

Philip Day, Solicitor
Horse Lightly Fynn
3 Poole Road
Bournemouth BH2 5QJ

Dear Mr Day

I am writing to you in support of Mr Lepingwell's application for a Premises License at Thoulstone Park, Chapmanslade. As you may know we have renewed the planning permission for a hotel on the site and are in the process of submitting an application for a business centre and rural working hub. We have a clear vision for the redevelopment of Thoulstone over the next few years which if fulfilled would result in the creation of about 200 jobs and bring with it associated economic benefits to the local area.

We are committed to delivering this project in a truly sustainable context. Our plans and objectives are founded on the One Planet Living principles. At present, this has been reflected through projects that aim to enhance the ecology - planting 26000 trees, partnering up with the Hawk and Owl trust to enrich the local ecology, undertaking extensive ecological reporting and engaging with the local community and Responsible Authorities.


In 2013 we allowed a Sunrise 2013 a small Festival, to be held on our land. There was considerable concern in the local community on a number of potential issues. We were pleased to note that the vast majority of the potential issues never materialised. As a result, we asked the organisers to develop an events and education programme on the land the following year. In some respects the experiment was a success, although we accept that not all were delivered to the standards we had agreed with the production company.

As owners, we were not happy with the net impact on the neighbourhood and as a result it was agreed that one of the Directors, Mr Hurring who was in charge of delivery of events last year would move on to pursue other interests. Mr Lepingwell who was engaged in unconnected projects last year has been asked to focus solely on Thoulstone events in 2015. Mr Lepingwell has a much wider experience in the delivery of outdoor events and we are comfortable that he will produce events to the very high standards we have set. In our view, there is no choice because failure to do so would be inconsistent with our Sustainable objectives.

The type of events that Mr Lepingwell intends to pursue fit well with our future development plans. His intention is to focus on smaller events such as weddings and small functions as well as corporate events and themed retreats. All of these would dovetail with the intended business activities of both the hotel and business centre. In addition we have agreed to develop what we are describing as community events. One such event in the pipeline is Thoulstone's Big Picnic, an event encouraging local families to come and enjoy a day out at Thoulstone.

We believe that by applying for a Premises License, Mr Lepingwell is demonstrating a desire to work with the local community and Responsible agencies by setting out a clear and measurable set of parameters governing the delivery of events at Thoulstone Park. As owners, we welcome the boundaries that such a system would offer and the assurances that it should bring to our neighbours.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. S. Hughes-Hallett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a stylized 'S'.

James Hughes-Hallett

1. 4. 2015.