

Appendix 2 – Representations from Other Persons

Cllr Margot Power

75 Grange Road, Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 9HF

Received 7 December 2019

Subject: Application for New Premises Licence - Brand Events TM Ltd, The Grange, Grange Park, Northington, Winchester, Hampshire, SO24 9TG

I strongly object to this licence being granted. To suggest that detailed event management plans can be submitted 90 days before the event is naïve in the extreme; by that point exhibitors will have been booked and tickets sold.

Apart from the need to ensure that all licensing objectives are met this site has very special needs as regards the prevention of Public Nuisance.

The topography is such that noise is not easily dispersed; the lighting necessary for safety will be intrusive; the travel to the site of between 6,000 and 10,000 cars will need a very detailed management plan, all local roads are such that two trucks meeting have to crawl past each other and the B3046 is the main access to comparatively isolated villages.

The application is incomplete and should be rejected until detailed plans are available

Margot Power [REDACTED]

My representation is made on behalf of constituents.

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Cllr Jackie Porter**The Down House, Itchen Abbas, Winchester, SO21 1AX****Received 9 December 2019**Subject: Proposed Food Festival at The Grange , application made by Brand Events

Dear Ms Appletree,

Further to my conversation today, I would like to place a holding objection to this application because there are a number of points on which I am seeking clarification before the application is heard.

I have been asked by residents: is this a Food Festival with music or a Music Festival with Food?

My questions are as follows:

Prevention of Crime and Disorder and Public Safety The site access does not include any form of public transport. The sale of alcohol is expected to extend throughout the period of the Festival. Rural roads (the only means of access to this site) are statistically more dangerous than major trunk roads, and indeed the B3046 has had a number of cars overturn at the Grange entrance in the last ten years. How will the organisers prevent intoxicated drivers leaving this site, during and after the event, risking the lives of others on the rural roads?

Prevention of Public Nuisance

The rural roads are narrow. Already Grange events bring successions of large vehicles setting up the summer events. How will vehicles be directed onto this site to avoid congestion and traffic noise for residents?

The Grange site is closely wrapped around by the communities of Swarraton and Northington. The music and dancing is planned to extend into the night (and further: into the early morning) This area is extremely tranquil, and the tranquility will be disturbed for several nights, creating public nuisance, and health harms. How will the organisers ensure that no one is disturbed at all by noise throughout the events over four days?

This festival will directly precede the Boomtown festival to be held just a few miles away. How will organisers ensure that the two audiences are not the same, with informal camping etc creating a merge into one? I realise this is unlikely but Raves often take place in the area near here during the summer: can the organisers reassure the public that the two events at Boomtown and The Grange will not unofficially merge?

Food festivals are usually held where there is an infrastructure suitable for catered events. This site does not have these: it will need fridges, and generation of cooking facilities. How do the organisers expect to cover public food standards and prevent the noise of fridges etc renting the air, if refreshments are being prepared to 5am in the morning?

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Protection of children from harm

Children will inevitably be attending this event. What are the safeguards in place to ensure that children are not able to drink or purchase alcohol?

I would like reassurance on these matters-but meanwhile I would like my holding objection to be placed on record based on the concerns listed above.

Kind regards

Cllr Jackie Porter,

County and City Councillor, School Governor, Charity Trustee [REDACTED]

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Steve and Carolyn Richards

88 The Cherry Trees, Swarraton, Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 9TQ

Received 17 December 2019

Subject: New Premises Licence for The Grange, Grange Park, Northington,
Winchester, Hampshire, SO24 9TG

Dear sir,

We have a number of objections to this licence application, which we will detail below, but first we would like to raise some questions:

1. Can a 'premises' such as the Grange Estate get a licence for such a new event involving huge campsite and parking areas which have never existed before without Planning Permission ?
2. Since there is no definition of where on the estate any campsite(s) or parking will be, or where the stages are to be sited, how are residents, or WCC, able to properly assess the likely levels of public nuisance to be able to comment or object at this stage ?
3. Similarly, since the license application has no detail on how traders and attendees will access the site, it is not possible to fully comment on the likely problems. Certainly we would hope that there will be no access allowed via the Swarraton entrance to Grange Park, over the now partially collapsed bridge!
4. We note that WCC has posted a notice about the licence application at the Swarraton entrance to Grange Park.
That notice includes restrictions to the music – live music ending at 23:00 and recorded music after 23:00 indoors only – which we do not see in the published license application. Which version are the public supposed to be commenting on ?
Can we assume that the conditions in the WCC notice are what WCC would enforce ?
5. Environmental considerations – We see nothing to cover this in the license application.
Apart from the obvious disturbance to wildlife of such an event in a rural location, the Candover Brook runs through the estate, and is environmentally sensitive. How close will camping be to the Candover Brook or Grange Lake, and how can the organisers ensure that pollution or rubbish from the 20,000 campers do not enter the water?

Objections:

1. Public safety

The roads providing any access to the site are narrow, potholed and mostly without restrictions below 60 MPH, and with current traffic volumes are already quite dangerous. A large amount of commercial traffic before, during and after such events will in significantly increase the risks to residents and other road users.

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The influx of up to 20,000 attendees, plus staff, suggests c.10,000 cars arriving and departing over the weekend. This will place an unprecedented load on inadequate local roads and make it very dangerous for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders to make normal use of the roads. Many of the attendees are likely to be unfamiliar with narrow rural roads and their risks.

2. Public Nuisance

- i. The traffic on local roads before, during and after the event will prevent residents from making normal use of village roads for walking, cycling, or horse riding.
- ii. The noise from the event will be clearly audible throughout the village, and will prevent people being able to have normal enjoyment of their quiet rural gardens during the event. With open windows normal in mid-summer the music will be intrusive even inside houses. The posted notice says that recorded music after 23:00 will be “within indoor venues only”. Presumably this means within temporary structures such as marquees, which will not be soundproof, so music is likely to be audible across the village through the night. The background noise of 20,000 campers and their vehicles arriving and leaving, are likely to be audible to local resident throughout the weekend.
- iii. With “Foraging” on the list of festival content, there is concern for nuisance being caused by people “foraging” around the village. Any such activity must be kept on-site.

Yours sincerely

Steve & Carolyn Richards

88 The Cherry Trees
Swarraton
Alresford
Hants
SO24 9TQ

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Peter Davidson**The Old Rectory, Swarraton, Alresford, SO24 9TQ****Received 18 December 2019**

I would like to make the following representations in respect of a Food Festival in the Grange Estate promoted by Brand Events TM Ltd relating to concerns I have about the prevention of public nuisance and public safety.

The land at the Grange has hitherto only been used for small scale events like the Grange Festival Opera whereas this application will be very challenging in its first year involving the setting up of numerous temporary structures, catering for the needs and safety of a large number of people and ensuring a safe traffic flow on the roads leading to the Grange. The idea that up to 12,000 people can be accommodated in a way to give them maximum enjoyment in a first year of operation is optimistic. The positioning of stages, tents and car parks etc on mainly agricultural land will need to be decided in the light of experience. Visitors must be able to make their way around the various activities, especially at night, in complete safety. The roads surrounding the Grange Estate are all minor roads with bends and are often narrow – Church Hill particularly so – and there is a black spot which has been the subject of numerous accidents over the years on the Basingstoke road. Event traffic including heavy lorries and coaches will have to be closely monitored to avoid serious disruption to residents. A prudent approach might lead to a lesser number of visitors in the first year or so.

It is proposed that there should be live or recorded music for up to 18 hours a day ending at 2am. Unlike the Pub in the Park events which are aimed equally at food enthusiasts and music lovers, this event is billed as a Food Festival providing visitors with immersive and memorable dining options. Musical entertainment is a very secondary attraction. At least 33 households live within the Grange Estate or on its periphery and they will be gravely affected from noise up to 70 decibels throughout the day until late at night. A further 70 or so households in Northington, Swarraton and Totford live within a mile of the Grange and will also have the quiet enjoyment of their homes seriously impaired. Residents will be deeply concerned about this annual 3 day event unless steps are taken to minimise the nuisance from noise by the appropriate positioning of the stages and limiting live and recorded music to not later than 11.30 pm.

The supply of alcohol should be restricted to before midnight for the safety of those on the estate and also in the interest of providing a safe travelling environment on the roads for local residents when day visitors leave the event.

Peter Davidson

The Old Rectory

Swarraton

SO24 9TQ

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John Mitchell on behalf of Northington Parish Council
C/O EJ Mitchell, West Lodge, Northington, Alresford, SO24 9TG
Received 27 December 2019

Subject: Proposed Food Festival at The Grange , application made by Brand Events

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE LICENSING MANAGER

Dear Ms Appletree,

On behalf of Northington Parish Council (NPC) I submit, as an attachment to this email, a memorandum from Northington Parish Council on the proposed food festival at the The Grange, Northington. You will see from the memorandum's preamble that the views and questions it contains reflect the views of Northington residents, who were sent copies of the application and asked to comment.

FOOD FESTIVAL AT GRANGE PARK 2020 RESPONSE TO WCC LICENSING AUTHORITY

1. METHODOLOGY

On 9 December 2019 Northington Parish Council (NPC) sent a weblink to Brand Events TM Ltd's licence application dated 4 December to all residents in the parish to alert them to Brand Event's plans for the Grange Park. NPC asked residents to send their comments to WCC and to copy their text to NPC to allow the Council to gauge local reactions. Residents know that NPC are drawing on their comments when composing its own response to WCC. The following is a distillation of those comments

2. COMMENT FOR LICENSING OFFICER

The residents of Northington have a general understanding of the financial reasons prompting the Grange Estate to host a food festival. Their close reading of the application raises some issues under those headings where NPC may legitimately comment.

3. PUBLIC NUISANCE

1. Large Number of Participants

On 29 November 2019 the Grange Estate wrote – "...the event will involve up to 10,000 people". The online licence application has a starting number of 12,000 growing subsequently to 19,999. A local suggestion is to start with 7,500 and ramp numbers over subsequent years, subject to acceptably low levels of local disruption and further consultation with the local community.

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In the absence of an assurance to the contrary, there is local concern about the environmental impact, especially the risk of disturbance of the Candover Brook, which flows through the site into the river Itchen. The Candover Brook is a designated part of the Itchen Valley Countryside Heritage Area.

2. Long Hours of Licensed Activity

- A. Alcohol: The request for alcohol to be on sale until 02.00 a.m. is excessively late. The Grange Festival (opera)'s licence permits the sale of alcohol only until 23.00 p.m.
- B. Live Music: Notices posted locally indicate a cut-off time of 23.00 p.m. not 23.30 as in the online application.
- C. Recorded Music: The application is looking for recorded music until 02.00 a.m. but there is a discrepancy between the online application and hard copy notices posted locally. The local notice adds a rider that recorded music should be played indoors. Does 'indoors' mean bricks and mortar or do canvas marquees qualify?
- D. The application is for the festival to be held in high summer, when windows are open at night. Recorded music under canvas is likely to produce a noise burden, which it will be unreasonable for houses close to the Park.
- E. Food Sales: Until 05.00 a.m. This late hour encourages a continuous noise nuisance, to the discomfit of local residents and should be curtailed.

3. Traffic Control.

- A. This is a cause of **major concern to local residents** who know their roads. Unlike the neighbouring Boomtown Festival, the Grange Park site is surrounded by homes and the country B class roads through Northington, Swarraton and Totford are ill suited to heavy traffic pressures. Current police records of traffic accidents, particularly on the B3046, demonstrate the inadequacy of local roads.
- B. The stated intention of the applicant is to encourage visitors to camp on the festival site. The need for camping gear will mitigate against 'bussing' people onto the site. Based on an attendance figure of 12,000, there will be a likely influx of 4,000 cars/vans. This will far exceed the number of vehicles occasioned by the Grange Festival Opera.

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4. Setting Up.

There appear to be no details of the time allowed for setting up the festival. When this application is considered, the applicant should be asked for plans and timings. Some local roads are deemed unsuitable for heavy traffic. Past experience has shown that delivery lorries ignore instructions to use other entrances, possibly because they rely on SatNav directions.

4. PUBLIC SAFETY

Security Personnel.

At an event in the Grange Park this summer, 'over-enthusiastic' security personnel caused severe problems. Security staff arbitrarily closed a public highway, seriously disadvantaging one resident, who had a hospital appointment for an operation and other residents in the immediate vicinity.

5. CRIME & DISORDER

Residents have expressed concern that the proximity of their homes to the festival raises the question of security of dwellings located beyond the site's immediate perimeter. Adequate security provision should be made a condition of granting a licence.

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Paul and Kay Lowman
97 Severals Cottage, Swarraton, SO24 9TQ
Received 28 December 2019

Subject: The Grange, Grange Park Northington, Winchester, Hampshire. SO24 9TG

Dear Sirs,

As owners and occupiers of 97 Severals Cottage, Swarraton SO24 9TQ, we wish to comment as follows on the proposed Food Festival:

Traffic:

We are concerned about:

The general access to/from the B3046 to Chalk Hill as this is the **only** access road for local residents

General flow of traffic impacting on **all** local roads, especially during the main influx/outflow times of the festival

Noise/nuisance:

We are concerned about:

The excessively late continuation of recorded music and sale of alcohol until 2-00am, and the continuation of the sale of refreshments until 5-00am. All of which increases the longevity of noise and general impact on local residents, together with impact and pollution on the environment and wildlife.

An additional concern we have is in connection with the offer of camping for festival goers. If the existing Abbotstone Wood Campsite is being considered, this extends our concerns for noise/nuisance and impact of the general movement of event goers to local residents. This campsite is outside of the Grange Park boundary and will cause additional noise and general pollution from the public access to/from the event area, and especially any access in the late/early hours. How would the public access to/from the campsite to Grange Park be controlled, and how would local residents be protected?

Yours faithfully,

Paul & Kay Lowman

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Mike Bounds**Swarraton Lodge, Grange Park, Northington, Alresford, SO24 9TG****Received 28 December 2019**Subject: Food Festival Licence Application - The Grange Estate

Dear Sir/Madam

Application bt Grange Estate for A Food Festival

I am alarmed by the proposal, primarily for 2 very specific reasons: traffic and noise.

1. Traffic

Grange Park operates an opera season and year after year the intrusion grows. The speed, size and volume of traffic entering the Grange at the Swarraton Lodge remains an issue that does not get addressed in a purposeful or sustainable way.

The issues generally involve delivery vehicles during the set-up and de-rigging phases and staff vehicles during the season itself.

Vehicles that are too large to cross the weak bridge regularly enter the Grange at the Swarraton Lodge entrance, ignoring signs (and probably the instructions they receive from Grange Park Festival). Many of them, unsure as to the instructions they receive from their Sat Nav systems, knock at our door for directions.

Staff vehicles quickly learn that the Swarraton Lodge entrance is a 'short-cut' and travel at speeds approaching 3, 4 or even 5 times the sign-posted 10 mph speed limit. This is clearly dangerous and entirely in-appropriate for the nature of the road.

On a recent occasion I arrived home from work to find the entrance to chalk hill coned off, preventing access from the dangerous corner on the B3046 – where I had to stop to engage the waiting attendant to ask for the cones to be removed so I could get to my house. 'Traffic management' had apparently been delegated by Grange Park to a specialist company. There had been no consultation or warning regarding the closure. I enquired of the attendant whether they had the pre-requisite permissions for road closure from the Highways Agency, upon which the cones were removed and with them went the attendant.

Expecting numbers of up to 10,000 people over a weekend will quite clearly significantly exacerbate the problems that are already experienced with what are fairly small events involving hundreds or maybe no more than 1,000 people.

Furthermore, people numbers of this magnitude will create chaos on roads the village and on the surrounding roads as well.

2. Noise

The Grange has been granted licenses for recent events that have involved

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music. When these events have been held, the heavy bass beats are easily audible well into the distance. This is intrusive, particularly late at night. The application does I believe make a request for 3 music stages, also seeking permissions for music into the early hours. I cannot see how this will be any less intrusive than the events already held, in fact my guess is that it will be significantly worse.

Numbers at 10,000 over the weekend, with 3 music stages sounds more like a music festival than a food festival.

There are several other reasons that an event on this scale should be prevented:

3. Nuisance parking
4. Litter
5. Personal and household security
6. Applications for late alcohol licenses and all that brings with it.

I understand that the Grange has to work and quite accept that to achieve this the frequency of events, numbers of people and numbers of vehicles will increase. I just would like the organisers to demonstrate higher standards in terms of organisation, management and communication and to be utterly respectful of the calm and peaceful nature of the area in which we choose to live and to be particularly respectful of those residents whose lives, homes and routines will be most affected by the proposals.

Kind regards

Mike Bounds
Swarraton Lodge
[REDACTED]

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Emma La Fontaine Jackson

Beechdene House, Swarraton, Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 9TQ

Received 29 December 2019

Re: Brand Events TM Ltd's licence application 4 December 2019 for Food Festival at Grange Park in August 2020 and thereafter.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write with regard to the above application. As very close neighbours to The Grange (we live opposite the B3046 entrance) I have a number of concerns which I would like to bring to your attention:

Traffic:

1. the number of people at the event (12,000, rising to 19,999 in subsequent years) is on a scale hitherto never experienced at this venue. We already experience significant extra traffic (both cars and delivery vehicles) during the Grange Park Festival (May to July) and other events, which number a few hundred attendees. Furthermore, there will be several hundred (at least) more vehicles for event performers, exhibitors and staff – are these factored into Brand Events' plans? Staff are likely to be making several journeys in and out of the venue during the festival period.
2. One of the major sources of disruption is during the set up and take down periods, when delivery vehicles and tradespeople often drive fast and with no regard to signage or requests to use alternative entrances. Brand Events needs to be specific about how long they are allowing for set up and take down of the event, the number and type of vehicles involved, and arrangements for their access.
3. WCC and the police are well aware of the dangerous bend on the B3046 which provides access to the east entrance of Grange Park (several vehicle accidents have been recorded here over the past few years). I would also point out that August is a time when large farm vehicles and machinery use the roads around Grange Park until late in the evening, and this stretch of the B3046 does not have room for even a car to pass a large vehicle. We would seek assurances from Brand Events and The Grange Estate that this access point to the park will NOT be available for use by any vehicle, other than local residents, during this event.
4. Alresford: as the nearest town/source of shops, with limited parking, I am concerned about traffic and parking issues during the food festival (the annual Alresford Show in September already brings traffic to a standstill for much of the day of the show).

Mobile telephone signal

1. The mobile phone coverage in and around Grange Park is abysmal at the best of times (one pip/3G only). What will be the impact on local residents, many of whom depend on their phones for work, of many thousands of festival goers trying to use their phones and devices at the same time?

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Litter

2. Littering of the local roads and verges is, sadly, an ongoing problem, as is litter in Grange Park itself, and on local footpaths. The sad fact is that litter increases with more traffic and footfall. Brand Events needs to consider the impact of litter not just in the venue itself, but in the surrounding verges and countryside.

Noise

1. I echo the points raised in the Parish Council's representation (email of 28/12/19). We already hear the noise from Boomtown, and know that people living closer to that festival (e.g. in Ovington) have to leave their homes for the duration as it is impossible to sleep.
2. I am concerned that this licence application is 'the thin end of the wedge', and that Grange Park is seeking to become another very large scale event venue, only a few miles from the Matterley Estate, with attendant noise, traffic and other major disruption to local residents.

Yours faithfully,

Emma La Fontaine Jackson

Emma La Fontaine Jackson
Beechdene House
Swarraton
Alresford
Hants SO24 9TQ

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Mark Bickford-Smith**Field House, Swarraton, Alresford, SO24 9TQ****Received 30 December 2019**Subject: Proposed Food Festival at Grange Park 2020

I live at Field House on the B3046 at Swarraton and own the water meadows at Swarraton which pretty much border with the Grange.

I have 2 comments about the proposals for a Food Festival at the Grange. Firstly, the number of attendees indicated would mean upwards of 4000 cars entering then leaving plus associated set up traffic. This is massively in excess of any other of the many and increasing number of events at the Grange and will be a very heavy burden on our small B road local network for a number of days. The issue to me is the scale of the proposed event not the event itself.

Secondly, what efforts will be made to inform such a large number of festival goers where they can and can't roam? There will be a need for clear and temporary signage (at the Grange's expense) to advise where there is no access, such as the water meadow where there is a permissive pathway only for the use of villagers. We often get non-villagers who are not familiar with the path and then wander across private land whenever there is an event on at the Grange.

Mark Bickford-Smith

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Lucy Williams

Apple Tree Cottage, Northington, Hampshire, SO24 9TH

29 December 2019

Subject: The Grange Park Festival Licence application

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Northington Village which borders the Grange Park Estate. I have read this application in full and I am to be honest shocked. I have two main concerns:

1. Hidden behind the application for a food festival is the license to have music on multiple stages. If approval were to be given I believe this will turn into an event dominated by music as opposed to food. Since we can hear Boomtown from our house (when the weather conditions are right) which is eight miles away, I am certain music at the Grange will be audible to everyone one in the village and its surroundings at all times. As a resident I demand further transparency and consultation on the intended nature of this event now and into the future, with if necessary, restrictions on numbers of attendees and event composition.

2. The infrastructure (roads, bridges, un-sealed tracks) to access the Grange are **wholly inadequate** to deal with the numbers proposed to attend the event; even the smaller number of 12,000 (let alone 20,000!!). I am quite frankly flabbergasted at the volume of attendees being considered without simultaneously proposing (what I assume would need to be massive) improvements required for access. It is totally naive to believe the current infrastructure can withstand these numbers.

This application in it's current form should be declined

Best Regards

Lucy Williams

Apologies for omitting my address, and very much appreciate you contacting me to let me know. Here it is below:

Apple Tree Cottage
Northington
Hants
SO24 9TH