverse health outcomes including heart disease and premature death. Yet light and noise remain neglected pollutants, poorly understood and poorly regulated. Both noise and light pollution can impact negatively on human health through disrupting sleep and circadian rhythms, which leads to negative social and economic impacts. Epidemiological evidence suggests that noise pollution can both cause annoyance and increase the risk of stroke and heart disease.*

As per my complaint email of August 2023, both me and my wife suffered annoyance and disrupted sleep from the previous event. Future events could therefore have an impact on the long-term health and wellbeing of local communities, and the proposal for a 7-day continuous event license only heightens such health concerns.

- 3) The proposed application indicates large attendee numbers (500+). Within the application, no reference is made to the impact of numerous vehicles accessing / exiting the venue, the associated risks (increased pollution, road safety etc.) and any mitigation plans by the applicants (including any police consultation / involvement).

Please let me know if I need to send this email to any other persons within Wiltshire Council and once again thank you for your continued support on this matter.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Upton Scudamore

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Rep 5

From: Parks, Bill <Bill.Parks@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 1:13 PM
To: Adkins, Carla <carla.adkins@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Wickham, Suzanne <Suzanne.Wickham@wiltshire.gov.uk>;
andrew.murrison.mp@parliament.uk
Subject: Application for a new premises licence - Thoulstone Park, Chapmanslade, BA13 4AQ

Dear Licensing Authority,

As divisional Wiltshire Councillor for this area, I wish to lodge my formal objection to the 'Application for a new premises licence - Thoulstone Park, Chapmanslade, BA13 4AQ' previously License Application WK/202310082 for the following reasons:-

The prevention of a public nuisance.

The proposal for music festivals and outdoor amplified music with:-

- E. Live Music – Amplified Live Performances, Singing and Instruments until 24.00 on Fridays and Saturdays
- F. Recorded Music – Amplified Recorded Music for Weddings and Parties until 24.00 on Fridays and Saturdays

will create the most nuisance for neighbouring communities within Chapmanslade Parish, notably Short Street and Thoulstone.

The topography of the land and their proximity means that sound carries to these communities which has resulted in many noise complaints in the past. It can on occasion also carry to the main nearby villages of Chapmanslade and Upton Scudamore as was the case for a TEN event granted recently. Thus, late-night open-air events such as these will create a significant noise factor to the local community and should be restricted to end at 2300hrs.

I understand that discussions with the applicant, whilst currently positive and demonstrating a willingness to agree to reasonable noise conditions, are not yet guaranteed to result in any change to the application or voluntary application of more stringent conditions.

I would request this matter be brought before the Licensing Committee for discussion, full understanding, and conditioning.

The number of annual events and of days of this week must also be clearly restricted to satisfy the very worrying concerns expressed by the surrounding communities.

Kind regards,
Bill

Bill Parks

Councillor for Warminster North and Rural
Portfolio Holder for Waste

Wiltshire Council

Tel: 07712 490075

Email: bill.parks@wiltshire.gov.uk

Web: www.wiltshire.gov.uk

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Rep 6

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 3:48 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Adkins, Carla <carla.adkins@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: WK202320096 Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ Licence application 23/08/23

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Dear Sirs,

I wish to make representations with regard to the above licence application. The licence applied for, if granted, would have a seriously adverse effect on the prevention of public nuisance (arising in particular from loud noise) -- the prevention of crime, and public safety. My address and other contact details are below.

Prevention of public nuisance

This application is a replacement for the applicants' previous one, which was withdrawn after, among other things, Chapmanslade Parish Council voted to object to it at its July 2023 meeting. The PC reached the view that the application was impermissibly wide in scope.

The present application is only modestly revised. Instead of requesting a licence to play live and recorded music until 02:00 on Saturday and Sunday mornings, the application is now restricted to the hours between 09:00 and 24:00 on Fridays and Saturdays. Otherwise, it is the same. If granted, it would allow the applicants to stage pop concerts, weddings and outdoor film shows (all of which are likely to generate noise that will be clearly audible to neighbours such as my wife and me) on 365 days a year. It is effectively an application to be allowed to run an outdoor nightclub in a quiet rural area. As such, granting it would be quite wrong.

The applicants protest that (a) there are many activities other than the playing of loud music that they wish to stage and for which they need a licence and (b) that there would only be a few pop concerts and weddings every year. As for (a) I have no objection to any of the activities proposed on the Thoulstone Park website that do not involve the making of noise audible from outside the boundaries of Thoulstone Park. And as for (b) first, occasional public nuisance is still public nuisance and second, the applicants have proposed no limits on the number of occasions on which loud noise can be generated by their activities.

The applicants have, this summer, staged two events which have given their neighbours an idea of their approach to the question of noise. The first was a party to celebrate the wedding of their daughter. I was away that weekend, but I understand that some of our neighbours

had their night's sleep disturbed and will be providing the Committee with evidence to that effect.

The second was the Get On Festival of dance music which took place under a TEN over the weekend of 4-6 August. The organisers (not the applicants) promised in their publicity that attendees would “*experience the tranquil setting of Thoulstone Park as the powerful beats of the festival provide a backdrop for a weekend of great music and fun*” (see <https://factorystudios.co.uk/get-on-festival-2023/>). I can confirm that with respect to the “*powerful beats*” that promise was kept in full. On the night of Friday/Saturday 4th/5th August the bass beats of the dance music and the yelling of the DJ encouraging the dancers to greater heights of exuberance were clearly audible from our bedroom. My noise meter indicated that at 23:00, 00:00, and 01:00 the insistent bass beat was being heard inside our open bedroom window at well over 60dB. Sleep was impossible.

Although the music was audible from time to time during the day on Saturday, by the evening it seems that the direction of airflow had changed. We were much less disturbed on Saturday night than we had been the night before. I have heard, however, that residents of Upton Scudamore (the other side of Thoulstone Park from us) were very much affected that night.

I understand that as a matter of policy the Committee takes into account the provisions of The Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts produced by the Noise Council (informally known as “the Pop Code”). Members of the committee will know that the prospect of noise after 11pm is to be treated more strictly than the prospect of noise before that time. The Pop Code suggests that after 23:00 hrs the noise “*should not be audible within noise-sensitive premises with windows open in a typical manner for ventilation*” or no more than “*just audible*” outside those premises. “*Noise sensitive premises*” include residential dwellings.

Para 4.5 of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy (“SLP”) states:

*Appropriate control measures are needed for premises that operate late at night (after 11pm) and/or have regular entertainment or when the entertainment takes place in the open air or within a marquee. Steps should be taken or proposed to be taken to prevent noise and vibration from entertainment causing nuisance. This may include noise from music, human voices and other forms of entertainment whether amplified or not. Consideration should also be given to ensure noise is **not audible at sensitive locations such as dwellings** ... [emphasis added]*

Lower frequency sounds are much more intrusive at a distance than sounds in the higher frequencies, with the result that a simple measurement of the decibels produced across the whole spectrum does not give an accurate idea of the disturbance caused (see, among other references, the Pop Code at para 3.4). Any limits stated in terms of dB(A) (which is a lightly weighted average across the whole wavelength spectrum) are likely to be ineffective. It is the level of noise below say 100 Hz that matters most. That is the noise that carries best on still night air.

Against the background of the Get On Festival and the numerous complaints to which it gave rise it is extraordinary that under section M(d) the application makes no mention of any suggested noise limits. The applicants' only promises with regard to the prevention of public nuisance are that "*all customers will be asked to leave quietly .. they will be reminded to respect the neighbours' privacy, peace and quiet*" and that bottle banks will not be operated at anti-social hours.

Prevention of crime

It is obviously impossible to predict with certainty that crimes will be committed if the licence applied for is granted, but it must be safe to assume that dealing of illegal drugs at a pop music festival is more likely to occur than it is at many other events. Indeed on a previous occasion in 2013, residents of Short Street witnessed illegal drugs being sold openly. I do not suggest that the licence applied for should be refused on this ground alone, but I do suggest that it is an issue to be weighed in the balance when the committee considers the application in the round.

The SLP addresses this issue at para 2.6. It is suggested there that the licensees should have a written drugs policy in which their staff have been trained. There is no sign of any such policy and the only staff training mentioned in the application is in relation to the sale of alcohol to under-18s.

Public safety

Access to the site is via a small and relatively short lane off the A36. It is to be assumed that most audience members for a concert or guests at a wedding will arrive by car. I am not qualified to judge whether the available parking is sufficient to cater for the numbers anticipated to attend (although it seems very unlikely to be enough for 5000 people), but we can say that even an event catering for 500 people is likely to cause tailbacks stretching onto the A36 when the attendees arrive due to the narrowness of the lane. This stretch of the A36 is one where the traffic tends to move at or near 60 mph. If cars are queueing on the main road, there is obviously a risk of collision.

Consideration of the application by the committee

There has been some suggestion that the committee should engage in a balancing exercise – i.e. that the public interest in the licence being granted should be weighed in the balance against the inconvenience caused to local residents. I submit that if it is found to be more likely than not that the grant of the licence as applied for will mean that one or more of the licensing objectives (s.4 of the Licensing Act 2003) will not be achieved, the supposed public interest should be examined very carefully indeed.

The commercial interests of the owners of the site can only be considered to be a very small part of the public interest. The real question is whether there is any wider public interest in the granting of their application as made. No attempt has been made to suggest that there is, for example, a shortage of outdoor wedding venues in the area, or of venues where up and coming musicians can perform their work. Unless such shortages can be shown to exist, it is very difficult to conclude that there is a public interest of a substance that can outweigh the near certainty that the proposed events will result in the failure to achieve one or more of the licensing objectives, in particular the prevention of public nuisance.

Thank you for taking these representations into account.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Short Street

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Rep 7

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 11:12 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Your ref 2023 20096

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RE

Licence Application ref WK 202320096 Dated 23.08.2023
Site: Thoulstone Park, Chapmanslade BA13 4AQ

From

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Short Street,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

15th September 2023

To : Wiltshire Council Public Protection North
Re: Licence application WK/202320096
Site : Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ

Dear Sir or Madam

I have been made aware of the above application and carefully read the detail. Apart from a shortening of the closing time there seems very little difference to the previous application that I objected to by my email of 28th July 2023.

For that reason I am simply repeating my previous objections as set out below. However I would like to add that since my last letter there was a fatal accident in August at the southern entrance to the site and there was another serious accident at the same entrance from the A36 this Monday September 11th.

If the council is to consider the application as submitted I wish to object on the following grounds:

Public Nuisance.

The application as submitted would allow a music festival every day of the year until 11.00pm and until Midnight on Fridays and Saturdays. The Council's own guide lines, if followed, are unlikely to allow this. Previous music activities on the site have produced an

unacceptable level of noise that spreads easily due to the topography of the land and openness of the site. How is this obvious problem being mitigated? At the recent event sound was measured at 60 decibels some 800 yards from the event while looking at the planning conditions for building the new houses on the same site I see the noise must be limited to 30 decibels. I believe 30 decibels would be acceptable but unachievable for the sort of events planned.

Public Danger

The application is for a ticketed event for up to 5000 people. There are no public transport facilities to the site so this will mean that some 2000 vehicles are likely to arrive at almost the same time and with no arranged traffic management this will cause considerable congestion and possible risk of accidents on the A36 trunk road. I believe due to risk of accident the A36 is a "Clearway" at this point. Can you legally organise unmanaged queuing traffic within a Clearway? Should there not be a traffic management plan submitted alongside the current application?

Criminal Activities

At a previous event there was evidence of class one and two drug use.

The site is not secure and anyone at any time by using the public foot paths can enter or leave the site. It is likely, from the evidence left on the ground just outside the boundaries of the site, that drugs were being used and perhaps sold. There were many parked cars in the lanes around the site where gate crashers parked and simply walked in. 5000 tickets may be sold but many more people can simply walk in. How will the official 5000 be controlled and if at the official entrance they are checked for drugs, how will the organisers stop drugs coming in by the back door? What precautions and policing does the applicant propose?

As submitted and by applying their own rules, I cannot see how the Council can approve the application even with limitations and restrictions.

Yours faithfully,

████████████████████

Rep 8

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 11:31 AM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Adkins, Carla <carla.adkins@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Licence Application WK/202320096, Thoulstone Park

Dear Sirs/Madam,

I am writing to object to the revised application for a licence to hold various events including amplified electronic and live music at Thoulstone Park. Although this application is requesting a licence for modified time frames of between 9am and 24.00, the resulting noise disturbance for surrounding area, including Short Street will be invasive and a public nuisance. Even smaller events in the past have driven us indoors during the day, closing windows and doors. Which still does not stop the house and windows shaking with the beat.

If I interpret correctly, this application seems open-ended, thereby unless revoked for serious breach, could be in place for years. Establishing Thoulstone Park as a permanent festival venue. On weekend of 8th July 2023 there was a wedding during which I could clearly hear the voice of the announcer/DJ as well as the music. The noise disturbance from the GETON Festival on 4th August made sleep impossible until early hours. Luckily a change in the weather enabled a quieter night on 5th when their TEN again permitted electronic music to play until 4am.

The roads bordering Thoulstone Park, A36 and A3098 are much busier now than when previous festivals and events were held. Therefore public safety of event goers and other road users could be compromised. Event organisers have not been able to maintain boundaries to prevent those trying to gain free access in the past. Even if there is a secure boundary around the marquee, easy access to the park is available and vehicles can block entrance to lanes (Short Street, Thoulstone) and farms whilst the occupants climb the fences, thereby leaving access unavailable to emergency vehicles as well as local traffic.

I have concerns that that the measures the applicants say will be in place around illegal drug use and alcohol misuse adequately covers Public Safety for these events.

I therefore object to this licence on grounds of Public Safety, Risk of Crime and Disorder and Public Nuisance and Noise disturbance.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Short Street
Chapmanslade

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Wiltshire Council

 Where everybody matters

REPRESENTATION FORM

This form must be returned within the statutory period, which is 28 days from the date the notice was displayed on the premises or the date specified in the Public Notice in the newspaper. Please contact the Licensing Section to confirm this date.

Any individual, body or business can make a Representation to the Licensing Authority in relation to an application, regardless of their geographic proximity to the premises. Any Representation must be relevant, in that the Representation relates to one or more of the Licensing Objectives.

Premises about which Representation is being made	WK202320096 Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ Licence application
Your Name	Minnie House Clerk on behalf of : Chapmanslade Parish Council CLlr P W HOLIHEAD, Chairperson and nominated representative.
Postal Address	c/o 68B High Street Chapmanslade Westbury Wilts BA13 4 AN
Contact Telephone Number	01373832790
E Mail address	chapmansladepc@yahoo.co.uk
<p>Are you (please tick):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual? • A person who operates a business? • A person representing residents or businesses? • A member of the Relevant Licensing Authority (ie, elected Councillor of the Licensing Authority)? • Chapmanslade Parish Council 	
If you are representing residents or businesses who have asked you to represent them?	

Your Representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives, which are detailed below. Please detail the evidence supporting your Representation and the reason for your Representation. If necessary, separate sheets may be used.

Chapmanslade Parish Council

<https://www.chapmansladepc.org.uk>

LICENSING OBJECTIVES	EVIDENCE Referenced to detailed supporting evidence below
The protection of children from harm	
The prevention of public nuisance	Please see attached additional documentation with relevant Application references and detail comments. below: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening Comments (1)• Prevention of Public Nuisance (2)a. and b.
The prevention of crime and disorder	
Public safety	

Please list below any suggested actions that you feel the applicant could take to address your concerns.

Please see attached additional documentation below:

- Room for compromise (3)a,b,c
- Suggested Conditions summary(4)a, b, c, d, e

Chapmanslade Parish Council – Objection to WK202320096 Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ Licence application

At its meeting on 14th September 2023 Chapmanslade Parish Council considered the above application with the decision to object to the application on the grounds of:

Public Nuisance.(For full comments see below)

The following submission is presented to accompany the formal form and is in support of its objections to the Application for permission for a permanent premises' licence at Thoulstone Park.

Room for Compromise. (see below for Full comments.) In addition, the Parish Council felt that there was room for compromise should conditions be imposed. (See also below **(Suggested Conditions Summary)**)

Opening Comments (1)

At its meeting on 14 September 2023 Chapmanslade Parish Council heard statements from the Applicant and residents in the public forum.

The Applicant made some persuasive arguments about the type of event that would take place and insisted that no music festivals were planned. He chose to criticise the organisers of the GetOn Festival inferring that they had let him down with their noise management. This last was contrary to his assertions at a previous meeting of the council, that he had every confidence that the GetOn organisers would develop a strong noise management plan and that there would be no

Chapmanslade Parish Council

<https://www.chapmansladepc.org.uk>

noise issues.

Residents also highlighted the ongoing public nuisance they have undergone at recent and past music events as well as noise levels from events such as weddings, of which there was one this year. The site has been a source of public nuisance complaints for noise issues for several years. Residents outlined their lack of trust, that the Applicant had their concerns in mind, especially given the scope of events being offered on the website: thoulstonepark.com which remain in excess of what the Applicant told the meeting.

Chapmanslade Parish Council decided to object to the application based upon three specific concerns stated below and on the considerable historical evidence of unresolved public nuisance issues.

The Council noted three particular concerns with the licence application, related to public nuisance that:

- it places no limit on the number of events that can be held each year on this site.
- it seeks an extension for amplified music after 23.00 p.m. at weekends.
- there is no clear requirement with regards to low frequency noise.

Prevention of Public Nuisance:(2)

a. Historically there is evidence of public nuisance, disorder etc. from the Sunrise Festival in 2013 which resulted in the then Licensing Officer making his statement about unsuitability: i.e. The Sunrise Festival 2013 John Freegard, who was then Senior Public Protection Officer EP (North West) Public Protection included the following in an email to two locally affected residents: *"We have concluded that this site is not the best site for this festival, and I have advised the Licensing Team and my hierarchy that Public Protection would certainly object to any future Licence Application for this site due to "proximity of noise sensitive receptors" constraints."*

b. At the recent GetOn event (4 – 6 August 2023) for which we understand there was a noise management plan and some pre-event consultation, there were still a very large number of public nuisance complaints from residents in the adjoining parishes of Chapmanslade, Dilton Marsh, Upton Scudamore and Corsley. Noise levels particularly after 11pm, and the low frequency noise throughout, were a particular focus of complaints on the night of 4th/5th August. This continued until at least 1am on the morning of 5th August, making sleep impossible for some. This is verified by noise level readings taken at around 11pm, and 12 and 1am by one resident, and submitted to Wiltshire County Council.

There were fewer complaints on the night of 5th/6th August following instructions, we understand, from Wiltshire County Council to the organisers.

Room for compromise(3)

a. Any softening by the local communities towards the latest application will be based upon an assurance of protection from noise levels that are 'noticeable and disruptive' and that 'impact negatively on the wellbeing, and potentially on the health' of those affected (Ref. Noise Policy Statement for England, HMG, 2010). This will include the need for a noise management plan to be established and for it to be effectively managed throughout every event against acceptable criteria. On this the Applicants say:

Chapmanslade Parish Council

<https://www.chapmansladepc.org.uk>

'noise mitigation - we will consult with a specialist sound engineer to set sound levels to be well within permitted by regulations we will ensure that music is turned off at the approved times.'

This refers to noise levels permitted by regulations. Wiltshire Council uses (inter alia) the Noise Council Code of Practice 1995 (aka the Pop Code) for guidance on noise from amplified music – together with any amendments to this.

b. We understand that the applicant has been liaising directly with the Environmental Control and Protection team regarding noise mitigation and the putting into place of more stringent conditions. The Parish Council is unsighted on the outcome of this liaison but would not unreasonably expect any noise management plan to directly reflect the noise standards set by Wiltshire Council and outlined in the Pop Code, and for the Licensing Team to insist upon this.

c. The Pop code states the following:

CL 3.2: 'For events continuing or held between the hours of 2300 and 0900 the music noise should not be audible within noise sensitive premises with windows open in a typical manner for ventilation.'

Cl. 3.4 is particularly relevant to the disturbance felt by residents from events held recently and in previous years on the Thoulstone site and states:

'Assessment of noise in terms of dB(A) is very convenient but it can underestimate the intrusiveness of low frequency noise. Furthermore, low frequency noise can be very noticeable indoors. Thus, even if the dB(A) guideline is being met, unreasonable disturbance may be occurring because of the low frequency noise. With certain types of events, therefore, it may be necessary to set an additional criterion in terms of low frequency noise or apply additional control conditions.'

Suggested Conditions

Thus, the Parish Council would be more amenable to this application were it to include the following conditions:

- a. the operating hours for each event to be in line with regulations with no noise from events beyond 2300.
- b. the control of average noise levels to be in line with the Pop Code CL 3.2
- c. low frequency noise control to be in line with the Pop Code CL 3.4
- d. a clear outline of the number of planned events in each category
- e. that no further music festivals are planned on this site as stated by the Applicant and suggested in 2013 by the then Senior Public Protection Officer.

M.M. House Clerk

On behalf of Chapmanslade Parish Council

18th September 2023

If a hearing needs to be held to determine the Premises Licence Application, the Councillors will generally only be able to consider matters that have previously been disclosed.

However, additional information in support of your Representation may be

Chapmanslade Parish Council

<https://www.chapmansladepc.org.uk>

considered if all parties at the Hearing agree. We advise that you detail all matters that you wish to be considered on this initial Representation, attaching additional sheets if necessary.

If you do make a Representation you will be invited to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee Hearings and any subsequent appeal proceedings relevant to your Representation.

All Representations in their entirety, including your name and address, will be disclosed to the Premises Licence applicant. A copy of Representations will be annexed to the Licensing Officer's hard copy report, which is a public document circulated to the Licensing Sub-Committee and to all those who have made relevant Representations.

Signature  ate...18.9.2023.....

Please return this form, along with any additional sheets, to the relevant Wiltshire Council Office listed below:

Salisbury Area – (Salisbury, Amesbury, Downton, Mere, Hindon and Tilshead as well as the rest of the old Salisbury District Council Area), please send to:

The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Bourne Hill
Salisbury
Wiltshire, SP1 3UZ

All other areas please send to the address

below: The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Monkton Park
Chippenham
Wiltshire, SN15
1ER

Wiltshire Council

Where everybody matters

REPRESENTATION FORM

This form must be returned within the statutory period, which is 28 days from the date the notice was displayed on the premises or the date specified in the public notice in the newspaper. Please contact the Licensing team to confirm this date.

Any individual, body or business can make a Representation to the Licensing Authority in relation to an application, regardless of their geographic proximity to the premises. Any Representation must be relevant, in that the Representation relates to one or more of the Licensing Objectives.

Premises about which representation is being made	THOLLSTONE PARK, BA13 4AQ
Your Name	[REDACTED]
Postal Address	UPTON SCUDAMORE [REDACTED]
Contact Telephone Number and Email address	[REDACTED]
Are you (please tick): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An individual? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>• A person who operates a business?• A person representing residents or businesses?• A member of the Relevant Licensing Authority (ie, elected Councillor of the Licensing Authority)?	
If you are representing residents or businesses who have asked you to represent them?	

Your Representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives, which are detailed below. Please detail the evidence supporting your Representation and the reason for your Representation. If necessary, separate sheets may be used.

LICENSING OBJECTIVES	EVIDENCE
The protection of children from harm	

The prevention of public nuisance	See attached ①
The prevention of crime and disorder	
Public safety	

Please list below any suggested actions that you feel the applicant could take to address your concerns:

If a hearing needs to be held to determine the Premises Licence Application, the Licensing Sub-committee will generally only be able to consider matters that have previously been disclosed. However, additional information in support of your Representation may be considered if all parties at the Hearing agree. We advise that you detail all matters that you wish to be considered on this initial Representation, attaching additional sheets if necessary.

If you do make a Representation you will be invited to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee Hearings and any subsequent appeal proceedings relevant to your Representation.

All Representations in their entirety, including your name and address, will be disclosed to the Premises Licence applicant. A copy of Representations will be annexed to the Licensing Officer's report, which is a public document published on the Council's website and circulated to the Licensing Sub-Committee and to all those who have made relevant Representations.

Signature.  Date 21 September 2023

Please return this form, along with any additional sheets, to the relevant Wiltshire Council Office listed below or return by email to publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk:

Salisbury Area – (Salisbury, Amesbury, Downton, Mere, Hindon and Tilshead as well as the rest of the old Salisbury District Council Area), please send to:

The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Bourne Hill
Salisbury
Wiltshire, SP1 3UZ

All other areas please send to the address below:

The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Monkton Park
Chippenham
Wiltshire, SN15 1ER

Attachment 1.

Despite the assurances provided by the applicants regarding control of noise and the termination of all events by no later than 2300, we remain concerned about their ability to deliver on these promises. We have practical experience of this as recently as early August this year. Loud music with a deep bass tone was in evidence for 12-13 hours on two consecutive days not concluding until 0300 - 0400 each time. Despite having all our doors and windows closed and the TV on we could still hear the music. Fortunately in this case, the weather was cool at the time otherwise the conditions indoors would have been unbearable due to the heat. The deep bass notes of the music caused my wife pain in her ears and we could feel the reverberations in our conservatory. At night the noise kept us both fully awake for hours. This was a stressful and upsetting few days for us which we do not wish to see repeated on any basis regular or otherwise. An unlimited licence would seem to allow this and would cause damage to our mental health as we would be living with the constant threat of this type of noise.

Wiltshire Council REPRESENTATION FORM

This form must be returned within the statutory period, which is 28 days from the date the notice was displayed on the premises or the date specified in the public notice in the newspaper. Please contact the Licensing team to confirm this date. Any individual, body or business can make a Representation to the Licensing Authority in relation to an application, regardless of their geographic proximity to the premises. Any Representation must be relevant, in that the Representation relates to one or more of the Licensing Objectives.

Premises about which representation is being made – Thoulstone Park Ltd, Chapmanslade, Westbury. BA13 4AQ Ref WK/202320096

Your Name - Upton Scudamore Parish Council – (Nikki Spreadbury-Clews, Clerk to Parish Council)

Postal Address – Camberley House, 104 Clay St, Crockerton, Warminster. BA12 8AG

Contact Telephone Number – 07986 880164

Email address – uptonscudamorepc@gmail.com

Are you

A person representing residents or businesses – Upton Scudamore Parish Council

Licensing Objective

Under Licensing Objective, The Prevention of Public Nuisance

Upton Scudamore Parish Council have concerns over elements of the application, particularly the noise element from outdoor live events, such as live music events/festivals and amplified recorded music, **particularly on Fridays and Saturdays from 13:00 to 24:00.**

The numbers of persons at such events could be up to 5000 – **we would like a cap of 500 persons.**

In addition to the WC recommendations accepted by the applicant, as below, **the Parish Council would like the applicant to advertise and operate an attended complaint telephone number through which noise complaints can be channelled, as recommended by the Noise Council.**

The live music festival in August caused a lot of disturbance and distress to residents of the village, with the extremely loud noise until early hours of the morning, many complaining to local authority and the Parish Council. The noise levels were allowed to exceed permitted levels until Wiltshire Council officials intervened.

The Parish Council welcomes the recommended amendments from Wiltshire Council and accepted by the applicants, however would like clarification on item 2 – this indicates between 500 and 5000 people? Items 3 & 4 appear to contradict each other.

The following has been copied from the applicants' email dated 18/09/2023: -
At the direction of the Wiltshire CC, we hereby share the concluding details of our conversations with the Wiltshire County council regarding our recent premise license application. We are sending this to the two parish councils to which our land relates and to those that have submitted representations against our license application.

We have accepted the WCC's recommended amendments to our application (below) without reservation and are grateful for their guidance as we navigated the license process which is new to us.

We hope you find the information of some help and comfort. We hope that it might lead you to consider withdrawing your objections.

I would also recommend these changes are shared with any members of the public who have written representations in against your application.

- 1. Live and Recorded Music will cease by 2300hrs at the latest every day.*
- 2. Total number of events with regulated entertainment will be restricted to a no more than 12 calendar per year. (Under the Live Music Act deregulations regulated entertainment is when there is more than 500 people)*
- 3. Events will not take place on consecutive days or consecutive weekends.*
- 4. No event will be longer than 48hours in duration. Events with a duration covering 48 hours will be restricted to a total of no more than 2 per calendar year.*
- 5. No drumming workshops are permitted on site.*
- 6. There shall be no amplified music played on site until a Noise Management Plan (NMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Environmental Health Officer. All events with amplified music will be carried out in accordance with the agreed NMP. The plan should be comprehensive and consider all the different types of events likely to take place on site. The NMP will include details of how the local community will be communicated with and a noise complaints policy. The NMP should be based on a noise assessment which examines the impact of events which include: amplification of music (live and recorded), amplification of speech or amplification of film on existing residential properties. The NMP must be reviewed before each event by the applicant, and any necessary changes to reflect the forthcoming planned event must be approved in writing by the local authority at least one month before the event occurs.*

The NMP shall demonstrate how Music Noise Levels will not exceed the background sound level (LA90) by more than 15dB(A) (15min) in accordance with Noise Council Code of Practice, or 45dB(A) whichever is less, at the boundary of the site with nearest noise sensitive properties.

Five monitoring locations were provided by the applicant, but not limited to.

Signatur 

Date 22nd September 2023

Sent by email to publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk

Rep 12

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2023 5:54 PM
To: Adkins, Carla <carla.adkins@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: WK202320096 Thoulstone Park Applocation

WK202320096 Thoulstone Park Application.

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to submit an objection/representation regarding the proposed Premises Licence at Thoulstone.

I have been totally and strongly opposed to events at this site since the 2013 Sunrise Festival which caused absolute chaos for us Thoulstone residents. We were assured by John Freegard at the time that we would never have to undergo this again?

My property joins the entrance gate to Thoulstone Park and my garden borders the car park on two sides.

The site is totally unsuitable for large events (as proven by previous festivals here)

Myself and my entire family object for the following reasons:-

1. Public nuisance and noise disturbance to all residents of Thoulstone, Short Street and Upton Scudamore and possibly Chapmanslade as well.

We were promised noise monitoring from our garden on the recent Tens Get on festival on 4th August. As far as I am aware this did not happen.

2. Risk of crime and disorder to neighbouring properties due to the proposed volume of people/alcohol/drugs.

(The sunrise festival in 2013 left me dealing with drug fuelled attendees wandering through my garden scaring my children, along with a woman banging a drum continuously at the entrance gate by my driveway which my property adjoins. Despite continuous noise complaints from local residents and noise monitoring in surrounding homes it continued for over three days and during the three nights as well.)

3. Public safety - Traffic/Road danger.

The small lane is totally inadequate for a large amount of vehicles and the entrance to Thoulstone is lethal as it joins the A36 directly with cars travelling at very high speeds and often overtaking on the lines when attempting to turn in.

As demonstrated by the recent fatality on this stretch of road and also two accidents in the last month! at the top turning into Thoulstone lane where people are travelling at such high speeds on the A36 they are unable to stop for people trying to turn in!

Please look at the accident reports for this dangerous stretch of road from the Upton Scudamore turning along to Black dog Hill.

4. Lack of communication/respect for neighbours and local residents.

This first event (August 4th) was being advertised before even the parish councils knew about it, let alone the people living here.

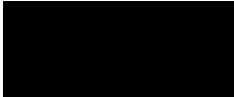
Residents at Thoulstone are currently subjected to noise disturbances from diggers, lorries etc, and severe dust pollution from Thoulstone building site- (10 months so far) 5 days a week from 7.30am until 5pm weekdays, meaning we are unable to use our gardens apart from on weekends.

Please do not take away the only peace we have by giving permission this a noisy events site at weekends as well.

Home owners have a basic human right to live in quiet existence in their properties.



Thoulstone



Sent from my iPhone

Rep 13

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 10:57 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: WK/202320069 Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ Licence application

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

To the Public Protector

I am writing to submit a representation in objection to the licence application for Thoulstone Park signed on 31/08/2023 (WK/202320069). I make this representation on the grounds of prevention of public nuisance.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

Our family has been successfully running a horse livery business on our farm since 2001 and provide DIY stabling and hacking around our farm. This provides a stable annual income for our family, that we rely upon. This is because our agricultural earnings are, by their very nature, less predictable and insufficient to support us.

There have been a variety of events and festivals held at Thoulstone Park since 2013 with amplified music, all of which have had a negative impact on our livery business. Our most recent experience of a festival held this year at Thoulstone Park was particularly disruptive to our business. The current application to grant permanent permission for similar festivals and events raises serious concerns for the future of our business.

Our horse paddocks are immediately adjacent to Thoulstone Park. This means that any amplified music from festivals and events will be heard in the paddocks. From my experience of previous events, the music was so loud and intrusive that the lyrics were audible in all of our surrounding fields, inside our stables and inside our house. This is particularly unsettling to our livery customers and their horses who are not able to enjoy our farm and facilities during the events. I am not confident that any plans to mitigate the noise

in future events by using straw bales and pointing speakers away from our farm, as suggested by the applicants, will successfully mitigate this problem.

The application submitted by Thoulstone Park requests permission to play amplified music seven days a week, between 12h00 and 23h00, throughout the year. It is well known that many horses become skittish and stressed by loud sounds and we have experienced this ourselves during previous events at Thoulstone Park. Should this licence be approved it will create an unnecessary, additional burden of work for me to ensure the welfare of our customers' horses during events. I note that in their application, there is no mention of compensation or plans to mitigate any of these additional burdens and time-costs, which are likely to fall on the weekend, in my leisure and family time. Furthermore, we will be unlikely to attract new customers to an environment that is stressful for horses.

I have been informed by one of our customers that should further festivals/events with amplified music take place at Thoulstone Park, they will leave our horse livery yard and seek an alternative arrangement. This will amount to a loss of income for us. In addition, three other horse owners have discussed the level of noise from Thoulstone Park events with me in a negative way. This causes me concern that we are at risk of losing our business should this licence be approved.

The risk to our business, posed by this application, has caused me considerable stress. The applicants have made no consideration of their impact on existing local businesses and there is no plan to mitigate/compensate us for their impact on our livelihood. Our livery business has been successfully run for over twenty years and this licence application is a direct threat to our rural business' future and family's income.

I am therefore lodging this representation against the licence on the grounds of public nuisance.

Kind regards

██████████

██████████ Hisomley, ██████████

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 10:05 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: WK/202320069 Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ Licence application

To the Public Protector

I would like to make further representations in relation to the email correspondence I received from Wiltshire County Council today (26th September) containing a statement of amendments to this licence application put forward by the applicants on 18 September 2023.

Unfortunately, this new information I received is not available publically on the Wiltshire Council website and I was therefore unable to include it in my first representation, which I stand by. I'm sure the Public Protector can appreciate my frustration that, having carefully considered the publicly available information, I am obliged to write again to respond to this new information which predates my first representation by quite some time. The time, effort, and energy that I have been required to give to this endeavour, detracting from my family time, and work, has not been small.

Nevertheless, the applicants' attempts to allay my fears in relation to the impact of their proposed activities on my business operations are paltry at best. I continue to object to the granting of this licence on the grounds of public nuisance. The amendments proposed do not address any of the concerns raised in my first representation against this application because the intention remains to hold regular events (12 per year) with amplified music played throughout the day and into the night. The applicants are determined to hold events with amplified music in a wholly unsuitable location with little consideration of their impact on existing rural businesses or residents. I object to all amplified music and sound at Thoulstone Park and do not consider the new measures submitted by the applicant to mitigate the risk of losing my business and livelihood because of the effects of regular amplified sound on my livery yard activities. Evidence from the past 10 years all points to the applicants disregard for their neighbours in relation to managing the sound from events and it is highly unlikely that this will change in the future. This is a quiet, agricultural and residential area. The applicants are essentially proposing to hold fortnightly outdoor raves during the summer months. In no way is this in keeping with the character of this countryside location.

Should this licence application be granted, it has the potential to seriously reduce the quality of my life, my children's lives, and our livelihood. I can not emphasise enough how strongly I object to this licence.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Hisomley, [REDACTED]

Rep 14

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 8:31 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Thoulstone Park application August WA202320096

From: [REDACTED] Hisomley, [REDACTED]
To: Wiltshire Council Public Protection

I am submitting my representation to the above license application on the following grounds.

Public Safety

At previous festivals (pre Covid) there was a huge amount of traffic on the A36 queuing to get in and out and crossing against the traffic flow. Also people were walking along the A3098 in order to access the site. There is no reason that this won't happen again if a premises licence is granted, thus putting people's lives in danger.

Prevention of crime and disorder

Sale and use of drugs has been apparent at previous festivals and likely to continue to be a problem at some of the future events of the type planned at Thoulstone Park.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

There seems to be only minor differences in the new application compared to the previous one. The noise is the major issue. We live in one of the closest houses to the proposed events and in the direction of the prevailing wind. The noise from previous events this year has been extremely stressful. The bass levels were particularly stressful for us and there seems to be no mention in the new application for controls on this. These extreme bass levels are also particularly stressful for wildlife, of which there is a lot in the woodland surrounding the site. Medical research has found that high bass levels can lead to increased heart rate, anxiety and panic attacks. Bass sounds will travel a lot further than normal pitches and neither brick walls or straw bales will keep them out.

Some of the proposed events at the site seem quite acceptable but the festival and music events are the main problem because of noise and bass levels.

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]

Rep 15

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 8:39 PM

To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Application Thoulstone Park WK202320096

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Public Protection,

I am objecting to the above application on the grounds of public nuisance.

I have one major concern and that is the noise that comes from the site. It's a very deep vibrating beat that causes some people including myself to become very anxious and unable to sleep. Having spoken to the owners about this issue, the organisers agreed to pay for me to go away for 2 nights. No it wasn't very enjoyable because I didn't want to have to go away. Surely the answer is to turn the bass right down. While we wish Thoulstone Park well and have never been against any issues except noise. How can they call themselves eco friendly as the noise affects humans, and it will be far worse for wildlife.

The timings will make no difference to me as we can hear the beat in our house with windows shut and earplugs in, etc. it means that I will have to go away every time they have a music event.

I am just asking you to consider how this will affect our local community and how this so called fun event will be our nightmare.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Hisomley, [REDACTED]

Rep 16

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 10:01 AM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Minnie, Parish Clerk <chapmansladepc@yahoo.co.uk>
Subject: Representations re : WK/202320069 Thoulstone Park, Chapmanslade, BA13 4AQ

From [REDACTED] Short Street, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tel : [REDACTED] 25th September 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re : WK/202320069 Thoulstone Park, Chapmanslade, BA13 4AQ

This Application appears to be just a nod to amending the previous Application by altering the finish time for live and recorded music to 23:00 on Sundays to Thursdays, and to 24:00 on Fridays and Saturdays, every day of the year ad infinitum as no end date is entered.

This is no more acceptable than the previous Application, so I do not see the need for me to compose an entirely new letter of Representations as my earlier objections are the same in regard to all four Licensing Objectives. I now amend my letter of Representations sent in response to the first Application, to take into account the changes in this new Application, which I wish to be placed before the Licensing Committee in full for them to consider when making their decision.

I have enjoyed the peaceful occupation of my current address in a beautiful part of our country's much threatened countryside since June 1978 and I wish to make Representations in relation to the above Licence Application.

I understand that they must fall under one or more of the following Licensing Objectives :-

The protection of children from harm

The prevention of public nuisance

The prevention of crime and disorder

Public safety

Protection of Children from Harm

The protection of children from harm, including moral, psychological and physical harm, also falls within the category of Prevention of Public Nuisance.

Thoulstone Park is a large site and I question whether it is feasible to state that it can be satisfactorily monitored to prevent attendees from straying onto other properties. The A3098, the main road between Westbury & Frome, borders Thoulstone Park on one side. On the other side of the A3098 is the small hamlet of Short Street with residents aged between approximately 1 year and 80+ years, many of them with pet dogs and cats. There is great concern over the safety of the young child residents of the hamlet, who are used to playing outside in their gardens and surrounding fields (English weather permitting!). Should any attendees wander off site, when they may very probably be

under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, with the probability that waste products from these activities will be left strewn around, there is a very real threat to the safe and well being of children either resident in the hamlet or visiting.

Other residents have evidence, which I believe they have presented in their Representations regarding this and previous Applications, of alcohol and drug use and their attendant debris after previous events held on this site.

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

A public nuisance arises from **an act that endangers the life, health, property, morals or comfort of the public or obstructs the public in the exercise or enjoyment of rights common to all.**

Noise from music, litter, and light pollution, are just some examples of public nuisances which could unreasonably interfere with the wellbeing or comfort of others, or enjoyment of their property.

I wish to express my strong objection to the above Licensing Application to hold events involving live and recorded music from noon until 11:00 p.m. on Sundays to Thursdays, and to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays, indefinitely. Whilst I appreciate the cultural significance and enjoyment that music events can bring to our community, I firmly believe that granting such a licence may have adverse consequences for both the neighbourhood and its residents.

This is a very peaceful & quiet part of the Wiltshire countryside, which will be greatly disturbed if permission is granted to this application to hold events of varying descriptions, many with accompanying music, both live and recorded, for the entertainment of up to 500 people, (although this could be increased to 5,000) together with the sale of alcohol. Once a Licence is granted the number of people can be as many as 5,000 without a need to apply for further permissions. It is proposed that any of the events could be held every day of the year, with the site open from 06:00 to 23:00 on Sundays to Thursdays, and until midnight on Fridays and Saturdays. The Application is worded in such a way as to make it appear low key, but I doubt that 500 attendees will be the limit as a large number of tickets would need to be sold in order to make this venture financially viable.

In my previous Representations I wrote that “The Applicants are virtually asking for carte blanche to do what they like, when they like, at almost any time of day, for any day of the year, indefinitely. This could be a tactical move with the aim of settling for slightly less than requested.” This does, indeed, seem to have been the case. In any event, it is totally untenable and would cause a public nuisance to a large area of what has been until now a peaceful part of our fast disappearing countryside.

These types of event are often associated with loud music, amplified performances, and large crowds, leading to excessive noise levels that can disrupt the peace and tranquillity of the surrounding residential areas. Allowing events with music to occur every day would impact on the quality of life for nearby residents, especially during late hours, cause sleep disturbances, and lead to adverse health effects. Mentioning that events would not necessarily be held on consecutive days is misleading as one day without noise can be covered by this.

Sound travels, over wide distances. A marquee is another word for a tent. Tents are not known for their sound inhibiting qualities, and buffering with hay bales will have little to no effect on escaping noise. The festival held some years previously was unable to meet the sound levels set by the Council. I don't know if technology has since improved

to the extent that sound can be sufficiently loud to satisfy event attendees yet low enough not to cause disturbances to anyone living a reasonable distance from the site. It will inevitably cause a nuisance to those living in the immediate vicinity.

I understand that, after 11 p.m., permitted noise levels are: 34 dBA (decibels adjusted) where background noise is no higher than 24dBA. 10dBA above the level of background noise if this exceeds 24dBA. Unfortunately, these figures mean nothing to me. I have no idea what they mean in practical terms of how loud any music would be played and its effect on the surrounding area. I have to rely on this being the advice of experts judging these levels to be reasonable. However, much as I like a good bass sound, any noise level limitation that is set does not affect the vibration that travels through the ground when the bass really gets going. This can lead to real health issues for those experiencing this. I have discovered that one study (Mirowska and Mroz, 2000 [noiseoff website]) compared noise with significant lows to noise without lows. It showed that the bass-heavy noise was much more likely to cause symptoms like heart palpitations, anxiety, shortness of breath, frustration, depression, and even backaches. I suffer from COPD and use oxygen on a 24 hour basis so this may well have an adverse affect on my condition. There are other residents living in close proximity to Thoulstone Park who have health conditions which may well be affected by this.

A 3 day festival was held on this site a few years ago, after a hearing when the Council set various conditions, most of which were not met. As far as I am aware, no sanctions were imposed so making a nonsense of residents' complaints, although the festival request was not repeated until now.

Events can be held under a TENS which do have some conditions but seem to have been set by a naive government department intending to help small event's organisers such as schools, churches, and local charities raise money without having to comply with complicated regulations. Of course, those with commercial interests soon discover how to take advantage of these ways and means.

The Applicants also state that they have spoken to Wiltshire CC (County Council?) and believe they can come to an agreement as to the finish time for regular events which WCC indicated would be acceptable to those making Representations, although I question WCC's authority to do this. This gives the impression that the Council will make their own agreement with the Applicants and accept the Applicants' amended Application on behalf of those making Representations, with no conditions being set. It therefore begs the question, what about the Representations made by members of the general public? Is it all nicely sorted out between the Council and the Applicants with the Council taking on the role of making decisions on behalf of those writing Representations?

We are constantly being warned of some species being threatened with extinction or, at the very least, reductions in numbers. Events with amplified sound can have a detrimental effect on the local environment and wildlife, causing disturbance to breeding and nesting habitats with attendant added stress. This will inevitably affect many species common to Thoulstone Park and the surrounding area. Deer habitually visit the lake in the park and are a pleasure to see, along with various other animals and birds of many types. The insect world will also be impacted, along with the vegetation on which many of them rely.

Such events often generate significant waste, including plastic, food, and other disposables, which can lead to littering and environmental pollution, not necessarily confined to the event site, harming local ecosystems and wildlife.

Local businesses may not profit as much as they anticipate should this Licence Application be granted. Whilst festivals can attract visitors and revenue, they may also negatively impact nearby local businesses, as patrons attending the event may be less likely to frequent regular establishments if their needs are met on site.

Prevention of Crime & Disorder

These types of event can result in property damage to both public and private spaces. The increased foot traffic and presence of vehicles may lead to vandalism, graffiti, and other forms of property destruction. At the festival previously referred to, a local garden nursery was spray painted.

Public Safety

However good the Applicants' intentions may be, it would surely be impossible to ensure no drugs are made available, either on site or in close proximity. The Applicants state they will install CCTV and have trained staff on site to supervise but these are 'after the event' measures and I question their ability to monitor this. There are too many ways allowing those who wish, to enter the site without using the main 'official' entrance. Attendees at these types of events are not known for restrained behaviour, particularly after having had several hours in which to imbibe alcohol, and what nowadays seems to be accompanying drugs, all of which tend to lead to infringements of respectable behaviour.

The Applicants can have no control over attendees leaving the site temporarily, accessing the drug of their choice, and possibly their own alcohol, and then returning to the site, or wandering around the area, probably leaving their rubbish behind which could include syringes. No-one would willingly invite the possibility of this kind of behaviour into the vicinity of their homes and gardens, where all they want to do is enjoy the peaceful rewards of their labours in their leisure time, without causing a disturbance to their neighbours.

Events such as those proposed in this Licence Application can lead to increased vehicular traffic and congestion, especially if the venue is not adequately equipped to handle large crowds. This could result in safety hazards and inconvenience to both residents and visitors.

The only vehicular access to the site is from the A36, in parts a three lane major trunk road, with double white lines at this point, heavily used by very fast traffic. The inevitable tailbacks will pose a very real threat to the safety of all users of the highway. It is an accident black spot. There have been numerous accidents, some fatal, along Black Dog Hill, and on the sections of the A36 immediately adjoining the access to Thoulstone Park. In addition to human casualties and vehicle damage, cattle have also been killed crossing the carriageway. Turning right into the site from the Warminster direction is highly dangerous. There was a fatal accident on this section of the A36 on the weekend of the GetOn festival, 4th to 6th August, although it was not connected with the event. There was another serious accident a week or two before that and both are examples of how dangerous this stretch of road is. Surely, introducing more traffic can only be asking for trouble.

Daily music events with the attendant influx of a large number of people, may place additional strain on local public services, including law enforcement, emergency responders, waste management, and sanitation. Ensuring the safety of festival attendees, as well as nearby residents, could become a challenging task and may lead to increased response times in case of emergencies. This could result in increased costs and a burden on the community's resources.

Gatherings of large numbers of people can become potential breeding grounds for the spread of infectious diseases, especially in light of recent health crises.

It would be appreciated if at least one member of the Licensing Committee could find time to visit the site in order to gain a better idea of the situation.

In conclusion, I apologise for the length of my Representations but am of the opinion that I could not shorten them if I was to make my opinions fully understood. Thank you for your patience.

Yours faithfully,



By email : publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk

c.c. chapmansladepc@yahoo.co.uk

Rep 17

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 10:53 AM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: WK202320096 THOULSTONE Park

Hello

We would like to object to the License application at Thoulstone Park which is currently under consideration.

We are the owners of [REDACTED] which lies almost directly opposite Thoulstone Park on the A36.

Thoulstone Park benefits from a planning permission, 18/05086/FUL, which creates leisure and holiday accommodation. Strict noise restrictions were imposed as part of that permission. The marquee which did not form part of that permission and has little or no inherent noise reduction qualities.

We are concerned that the noise generated by the proposed amplified music events within or close to the marquee will cause a material detriment to the enjoyment of our property. The proposed hours from 13:00 to 00:00 hrs are wholly unreasonable in what is a largely rural environment where noise carries great distances.

The application states that straw bails or additional hedging may be planted as a noise buffer but no details are provided as to implementation nor noise reduction performance.

We note that the proposed marquee provides an enclosed area of approximately 186 sq.m. and Building Regulations Space Occupancy Factors Table D advises that 372 people may be accommodated within this space (dance hall / pop concert) assuming no space is taken for Bars, tables etc.

The application states 'marquee and adjacent outdoor areas' and advises of number of people occupying the marquee to be approx. 550 but the application is vague in terms of overall numbers, only advising that 5000 will not be exceeded ?

We are also greatly concerned by the likely increases in traffic and note that the recent planning permission provides for the parking of 173 cars. The type of events proposed will generate greater number of vehicles in addition to those considered as part of the leisure permission and would result in likely risks of traffic accidents on a stretch of road where six accidents have happened between 2013 and 2017, one of which resulted in a fatality.

The type of event that has recently taken place at Thoulstone Park resulted in the Police attending and guests wandering into our property causing us considerable distress. The management statements provided at the time of that application, which remain largely unchanged with the current application, appear to be a 'tick box' exercise and evidently failed. These events are prone to crime and potential harm to underage visitors and the

information provided in the current application is vague with no coherent management strategy or protocols which may be available for inspection or scrutiny.

The marquee itself is located approximately 800m from our property and whilst this may appear a good distance the rural environment allows for efficient sound transfer, particularly through the summer months where winds are generally lighter.

We trust our concerns will be acknowledged and should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best Regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Representation 18 (in addition to Rep 6)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:17 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Adkins, Carla <carla.adkins@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: WK202320096 Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ Licence application 23/08/23

Dear Sirs,

I wish to make further representations with regard to the email from the applicants dated 18 September 2023. I continue to object to the grant of the licence applied for whether the suggested conditions are imposed or not. I am more than a little concerned that the applicants think that they have negotiated a “deal” with Council officers which is as good as certain to be approved by the Committee. The Committee will of course know that this is wrong, not least because it will need to take into account comments on the proposed conditions from those who will be affected by the grant of the licence for which application is made. Merely to rubber stamp the “deal” reached between the applicants and the officers -- in the absence of those making representations -- would be quite wrong.

Prevention of public nuisance

A limit of 23:00 hours seven days a week represents a welcome but modest concession. The fact remains that the licence applied for is effectively a licence to operate up to that time an open air nightclub every night of the week. The applicants protest that this is not their intention or anything like it. The Committee should not proceed on the basis of such unenforceable assurances but should instead consider what the effect would be if the licence was granted and then used to the fullest extent of its terms.

The proposed decibel limits would provide no comfort at all. Using the dB(A) average is of no use in limiting the harmful impact of noise at very low frequencies. As set out in my original representations, it is that noise which creates the most disturbance. Measured from my window, the noise from the GetOn Festival, registered (just) under 45dB(A) on average, but the volume at the bass end of the spectrum was well over 60 dB. That is what prevented me from getting to sleep. Any limit on noise audible at the boundaries of the property should certainly be expressed as XdB at a frequency lower than say 125 Hz.

Further, although during the day traffic on the A36 creates a fair amount of background noise, in the evening when the road is quiet the 15 dB(A) alternative marginal limit would almost certainly be regularly exceeded at the boundaries of Thoulstone Park by any music that was loud enough to satisfy ticket holders at a music festival or dancers at a wedding. By 22:00 our area is often totally quiet, subject to the call of the odd owl. We are very lucky. There are many areas where events such as those which would be possible under the licence applied for would not cause a public nuisance because of the level of background noise. In ours they almost certainly would. It would be quite wrong to grant a licence subject to conditions knowing that enforcement for breach of them is very likely to be required, not least because the damage is likely to have been done by that stage.

The GetOn Festival provided good evidence of another very important factor. The direction of the airflow (i.e. something short of wind) can make a huge difference both at night and during the day. If it is in our direction (we are North West of the marquee site) a quiet summer afternoon or evening can (and has been) polluted by loud music from Thoulstone Park. A noise meter upwind will register a quite different level from one which is downwind.

As you will know, the grant of a permanent premises licence does not in any way restrict the licensees from serving TENs if they wish to provide entertainment or events outside the terms of their permanent licence. On the contrary, if the applicants are successful, they will obtain the right to serve 50 TENs a year, rather than just 20. If they serve a TEN, seeking to go outside whatever limits are set down in their licence, we neighbours have no right to object, but must rely entirely on the police and the public protection teams to raise objections. We have no confidence that those teams are prepared to balance our interests against those of the event organisers; this is because they found “no reason to object” (the words set out in a response to a FoI enquiry) to the GetOn Notice, even though it expressly stated that the event would last until 4AM on each of the Saturday and Sunday mornings. I do not know what noise limits were set by the public protection team on that occasion (if any) because, giving the lie to the applicants’ constant claims that they wish to cooperate with the local community, the event organiser for the GetOn event has refused to show me the TEN submitted to the Council for which an acknowledgment was granted. I got the impression from him in a telephone conversation that there a limit of 45dB(A) at the boundary of the property was set and that he was therefore pleased that my readings showed that they had kept within that limit, at least so far as our property was concerned. However, as explained above, the noise in the bass frequencies was easily loud enough to prevent us going to sleep, and this confirms that a limit expressed in terms of dB(A) is effectively useless and/or that 45dB(A) is way too high.

Prevention of crime

I note that nothing is said about the creation and enforcement of a drugs policy.

Public Safety

That the proposed conditions expressly seek to preserve the right of the licensees, if successful in their application, to hold up to 12 events a year where the attendance is to be anywhere between 500 and 4,999 gives a fairer idea of the scale of their project. This is clearly not a cottage industry whose output is primarily yoga workshops and archery events. It seems to me to be highly unlikely that the access from the A36 and the parking available on site is adequate for 500 people, let alone 4,999. Queueing on the A36 would invite disaster.

Thank you for taking these further representations into account.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Short Street
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Rep 19

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:11 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Application for a new premises licence - Thoulstone Park Ltd, Thoulstone, Nr Westbury, BA13 4AQ

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Short Street
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I object to the licence being requested by Alka & James Hughes-Hallett for Thoulstone Park Ltd, Thoulstone, Nr Westbury, BA13 4AQ on the grounds of:

THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE:

The application falsely claims that the site is:

“located well away from the neighbouring houses”

The applicants know from previous events they have held or attempted to hold at their property, with the proposed marquee site, that noise from it has a direct detrimental effect on the surrounding houses.

Short Street is a hamlet of 15 homes (30 full time residents) of which more than half are over 60 and several already suffer poor health, there are also 6 children of school age or under. There are other houses on the A3098 that also suffer from the impact of loud music from Thoulstone Park. On the other side of the site is the village of Upton Scudamore, due to the positioning of Thoulstone Park both are vulnerable to the noise emitted from there.

As per the *Noise Policy Statement for England 2010* events held under licence at Thoulstone Park are most likely to be ***‘Noticeable and Disruptive’*** at the very least.

‘The Get On’ underground dance and live music festival which took place from 4th-6th August was extremely noisy, keeping us awake until beyond 2.45am. Even when the average noise reading was at the 45dbl mark the underlying bass beat was hitting over 60dbls meaning that it was constantly audible from our bedroom, plus every time the DJ changed or periodically just upped their performance the average dbl reading would jump well above the 45 mark, it may have only stayed there for a few minutes but combined with the bass it was enough to stop sleep. This was well after the music had apparently been turned down.

It also contravened the need to:

“avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life”

It is not just high decibel noise that causes harm, especially for older and infirm residents. There is evidence that the stress reaction caused by constant low beats & vibrations can lead to a variety of symptoms, even heart attacks.

I understand that the applicants have put forward a set of conditions that they hope might change the views of the surrounding neighbours. Firstly I do not feel the applicants can be trusted to hold to those conditions over a long term period. They knew very well from events that happened at Thoulstone Park in both 2013 & 2018 (Sunrise Festival, & Goa Cream) that they caused huge disruption and concern for the residents of Short Street, nevertheless they held a wedding at the site in on the 8th of July and gave no notice to the neighbours who would be affected causing a great deal of upset and alarm (taking into account the previous history at the site). They supported the TENS licence for 'The Get On' festival with it's deep bass and long hours (permission was given until 4am) knowing very well the effect locally that had been reported from the previous festivals.

The Hughes-Halletts claimed at the Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting that they regretted allowing the festival to have taken place. However on a visit to the site the Monday after the event they were quite clearly happy with the result of the weekend and tried to placate us with the suggestion that it would only ever happen once or perhaps twice a year and indeed their suggested concessions includes the sentence that *"no event will be longer than 48 hours and will be restricted to no more than 2 per calendar year"* having suffered this years festival it should not be able to happen at all.

Under the terms of a licence granted to them we could be subject to live or amplified music at the site 7 days a week - their suggestion that it would be limited to 12 days per calendar year is only for events where there are more than 500 people - meaning that we could still be subjected to weddings every week of the summer, (they suggest not consecutive weekends, that does not preclude a week day wedding and even to have 50% of our summer weekend nights ruined by noise from the site not to mention 2 live music festivals is unreasonable. They would also be entitled to up to 50 TENS applications per year, a process that leaves the neighbourhood with no course to object, and clearly a reason why there is no need for them to apply for a later licence on a Friday/Saturday on a continuing basis a per their original application.

It is the noise from the site that we object to, we are not just trying to get in the way of any business on Thoulstone Park. The recent planning permission for Thoulstone Park was mainly unopposed locally because it did not involve outside events. There was to be a 'conference centre, swimming pool and 32 holiday lodges'. Looking at the Thoulstone Park website (www.thoulstonepark.com) none of these seem to be part of the plans anymore, instead they are ***“looking for partners “ ‘Wedding Organiser’ and ‘Event Organiser’*** both with outside venue use which will mean more noise for the surrounding communities - had this been part of the original consultation there would have been many more objections (I asked the question at the consultation as to whether there would be festival events and was told they were not part of the plan, indeed would be contrary to the holiday aspect of the proposal). Their full planning application (18/05086/FUL) included a Noise Impact

Assessment document that acknowledged that surrounding housing was vulnerable to noise from the site and needed consideration.

I would also point out that the applicants Alka & James Hughes-Hallett do not live at the site or indeed anywhere near it, therefore do not suffer the inconvenience they would like to put us through.

If they are given this licence they are essentially being given a licence to fundamentally change the nature of the environment of this peaceful and agricultural part of Wiltshire and damage the lives of the Short Street residents and Wiltshire council tax payers.

██████████

Rep 20

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 1:32 PM

To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>;
carla.atkins@wiltshire.gov.uk

Subject: WK202320096 Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ Licence application 23/08/23

Dear Sirs

I write once again to object to this application, the changes to their application will bring disruption and noise as they always have done to date.

Prevention of public nuisance

A limit of 23:00 hours, seven days a week is still disruptive when you are required to get up at 06:30 daily to get children to school 6 days a week, and then get them to sleep by 9:30pm so all parties are not exhausted. Open air events in a marquee (which in no way mitigates noise) are audible from our property whether it's people shouting and whooping to music or its the base levels that pound across the land repetively making sleep impossible - there is nothing worse! The prevailing wind has a huge impact, when it's in the direction of Short Street we hear everything.

Prevention of crime

There's no mention of how this is going to be addressed

Public saftey

The application for up to 12 events a year with between 500-4,999 people will have a big impact on traffic turning off/ onto A36. Cars are travelling up to 50-60mph along this stretch of the road, we have just had another car crash. As residents we have already had weeks/months of road closures for utility pipes to this sight, which caused a lot of disruption to local traffic. I have observed many frustrated drivers take dangerous short cuts.

Thank you once again for your attention.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Short Street

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Rep 21

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 5:43 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Representations from [REDACTED]:WK/202320069 (or 96)

[REDACTED] **SHORT STREET,
CHAPMANSLADE,**
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tel: [REDACTED]

26th September 2023

-
-
URGENT : LAST DAY FOR OBJECTIONS

Thursday, 28th September 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re : WK/202320069 (or 96) Thoulstone Park, Chapmanslade, BA13 4AQ

Please accept this letter as my formal Representations/Objections to the above Licence Application.

Dealing with each major facet in turn :-

a) Prevention of Crime & Disorder

Whilst the organisers will no doubt have their own security arrangements these may not be adequate to deal with a proportion of people who always seem to frequent these events, to deal with drugs, take drugs, or excessive alcohol, and commit acts of a criminal nature, including theft and physical assaults, or other forms of harassment. One of my grandsons has personal knowledge of such incidents. On one occasion, at Reading, he was forced to chase, apprehend, & use reasonable force to retrieve his valuable iphone. In doing so, he forced the thief to open his bag which contained a number of other phones which the thief confessed were not his. There was no immediate security or police presence and my grandson had to rely on his own physical ability which, presumably, placed him in immediate danger of retaliatory action by any member of a gang to which such a professional thief may have belonged. Instances of knife crime have occurred at this Reading Festival.

The Committee are asked to consider whether the organisers can effectively police the protection of surrounding properties such as my own home.

I recall that, after a festival on the Thoulstone Park site, unknown persons spray painted the front of a local garden nursery owned by Mr. Morland.

b) Public Safety

In addition to the dangers arising from violent criminal behaviour as outlined above, we have the problem of young people & others becoming involved in serious road traffic accidents. Dealing with each of the main flash points in turn :-

(i) Parking at the mouth of Short Street

There are bound to be people who either can't get into the festival with their vehicles, or wish to avoid payment. They are most likely to park their vehicles at the mouth of the Short Street junction and then cross the A3098 in an attempt to enter the site, or at least listen to the music. This is a busy road where, when entering or exiting Short Street, a Russian Roulette situation exists at all times.

Drivers frequently exceed the speed limit, even though there is a bend, and overgrown vegetation on the verge frequently obscures the view. From memory, we have had at least one death here, plus a serious spinal injury suffered by a young mother with her baby in the back of the car. I still remember the circumstances of the fatal accident. A driver of a people carrier with children's seats in the back was killed when he collided with a lorry. Fortunately, he was the only occupant of the people carrier. Would the Committee please raise this road safety point with the Police. This is important.

(ii) A3098 Other Incidents & Comments

I have been informed that there has been at least one recent fatal accident which occurred in the approximate vicinity of the entrance to Brake Farm. I recall seeing a badly damaged BMW being attended to by recovery specialists. I will endeavour to obtain precise information regarding this incident and, perhaps, others.

The other danger point is the daily congestion in the immediate vicinity of Chapmanslade junior school. I have personal knowledge of this problem. On the afternoon of Thursday 7th September I was caught in a traffic jam immediately outside the school. Numerous children, mostly under the care of adults, were either crossing the road or walking along narrow pavements. The pavement is only continuous on the opposite of the road to the school. The traffic jam was only cleared by the intervention of a male member of the public who acted like a police officer. It is almost certain that the daily school run will coincide with the times when traffic travels to the proposed site to attend as guests or as staff. **THE A3098 IS A MAJOR FEEDER ROAD TO THE A36 AND ACCESS WAY TO THE PROPOSED EVENTS SITE.**

(iii) The A36 Arterial Road

I have real concerns that someone is going to be injured, or perhaps lose their life, because of the extra pressure caused by any surge in traffic travelling along the A36 in order to attend the events site. To repeat myself, this is a busy trunk road. There are frequent accidents, some resulting in death or life changing injuries. On the night of the English World Cup defeat, a 16 year old acquaintance of ours, who lives in this area, was killed whilst travelling as a passenger in a car proceeding along the A36. More recently, a woman driver was killed at the junction of a feeder road to the site, and the A36. The skid marks were clearly visible on the carriageway some days later.

The Committee is respectfully asked to obtain the relevant accident figures from the local Police and to request that at least one of their officers carries out a personal

inspection of this section of the A36 before the force formally agrees that there isn't a problem.

I suggest that a Police response, if it is based solely on a computerised search of A36 accidents, will not be adequate if it simply relies on answers to the effect that each accident was caused by a driver's negligence. This does not take into account that accident black spots do exist. Also, the Committee should ask whether the Police have considered the effect of 5,000 people trying to enter the site by car, or other vehicles, via the entrance of a narrow lane running from the A36 to the gates of the event site. A tailback is almost inevitable.

It should also be borne in mind that past events have resulted in young hitch hikers using the roads. Both the A36 and the A3098 are unsuitable for walkers due to blind bends, insufficient walking space beside the carriageways and, where verges do exist, they are often rough and inaccessible because of hedges and uneven ground.

I respectfully suggest that the dangers posed to persons using the A36 and other local feeder roads is sufficiently serious for this application to be dismissed as any search of site use shows that traffic poses a real safety hazard.

c) **Prevention of Public Nuisance** (including protection of Vulnerable Persons)

In the context of an event which would attract up to 5,000 people, the noise affecting the whole of the surrounding area is going to be unbearable with, literally, no escape. On the last night of the first festival, I recall my house being invaded by loud throbbing music which even overcame my television put on at high volume to try to drown the nuisance. This was despite strict noise levels then imposed by the Council and the Licence.

Another factor to be considered here is that some people in this area are elderly and the nuisance caused by such events is likely to accelerate a deterioration in their health, with the consequence of life threatening danger. My own wife, [REDACTED] who wishes to live a few more years to see her grandchildren grow, has COPD and is now on an oxygen machine 24 hours a day. Without presently being able to cite the precise law, organisations in this country are now under a duty to treat them as VULNERABLE PERSONS requiring special protection. Perhaps the Committee would take legal advice on this point. The Committee are asked to place themselves in the position of residents who are going to be subjected to this noise abuse and consequential other disturbances. It must be asked as to whether the Council will have an Officer of some type who can immediately investigate complaints and have the power to put a stop to the nuisance.

I also question whether any real legal procedures exist which will enable realistic financial sanctions to be imposed as a deterrent. For example first of all who is responsible for the breach of a Licence's terms? Is it the Applicants themselves personally, a limited company or other legal identity, the actual holders of the event, or perhaps other persons acting without authority? If there is no realistic deterrent, then the whole business of noise limitation levels, restrictions, etc., is the equivalent of a legal fiction.

d) **Protection of Children**

It is logical to suppose that, whilst the organisers would do everything reasonable actually on site, they will never be able to eliminate completely the deadly hazards caused by drug debris, especially discarded needles. This will be made worse by the danger from unauthorised persons outside the site who may abandon drug debris & needles on private property. For example, we have several young children living in this hamlet in properties which adjoin large gardens and fields. Further, residents often have visitors with young children who will face the same risks.

There are farms and other agricultural businesses whose animals will be at risk, in addition to the natural wildlife of Thoulstone Park itself.

I APOLOGIZE FOR THE LENGTH OF THESE REPRESENTATIONS BUT THESE POINTS ARE RELEVANT AND IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SIMPLY DRAFT AN ALMOST MEANINGLESS PRECIS REDUCING THESE VITAL POINTS TO JUST A FEW WORDS.

If any of the Council Officers or Committee Members simply decide to reject this letter, please give me warning so I can take legal advice.

REQUEST

Although I am in poor health myself and my wife needs constant care, I would like the opportunity of being personally present as an observer at any discussions between the Council Officers and any representative of the Applicants or site owners. If there is any reason why I should not attend, please cite your legal authority to forbid my presence.

Would the Officers scrutinizing Representations, please pass this request to their colleagues who are responsible for conducting the actual Licence Application procedure.

Yours faithfully,

██████████

By email : publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk

Rep 22

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 11:38 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Adkins, Carla <carla.adkins@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: thoulstone park BA13 4AQ premises licence application WK202320096

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 26 September 2023 at 23:35:21 BST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: thoulstone park BA13 4AQ premises licence application WK202320096

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 11:22 PM
To: 'publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk.' <publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Cc: 'carla.adkins@wiltshire.gov.uk' <carla.adkins@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: thoulstone park BA13 4AQ premises licence application WK202320096

Dear Sir/Madam

As you know, I live at [REDACTED]

Public nuisance

I have studied not only the above application but also the email dated 18th September that was sent by the applicants to Chapmanslade and Upton Scudamore Councils (and others) enclosing amendments which they claimed had been recommended by Wiltshire County Council and accepted by them.

As you know, I objected to the original license application WK202310982 on the grounds of potential excessive noise emanating from musical events until 2am in the morning, pointed out that these applicants couldn't be trusted on sound having staged the Sunrise festival in 2013 and breached sound limits imposed under its then licence. I also enclosed an email (attached again) dated 7/6/13 from your own John Freegard, Senior Public Protection Officer EP (North/West), Public Protection, Monkton Park, Wiltshire Council where he stated in item 9) **Public Protection would certainly object to any future Licence Application for this site due to "proximity of noise sensitive receptors" constraints.**

Your John Freegard's advice in 2013 still applies today. He clearly took on board that we live in a very quiet neighbourhood and it is simply not right that noisy events should be allowed to be held on a regular basis. This would wreck the whole ambiance of our community. As my neighbour [REDACTED] has pointed out to you, there are many areas where events such as those which would be possible under the licence applied for would not cause a public nuisance because of the level of background noise (for example near a busy motorway, railway or airport).

Even if the current licence application is amended per the above email, it would still entitle the applicants to hold noisy events 7 days a week for up to 500 people until 11pm. That would represent wholesale dereliction of duty by the Council to our neighbourhood for the sake of commercial gain by two individuals.

In summary the destruction of a quiet rural community is at stake and I urge the Council to reject the application.

I have nothing against quiet events being held at Thoulstone seven days a week into the early morning. I also have nothing against a noisy event such as a private wedding celebration being held very occasionally. But I will always object to noisy events planned to be held in our neighbourhood on a regular basis.

Public safety

Finally, I'm also concerned about hundreds of cars causing pile-ups on the A36. Even up to 500 people showing up would put enormous pressure on the Thoulstone turn-off where there have already been a number of fatalities over the years

Best wishes

This is to object in the strongest possible terms to that part of the Application for a Premises Licence for Thoulstone Park which requests that Musical Events be allowed to continue until 2.00 a.m.

We live at Chalcot House, just over the A3098 from Thoulstone and have suffered bad noise pollution from previous musical events held on the Hughes-Halletts' land.

These people can't be trusted on sound-they staged the Sunrise festival in 2013 and breached sound limits imposed under its then license.

As proof, please see attached email dated 7/6/13 from you own John Freegard, Senior Public Protection Officer EP (North/West), Public Protection, Monkton Park, Wiltshire Council where he clearly states in item 9) *Public Protection would certainly object to any future Licence Application for this site due to "proximity of noise sensitive receptors" constraints.*

We ask that the limitation on other activities of 11.00 p.m. also be applied to any Musical Events.

From: "Freegard, John" <John.Freegard@wiltshire.gov.uk>

Date: 7 June 2013 15:37:35 GMT+01:00

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: sunrise festival noise monitoring

I would just like to give you some feedback to the monitoring we carried out last weekend to 'audit check' compliance with the noise conditions:

- 1. We established that Sunrise generally struggled to comply with the night-time(after 23:00hrs) conditions at the nearest receptors eg Thoulstone Cottages and Thoulstone Park House. We found breaches in these periods, predominantly between 00:00 and 02:00 hrs at Thoulstone Cottages by between 1 and 6dB above the 45dB limit. Generally the breaches were 1 to 3dB.*

2. We also identified that as well as being exposed to music noise levels, Thoulstone Park House experienced 'loss of amenity' issues probably several days before and after the festival due to site set up(building) and breakdown(dismantling). The Events Compound is immediately adjacent to this property and so they were also exposed to comings and goings, generator noise, two-way radio noise etc. at all times of the day and night.

3. At Clearwood View the noise was audible, but did not breach the conditions. At Dilton Court and Short Street the music noise was either audible or barely audible, but we found no breaches.

4. Going back to the breaches at Thoulstone Cottages, this is obviously disappointing in that when a 45dB limit is set, you would hope that a festival can operate at maybe 41/42dB and we would contact them if it was approaching the 45dB limit. Unfortunately, it wasn't like this and they were struggling to get it below 45dB and as I said above it was mainly 1-3dB over. It should not be like this in my opinion.

5. I have to say, that their noise team were working extremely hard on the nights, but due to the multiple sources, they were simply not able to comply.

6. I can also confirm that I established an 'inaudibility' breach at 02:09, 02:22 and 02:40 at Thoulstone Cottages where the music was found to be barely audible after 02:00hrs.

7. The disappointment is exacerbated because we found that they did not actually breach the 'perceived' stringent/onerous conditions that we recommended(eg 30/35dB) based on their predictions, they actually breached the conditions that their noise consultant recommended as being achievable at the nearest noise sensitive receptors.

8. You may be aware that I expressed some scepticism in my written representations and at the hearing regarding their ability to achieve some of the predicted reductions and it seems that this has been realised and vindicated.

9. We have concluded that this site is not the best site for this festival and I have advised the Licensing Team and my hierarchy that Public Protection would certainly object to any future Licence Application for this site due to "proximity of noise sensitive receptors" constraints. Any action regarding this year is being currently considered by the Council.

I hope this clarifies the situation and would like to thank you for letting us monitor at your premises.

If you have any queries, please feel free to ask.

Regards

John

Rep 23

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 8:00 AM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Representation for Premise Licence Application, Thoulstone Park

Premise Licence Application, WK/202320069 Thoulstone Park, Chapmanslade, BA13 4AQ.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to raise my objections to the Premise Licence for Thoulstone Park, relating to the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, and prevention of public nuisance, on behalf of our farm which adjoins Thoulstone Park, for the below reasons. Please note, my objections remain largely the same as for the previous licence application due to the minor amendments having no material change for me. The only difference being that since then there have been further events which have provided a similar level of disruption to previous ones. This makes it clear that the applicant is not willing or able to rectify the many concerns and complaints that have previously been raised. Therefore the current trajectory of nuisance and disorder caused by Thoulstone Park events will continue if this Premise Licence is granted by Wiltshire Council.

1. Livery and Livestock

We have horses and sheep in the field immediately adjacent to the site. The noise (especially amplified sound) generated from the site will disturb the animals. This is likely to cause us a negative impact upon our livery business, which is a significant proportion of our income especially with the unstable nature of farming nowadays.

2. Crop Fire Risk

During previous festivals at Thoulstone Park there have been fires alight right on our boundary. These were reported to Wiltshire Police for risk of a fire spreading onto our crops and destroying our harvest and even our buildings. This is especially important during warmer, drier spells when foliage is at higher risk of spreading fires (which is in the summer months when Thoulstone events are most likely to be held).

3. Environmental

Noise generated from the site will impact the wide variety of fauna present across our farm and Thoulstone Park. This includes owls, kestrels, buzzards, red kites, bats, deer, yellow hammers, treecreepers and skylarks. This will be especially important during breeding or nesting seasons. We dedicate a significant amount of land to environmental purposes and this premise licence negates our efforts and time spent on these activities.

After the previous Sunrise festival at Thoulstone there was a large amount of litter left on our land, thrown and blown over the boundary, which we spent a significant amount of time cleaning up.

4. Trespassing

Being adjacent to Thoulstone Park, there is a strong likelihood of people straying onto our property. During previous Thoulstone Park festivals we have had to remove festival goers

from sleeping in our barns, and from trespassing onto our land, as well as leaving large amounts of litter (including beer bottles).

5. Blocking of Farm Access

Our field gateways in close proximity to Thoulstone Park require 24/7 access for us to undertake livestock and arable work. The large amount of cars coming to the site mean that people are likely to park in our entrances without thinking or caring. Gateways into our fields have been blocked by previous Thoulstone Park festival goers parking their vehicles for several days, stopping us from accessing our land. This was despite a previous licence at Thoulstone Park which stated 'There would be marshalling at perceived vulnerable parking points, with a 24 hour community safety patrol'.

6. Previous Issues with the Licences granted to multiple management teams

The problems caused by the Sunrise Festival in 2013, which are acknowledged in the Licence given to Thoulstone Park in 2015 (paragraph 5), resulted in restrictions on the activities and number of people that were permitted in 2015. These restrictions, in addition to a new management team, were cited as reasons for the licence granted in 2015. Unfortunately these restrictions, and the new management team, did not stop further significant issues from occurring. It is therefore unlikely that any further assurances (provided by the applicant) or restrictions (provided by Wiltshire Council), required for this premise licence to be approved, will stop similar problems from recurring.

7. Nuisance caused by excessive bass noise

This licence, if granted, will result in obtrusive noise, especially bass. This creates a very stressful environment to work and socialise in, due to the constant thudding for over 10 hours each day. During the recent festival held in August 2023, I could not escape the bass noise when trying to work, even with ear defenders on - the bass travelled right through my ear protection.

8. Lack of Public Benefit

As a local rural business we are generally in favour of other local businesses which contribute positively to the local economy (an example being Longleat, which creates a lot of local jobs and tourism). The festivals which are held at Thoulstone generally involve people travelling into Wiltshire, camping on site, then leaving. There is very little benefit to the local economy caused by these types of events, and this, in my opinion, is easily outweighed by the significant issues which the events cause to our Wiltshire residents and countryside, including ourselves.

Many thanks for your consideration on this matter.

██████████

██████████ Hisomley, ██████████

Rep 24

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 4:40 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Application for a new premises licence - RE: WK202320096 Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ Licence application 23/08/23

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Sir/Madam

I write this as a letter of objection relating to the above application by Alka & James Hughes-Hallett , based on the grounds of 1. Prevention of Public Nuisance , 2. Public Safety and 3. Prevention of Crime and Disorder.

1. Public Nuisance. Frequency, duration and nature of the events. The now revised timings supplied by the applicants, if granted, allow the applicant to have live or amplified music at the site 7 days a week. I understand their suggestion that this would be limited to 12 days per calendar year is only for events where there are more than 500 people. The 'neighbours' to Thoulstone Park are many and include the whole of Short Street and other hamlets. We will likely all be subject to this frequency of music-based events which, going by the recent 'Get On' festival, had sound levels at lower frequencies that were penetrative and affected the sleep of many residents here in Short Street. The applicants could make TENS applications for additional events where attendance will be far higher than 500 and for which I anticipate they will seek time extensions well beyond 11 pm. It is my understanding that the TENS process does not allow the neighbourhood to make representations against such applications.

2. Safety. Although the application states various entrances, including footpaths, to the premises will be controlled, previous experience saw festival goers parking along the immediate entrance to Short St off the A3098, then crossing the latter on what is a very dangerous bend with its 50mph speed limit. There has been a recent fatality along that stretch of the A3098.

3. Crime. Again previous experience, from the material left behind, was that drugs were being used at music-based events/ festivals at Thoulstone Park. I question the ability of the organisers to be able to control this.

Thankyou for your consideration.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Short Street

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wiltshire Council

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REPRESENTATION FORM

This form must be returned within the statutory period, which is 28 days from the date the notice was displayed on the premises or the date specified in the public notice in the newspaper. Please contact the Licensing team to confirm this date.

Any individual, body or business can make a Representation to the Licensing Authority in relation to an application, regardless of their geographic proximity to the premises. Any Representation must be relevant, in that the Representation relates to one or more of the Licensing Objectives.

Ref WK 2023/20096

Premises about which representation is being made	Thoulstone Park Chapmanslade, BA12 4AQ
Your Name	[REDACTED]
Postal Address	Upton Soudamores [REDACTED]
Contact Telephone Number and Email address	[REDACTED]
Are you (please tick): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An individual?<input type="checkbox"/> A person who operates a business?<input type="checkbox"/> A person representing residents or businesses?<input type="checkbox"/> A member of the Relevant Licensing Authority (ie, elected Councillor of the Licensing Authority)?	
If you are representing residents or businesses who have asked you to represent them?	No

Your Representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives, which are detailed below. Please detail the evidence supporting your Representation and the reason for your Representation. If necessary, separate sheets may be used.

LICENSING OBJECTIVES	EVIDENCE
The protection of children from harm	

<p>The prevention of public nuisance</p>	<p>Premises Licence Application - Live or recorded amplified music in outdoors or marquee with no sound proofing & where sound carries widely</p> <p>Recent event of this type led to extreme noise disturbance involving considerable disruption to local settlements.</p> <p>Unlikely to be able to effectively mitigate noise to avoid further disruption</p>
<p>The prevention of crime and disorder</p>	
<p>Public safety</p>	

Please list below any suggested actions that you feel the applicant could take to address your concerns:

Site seems unsuitable for amplified music held outdoors or marquee without adequate sound proofing. Recent event highlighted unsuitability of this type of event.

Even with time limited events the difficulty of mitigating their noise with effects of sound carrying over the area unlikely these events could be held without diminishing quality of life for surrounding population.

- Could transfer their amplified music events to solid building with adequate sound proofing.
- Accept this aspect of their programme is unsuitable for this site

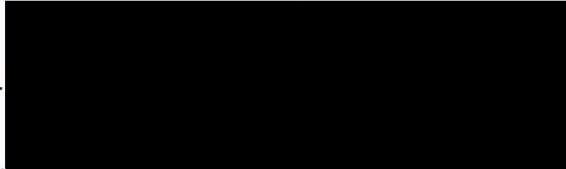
Please see additional attachment.

If a hearing needs to be held to determine the Premises Licence Application, the Licensing Sub-committee will generally only be able to consider matters that have previously been disclosed. However, additional information in support of your Representation may be considered if all parties at the Hearing agree. We advise that you detail all matters that you wish to be considered on this initial Representation, attaching additional sheets if necessary.

If you do make a Representation you will be invited to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee Hearings and any subsequent appeal proceedings relevant to your Representation.

All Representations in their entirety, including your name and address, will be disclosed to the Premises Licence applicant. A copy of Representations will be annexed to the Licensing Officer's report, which is a public document published on the Council's website and circulated to the Licensing Sub-Committee and to all those who have made relevant Representations.

Signature.



Date.. 26 September 2023

Please return this form, along with any additional sheets, to the relevant Wiltshire Council Office listed below or return by email to publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk:

Salisbury Area – (Salisbury, Amesbury, Downton, Mere, Hindon and Tilshead as well as the rest of the old Salisbury District Council Area), please send to:

The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Bourne Hill
Salisbury
Wiltshire, SP1 3UZ

All other areas please send to the address below:

The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Monkton Park
Chippenham
Wiltshire, SN15 1ER

Additional notes Ref WK2023/20096 New Premises Licence, Thoulstone Park Limited

News of this application was only spread here on 14/15 September to be discussed at a Parish Council meeting on the 19th which the applicant attended and copies of Thoulstone Park Limited's email of the 18th were distributed stating that at the direction of Wiltshire CC they were sharing the concluding details of their conversations with you, listing your recommended amendments which they had accepted and hoped will be "of some help and comfort" and lead people to consider withdrawing their objections.

The new amendments restricting them to starting at 13.00 to 23.00 hours represents potential for 10 hours of continuous music and with no more than 12 per calendar year raises the possibility in warmer months, say April to September, of an event every next weekend,

While appreciating your Officers' efforts, we wish to record our continuing disquiet. To us the whole matter revolves around the applicants' desire to run a venture producing amplified live or recorded music events either in the open air or marquee with no sound proofing in this open landscape where sound carries over a wide area.

We believe ourselves to be ordinary reasonable people but over 4-6 August we were exceptionally and substantially disturbed with continuous extremely loud thumping music booming over the landscape infiltrating our home, with loss of sleep and unable to enjoy our outdoors - a distressing experience.

Crucially for us therefore - aware a Noise Management Plan has to be approved - we must note that if the sound measurements on site on 4-6 August were said to be within tolerable limits that does not explain why we and others in our village over a mile away were so disturbed.

Even after your Officers intervened and the sound was adjusted, the noise here remained loud and very disturbing. Resident over 25 years we are well aware how sound carries over the whole area – despite our tall trees we received no relief. Two separate residents in Warminster told us they heard music from the venue over that weekend.

Thus we remain highly sceptical that any restrictions could be placed on this site which could both meet the expectations of the local population to be protected from any incursion of noise and be left to continue to enjoy their normal lives undisturbed – whilst satisfying the applicants' desire to run events offering outdoor/marquee amplified music. At the same time fulfilling the likely expectations of a visiting audience's desire to enjoy some level of loudness. Their suggestion of additional hedging or using bales as additional buffering seems unrealistic in this situation.

Therefore we believe these events should be held in a solid building with adequate sound proofing.

We do not understand or accept why the local population should be expected to tolerate any level of disturbance. Thus should a licence be granted, for us it is imperative that the situation is tightly monitored ensuring that the sound does not travel at all beyond their boundary – having particular attention to the significant effects of 'sound carrying'.

Wiltshire Council

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Premises about which representation is being made	THOULSTONE PARK LIMITED THOULSTONE, WILTSHIRE
Your Name	[REDACTED]
Postal Address	LITTON SWADMORE [REDACTED]
Contact Telephone Number and Email address	[REDACTED]
Are you (please tick): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An individual? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>• A person who operates a business?• A person representing residents or businesses?• A member of the Relevant Licensing Authority (ie, elected Councillor of the Licensing Authority)?	
If you are representing residents or businesses who have asked you to represent them?	N/A.

Your Representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives, which are detailed below. Please detail the evidence supporting your Representation and the reason for your Representation. If necessary, separate sheets may be used.

LICENSING OBJECTIVES	EVIDENCE
The protection of children from harm	

<p>The prevention of public nuisance</p>	<p>I objected to the original license application anticipating some real changes would be made. Reducing the opening time from 2am - 12pm is a very small change.</p> <p>The noise impact will still be the same: - (see below)</p>
<p>The prevention of crime and disorder</p>	
<p>Public safety</p>	

Please list below any suggested actions that you feel the applicant could take to address your concerns:

The attempts to reduce the noise levels are simply reduction.

Neither haybales, planting trees (which will take a long time to mature + do not reduce noise) or deflecting speakers will in no way mitigate the noise levels. A marquee is equally ineffective.

The only barrier is a solid building or a deep sound "burg" of soil.

If the applicants wished to put up a large barn / building with sufficient sound proofing - this would be a more acceptable

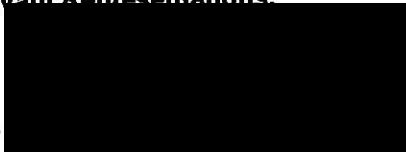
solution.

If a hearing needs to be held to determine the Premises Licence Application, the Licensing Sub-committee will generally only be able to consider matters that have previously been disclosed. However, additional information in support of your Representation may be considered if all parties at the Hearing agree. We advise that you detail all matters that you wish to be considered on this initial Representation, attaching additional sheets if necessary.

If you do make a Representation you will be invited to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee Hearings and any subsequent appeal proceedings relevant to your Representation.

All Representations in their entirety, including your name and address, will be disclosed to the Premises Licence applicant. A copy of Representations will be annexed to the Licensing Officer's report, which is a public document published on the Council's website and circulated to the Licensing Sub-Committee and to all those who have made relevant Representations.

Signature.....



Date.....

27/9/2023

Please return this form, along with any additional sheets, to the relevant Wiltshire Council Office listed below or return by email to publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk:

Salisbury Area – (Salisbury, Amesbury, Downton, Mere, Hindon and Tilshead as well as the rest of the old Salisbury District Council Area), please send to:

The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Bourne Hill
Salisbury
Wiltshire, SP1 3UZ

All other areas please send to the address below:

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Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
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Chippenham
Wiltshire, SN15 1ER

Wiltshire Council

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Premises about which representation is being made	THOULSTONE PARK LIMITED BA12 4AQ WK/202320069
Your Name	[REDACTED]
Postal Address	[REDACTED] UPTON SCUDAMORE [REDACTED]
Contact Telephone Number and Email address	[REDACTED]
Are you (please tick):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • A person who operates a business? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • A person representing residents or businesses? • A member of the Relevant Licensing Authority (ie, elected Councillor of the Licensing Authority)? 	
If you are representing residents or businesses who have asked you to represent them?	No

Your Representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives, which are detailed below. Please detail the evidence supporting your Representation and the reason for your Representation. If necessary, separate sheets may be used.

LICENSING OBJECTIVES	EVIDENCE
The protection of children from harm	

The prevention of public nuisance

I do not wish, within reason, to prevent licence applicants enjoying free use of their land providing this is not to detriment of neighbours. A multitude of potential uses would meet this criterion. The applicants have reduced the time periods, a start, but they would have a lot more credibility had they already consulted a noise specialist AND were able to quote decibel levels they will not exceed at specific locations. I am not a noise specialist, but understand Trees & hedges, and direction of speakers (as wind carries sound) are not effective against noise. Mention of hay bales (huge mass of hay, which will get wet, start to compost and present a fire risk) is simply ridiculous. Statements 'encourage use of silent discos' and 'ongoing monitoring by licensees' suggest a weak management structure at the outset. This will in time only get weaker as applicants interest in the project wanes and does not inspire confidence. Frankly the council could have insisted on more rigour before again wasting public time; my confidence in our public institutions is now at an all time low.

The prevention of crime and disorder

Public safety

Please list below any suggested actions that you feel the applicant could take to address your concerns:

What the applicant can do

1. Tall solid fences of the right structure and walls might work
2. Consult a sound specialist.
3. Specify precise decibel levels to be met at specific locations
4. Offer this information to the sound engineer in Upton Scudamore as a second opinion (we do have a sound specialist in the village)
5. Explain how competent and firm management will be maintained over time.

If a hearing needs to be held to determine the Premises Licence Application, the Licensing Sub-committee will generally only be able to consider matters that have previously been disclosed. However, additional information in support of your Representation may be considered if all parties at the Hearing agree. We advise that you detail all matters that you wish to be considered on this initial Representation, attaching additional sheets if necessary.

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Signature.....



Date.....

27/9/2023

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Wiltshire, SP1 3UZ

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The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Monkton Park
Chippenham
Wiltshire, SN15 1ER

Rep 29

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 9:37 PM
To: PublicprotectionNorth <PublicprotectionNorth@wiltshire.gov.uk>; Adkins, Carla <carla.adkins@wiltshire.gov.uk>; chapmansladepc@yahoo.co.uk
Subject: WK202320096 Thoulstone Park BA13 4AQ Licence application 23/08/23

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in connection with this license application for Thoulstone Park.

The applicants indicated, in the September 2023 meeting of Chapmanslade Parish Council, that they do not wish to do anything that would result in local communities being disturbed by events held at Thoulstone.

The reality is that there have been many assurances given the past. Almost without exception these have resulted in disturbance and discomfort for those living close to Thoulstone Park. The recent GetOn festival is a case in point, with a very significant number of complaints being filed following this event.

I therefore object to the licence application (WK/WK202320096) by Alka & James Hughes-Hallett for Thoulston Park Ltd, Nr Westbury, BA13 4AQ on the grounds of:

THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE:

Mr and Mrs Hughes Hallett's application is little changed from their earlier application. It is almost silent about the impact on neighbouring properties. The only reference is a statement that the venue is located 'well away from neighbouring houses' and some very limited statements with regards Noise Mitigation, which in my view are inadequate.

The applicants know from previous events they have held or attempted to hold at their property, with the proposed marquee site, that noise from it has a direct detrimental effect on the surrounding houses.

I have lived in Short Street for the last 8 years, and am well aware of the negative impact of noise from events held in Thoulstone Park.

As per the **Noise Policy Statement for England 2010** events held under licence at Thoulstone Park are most likely to be '**Noticeable and Disruptive**' at the very least. It also contravenes the need to: '**avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life**'.

The following are extracts from the Noise Council's 'Pop code' regarding issues that are, in my view, directly relevant to the impact of noise from concerts in general, and the proposed use of Thoulstone Park for these events in particular.

'Assessment of noise in terms of dB(A) is very convenient but it can underestimate the intrusiveness of low frequency noise. Furthermore, low frequency noise can be very noticeable indoors. This event if the dB(A) guideline is being met, unreasonable disturbance may be occurring because of the low frequency noise.' There is a further note that 'It has been found that it is the low frequency noise that causes disturbance'.

Another helpful document, based on the Pop Code, 'A Brief Guide to the Pop Code for Event Organisers', and published by Cirrus Research, states the following:

'Disturbance caused by noise, low frequency noise in particular, can cause stress and sleep deprivation, each of which can lead to more serious health problems such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension and mental health conditions.'

A significant proportion of residents in Short Street are past retirement age, a number of whom are in poor health – as well as others with health issues living near the site.

I can also confirm from my experience that it is the low frequency vibrations, usually compounded by audible noise, that is the reality of these event and particularly disturbing for Short Street residents. Indeed, I became aware of the music from the recent wedding event, held at this venue, because of a vibration in our windows.

There is a further very significant issue, regarding any license, relating to the hours of operation. Again referring to the Pop Code:

'For events continuing or held between the hours of 2300 and 0900 the music noise should not be audible within noise sensitive premises with windows open in a typical manner for ventilation.'

I note the license application includes the possibility of noise after 2300.

I believe that Wiltshire Council has a duty of care to protect affected individuals and communities (who I would consider the primary stakeholders) at all times, but particularly after 2300.

I submit that the Pop code should be applied in its entirety in respect of any events licensed to be held at this venue. I further submit that it should be a matter of transparency that any license(s) issued, together with any conditions, be made publicly available (with redactions if necessary). This then equips affected communities to know whether there has been a breach.

I recognise that applications of this nature are a balance of weighing public interest against negative impacts. However, it does feel from my experience of the process thus far, and sight of various communications, that there is a leaning towards commercial interests over negative impacts, and a presumption towards acceptance.

This, in my view, should not be the case. Decisions should be based on a true balance of interests, reflecting in particular those of affected neighbouring residents, with clear criteria applied.

I also object on the grounds that the application seeks an unlimited number of events to be held on the site in any one year. This is unacceptable.

Public safety

I believe that there are serious issues of public safety with regards arrival at and departure from the site. The A36 over this stretch of road, extending from the entrance down Black Dog Hill towards Standerwick has seen a number of serious accidents over the last few years – a number of them fatal. This includes one in the last two months very close to the Thoulstone site. The three lane section of the A36, with twin lanes up the hill (without a central reservation) is a race track. Cars accelerate on this section, mainly in the Warminster direction, and continue to speed past and in some case through the cross hatched zone by the Thoulstone Farm junction. This is the main access point to Thoulstone Park. Hence there are in my view significant road safety concerns for events held at this site.

The prevention of crime and disorder.

There is no indication in the application about ensuring that the use of and dealing in illegal drugs will be controlled on the site. It is difficult to believe that there was not widespread use of illegal drugs at the 2017 event on this site (see below).

The protection of children from harm

The attached link provides details of an event that was held at Thoulstone in 2017 when it was in the current ownership - <https://www.gscene.com/news/5-days-of-queer-community-in-action-on-the-land/>

This link states as follows:

'As sexuality as well as spirituality will be explored during the festival, there will be some specific adult-only areas. However, this will be a festival with lots to do for people of all ages and children will be very welcome here.'

I am concerned by this statement and hope that it was drawn to the attention of Wiltshire Council Child Protection Officers to assess the risk and monitor as needed.

The current application states that 'Entry will be denied to all adult content events'. As evidenced by the details on the website the 2017 event included Adult only Areas – but they were not excluded from the event. Based on this, I therefore also highlight child protection concerns as potentially material to this application in the light of the 2017 event.

Thank you for taking account of these points in your consideration of the application.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Short Street

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

Wiltshire Council

Where everybody matters

REPRESENTATION FORM

This form must be returned within the statutory period, which is 28 days from the date the notice was displayed on the premises or the date specified in the public notice in the newspaper. Please contact the Licensing team to confirm this date.

Any individual, body or business can make a Representation to the Licensing Authority in relation to an application, regardless of their geographic proximity to the premises. Any Representation must be relevant, in that the Representation relates to one or more of the Licensing Objectives.

Premises about which representation is being made	THOULSTONE PARK, THOULSTONE
Your Name	[REDACTED]
Postal Address	UPTON SCUDAMORE [REDACTED]
Contact Telephone Number and Email address	[REDACTED]
Are you (please tick):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • A person who operates a business? • A person representing residents or businesses? • A member of the Relevant Licensing Authority (ie, elected Councillor of the Licensing Authority)? 	
If you are representing residents or businesses who have asked you to represent them?	

Your Representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives, which are detailed below. Please detail the evidence supporting your Representation and the reason for your Representation. If necessary, separate sheets may be used.

LICENSING OBJECTIVES	EVIDENCE
The protection of children from harm	

<p>The prevention of public nuisance</p>	<p>The noise was persistent and very disturbing during the last festival. We live at the furthest point away from the area and could hear the music inside the house with all doors/windows closed.</p>
<p>The prevention of crime and disorder</p>	
<p>Public safety</p>	

Please list below any suggested actions that you feel the applicant could take to address your concerns:

I feel the applicants have so far prepared a very amateur application together with subsequent mitigation measures. As someone who has worked in a live music environment I know that bales of straw will have no impact on the sound levels reaching the village. They have further stated that they will only put on 12 events a year which will mean that there could possibly be two events per month during the summer months. It is entirely unacceptable to run live music or recorded music events in this area,

If a hearing needs to be held to determine the Premises Licence Application, the Licensing Sub-committee will generally only be able to consider matters that have previously been disclosed. However, additional information in support of your Representation may be considered if all parties at the Hearing agree. We advise that you detail all matters that you wish to be considered on this initial Representation, attaching additional sheets if necessary.

If you do make a Representation you will be invited to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee Hearings and any subsequent appeal proceedings relevant to your Representation.

All Representations in their entirety, including your name and address, will be disclosed to the Premises Licence applicant. A copy of Representations will be annexed to the Licensing Officer's report, which is a public document published on the Council's website and circulated to the Licensing Sub-Committee and to all those who have made relevant Representations

Signature



Date.. 26/9/23

Please return this form, along with any additional sheets, to the relevant Wiltshire Council Office listed below or return by email to publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk:

Salisbury Area – (Salisbury, Amesbury, Downton, Mere, Hindon and Tilshead as well as the rest of the old Salisbury District Council Area), please send to:

The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Bourne Hill
Salisbury
Wiltshire, SP1 3UZ

All other areas please send to the address below:

The Licensing Officer
Wiltshire Council
Public Protection Services and Licensing
Monkton Park
Chippenham
Wiltshire, SN15 1ER

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Premises about which representation is being made	Thoulstone Park Ltd Chapmanslade BA13 4AQ
Your Name	[REDACTED]
Postal Address	[REDACTED] Upton Scudamore, [REDACTED]
Contact Telephone Number and Email address	[REDACTED]
Are you (please tick): / / • An individual? • A person who operates a business? • A person representing residents or businesses? • A member of the Relevant Licensing Authority (ie, elected Councillor of the Licensing Authority)?	
If you are representing residents or businesses who have asked you to represent them?	No

Your Representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives, which are detailed below. Please detail the evidence supporting your Representation and the reason for your Representation. If necessary, separate sheets may be used.

LICENSING OBJECTIVES	EVIDENCE
The protection of children from harm	-----

<p>The prevention of public nuisance</p>	<p>It is noted that the application includes both indoor and outdoor live music, and allows approx. 500 people. Previous similar events on or close to this site have:</p> <p>a. Caused intolerable levels of noise at our home, both during the day and at night. Upton Scudamore is a quiet rural community with no main thoroughfare, about 1 mile across open land from Thoulstone Park. When we bought this house the area at Thoulstone was agricultural land and then a golf course, and the quietude here was a strong consideration in our purchase. Furthermore, we have a mandatory clause in our deeds, required by a government department, which prevents us from disturbing adjacent properties, and vice-versa. We do not understand why anyone would believe it is suddenly acceptable to allow a regular and significant disturbance. Furthermore, the measures proposed by the applicant are already known to be ineffective in attenuating noise.</p> <p>b. Resulted in large volumes of litter along the public footpath towards Upton Scudamore, which is used daily by villagers and non-villagers. The litter had to be cleared by local residents.</p> <p>To allow this application would be an imposition on us, this community, and the other villages close by, and is completely unacceptable.</p>
<p>The prevention of crime and disorder</p>	
<p>Public safety</p>	<p>a. The litter above was of unknown material/source and posed a threat to public safety in both using the public footpath and in clearing it.</p> <p>b. The already unacceptable car parking arrangements in Upton Scudamore would become totally intolerable. The centre of Upton Scudamore is a short walk from Thoulstone Park, and events there are known to cause increased car parking in the village. Car parking demand is already running well over capacity due to the pub car park being reduced in size. This results in parking in the narrow roads, which demonstrably prevents the passage of ambulances, fire engines, working farm vehicles and even, sometimes, ordinary cars. A licence allowing frequent events at Thoulstone Park would make this already unacceptable situation completely intolerable.</p>
<p>Please list below any suggested actions that you feel the applicant could take to address your concerns:</p> <p>Withdraw the application</p>	

If a hearing needs to be held to determine the Premises Licence Application, the Licensing Sub-committee will generally only be able to consider matters that have previously been disclosed. However, additional information in support of your Representation may be considered if all parties at the Hearing agree. We advise that you detail all matters that you wish to be considered on this initial Representation, attaching additional sheets if necessary.

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Signature..... **(Signed on original)** Date **28th Sept 2023**

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