

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

2nd May 2024.

Licensing Team, Herefordshire Council,

Please accept this as an objection and representations to this proposed event. GemFest 2024 Eight-acre farmland opposite this address: Great Howle Farm, Howle Hill, Ross-On-Wye, HR95SL, England.

An application made for a premises licence under section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003 and in accordance with section 12 of the Licensing Act 2003.

It is considered that this application is wholly unsuitable in terms of the four statutory objectives.

Prevention of Crime and disorder.

The length of hours requested for licensable activity is ridiculous for an event of this nature and should be construed as “trying it on”. In effect young people attending this event would have access to intoxicating liquor for fifteen hours a day over a period of two days. At best tremendously excessive at worst irresponsible.

No consideration given to search arches or wands. In this day and age small items are secreted in various parts of the body not just put inside pockets or discoverable with a cursory pat down.

Surely an event of this size and nature would warrant a continued Police presence. There is a potential for disorder. I am informed that the last “Festival” that was held near to this location erupted into chaos. There was also an allegation of serious sexual assault.

Apparently, there will be campers on site. This venue is in a large open field which surrounded by more open fields which are separated by low fences or hedgerows. How are the applicants going to stop people coming and going of their own free will particularly during the hours of darkness. It is not beyond the scope of impossibility for theft from tents and other more serious crimes will occur.

The event is of such length that it will turn into a popular venue when the normal licensed premises in Ross on Wye close. Considerable numbers of people turning up, who have already been drinking, with or without tickets expecting entry. Once they are denied entrance for not having a ticket or being “under the weather” what happens to them. Are they free to roam Howle Hill unmolested? The staff employed at the venue are there precisely to be at the venue. Do they have an interest in what happens outside of its boundaries. Do they have any powers to deal with anything outside its boundaries. Simple answer is none.

The last “Gemfest” was a twenty first birthday party for a local resident. It was held in a field further away from significant habitats. It was much smaller than this one. Most of the attendees were known to each other. This application proposes to metamorphosis from a parochial event to a large scale commercial “rave” open to all, in a totally unsuitable neighbourhood with no infrastructure, poor, narrow unlit roads.

Public Safety.

The amount of medical/first aid staff employed for this event is inadequate. This is an application to keep safe up to 1500 persons who will have been drinking for long periods of time.

Emergency services struggle to navigate the narrow lanes at the venue at the best of times. This event will generate a noteworthy increase in traffic and with the minibuses and taxis consistently dropping off and picking up at all hours of the day and night will hinder the progress of such vehicles to respond to calls. It will also delay emergency service vehicles to requests for help to persons not connected to the venue.

The venue is a farmland potato field. This field is currently waterlogged and unfit to accommodate parked cars. I notice that part of the field is assigned to car parking. If this situation does not improve it will be incapable of being used for car parking in this case the cars will again be abandoned on the side of the road wherever the owner thinks fit. More frustration for road users and residents alike.

People who attend in their own vehicles will be tempted to Drink/Drive as transport options are limited at the location. Local minicabs are all but extinct run in normal circumstances by small family concerns. There simply isn't the capability to cope with the proposed amount of people that this event will generate in this vicinity. Even with the proposed minibus shuttle many people will not want to be dropped off at Hereford/ Gloucester railway stations. They will demand to be let out at various points in between. When let out they are then free to roam the streets possibly behaving badly as they go. The stations close to passengers well before those attending the event must leave. What accommodations have been made for these people, or are they expected to wander the streets of the towns and cities, some may not even bother to use any form of transport and stay in the local area after a day of drinking and revelry. A recipe for disaster.

Prevention of public nuisance.

The venue is in a quiet rural area that surrounded by small settlements is by no means accustomed to what is being proposed in this application. It is exceedingly quiet. **The type of recorded music being transmitted from five stages will inevitably bring disturbance to residents. The type of music proposed is not gentle, or peaceful. On the contrary it is loud, brash and intrusive. Drum and bass and garage music are renowned for their volume and their bass beats. It is music that will carry across the open fields. It is unacceptable to expect the residents to have to endure two nights of this. It is of no benefit to anyone excepting the organisers.**

This event will substantially increase the amount of people and traffic in the locale. An area that should not be asked to cope with such pressures. Vehicles coming and going. Loud, persistent “music” emanating from five sound stages. Shouting “DJs” and it is naive not to expect large numbers of people drifting aimlessly through the local sleepy settlements creating noise and, perhaps bad

behaviour or worse. These disruptions to ordinary life in the neighbourhood being worsened at the times of peak entrance or exit to /from the proposed venue.

The sounds of this event will carry to the local settlements and cause sleepless nights. There is no escaping it. It really does not matter that there is provision for a “noise hotline”. These are rarely monitored and in my experience those that are answered pay “lip service” to the complainant and do nothing. Is it proposed that there be an EHO on site for the duration of the event to monitor sound, and to answer any residents complaints.

This event will take place in a dark skies environment. I note there are several light towers on site. These will doubtlessly be of extreme illumination. Is it really a good idea to promote the dark skies ethos and then ignore it in the name of a “big noisy party”.

Protection of children from harm.

Providing there are sufficient SIA qualified staff and there is no relaxation of the age challenge principles I trust that no children will have access to the venue. Although I do have concerns that this widely publicised event may attract young people who are not of the relevant age for entry to gather to try to gain entry when and if the opportunity arises.

In conclusion I respectfully ask that this application be refused on the grounds stated above. It is in an entirely unsuitable area. There is a clear danger as regards the amount of traffic and type of traffic on the narrow, unlit roads. The licensable activities duration is far too long. It is a formula for drunkenness, anti-social behaviour and worse.

The local residents in the area will suffer un-necessary disruption and discomfort should this application be allowed to progress.

I am an elected member of Walford Parish Council. I make these representations as a concerned member of the public and not as a Parish Councillor.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
01/05/2024

Re; Gem Fest Licencing Application, Howle Hill

Dear All,

Re the above application, my concerns are;

With the best laid plans, the organisers cannot control what happens outside of this festival site. The area is a steep rural hill location. It is surrounded by fields and unclassified, unlit, narrow, single-track roads, which have national speed limit status. This is not a field, next to main roads, such as, Motorways, A and B roads. Indeed, this is a location that has no amenities or public transport within its proximity. There is nothing here, but dark skies, wildlife, peace, quiet and tranquillity.

Is there going to be any Police presence? The area is too large to cover effectively, with only a handful of stewards. Therefore, difficult to ensure the prevention of crime and the safety of residents and the festival goers.

Are drones, CCTV, ANPR, Walkie Talkies, being utilised? In this present climate of people being stabbed, are knife arches available or wands? I appreciate there is a safe for weapons and contraband but what about the valuables of those attending, especially as ID will be asked for and this can mean passports and driving licences being brought to the festival. People under the influence of alcohol will be more likely to lose or misplace them or worse have someone steal them. The type of music and style of festival, suggests the main target is for young persons. The licence hours are for long periods of alcohol being available, people will be more vulnerable than they usually are.

Across the hills, there are many exit and entrances routes, along with places to disappear into that can be utilised to gain access to this site. Residents walk around here all the time. It is very easy to access on foot from all directions, as well as by car.

Vehicles can be waiting or parked up, in any of the nearby roads. The fields can easily be accessed by cutting across them to sneak into the festival area or worse they can cut across and access residents gardens and of course they can pop back and forth to the parked cars, which are outside the festival area itself.

The ticket holders cannot be kept from leaving the site on foot. Are you going to use force to prevent them from leaving? After all they are not prisoners. Stragglers wondering around will happen, especially as not everyone is staying overnight on site. They will look for alternative places to get their heads down.

Gem Fest Licencing Application, Howle Hill

The emergency exits shown, are into the surrounding fields, because they are easy to access, move around in and leave via. Not everyone follows rules and signs, especially under the influence of alcohol and this is a large open area. Unless the barriers installed are going to be very high, you won't keep everyone on site or others out.

People being dropped off, either by private vehicles or taxi will wander around. You can only give advice to persons, but you certainly can't guarantee that they then take it, including following any advertised route or pick up or drop off point. There are too many roads that people can arrive and leave from here.

Those crossing over the narrow already over trafficked thoroughfare, to get to the advertised pick up and drop off point at Great Howle Farm, face a dangerous, and hazardous walk. Remember this is a national speed limit area, which gets very, very dark at night, and staff are easily distracted dealing with the many very young persons that this type of festival with its style of music will no doubt attract. Many of whom will be under the influence of alcohol and anything else, making matters worse. Surely an accident waiting to happen, especially as there are multiple ways to leave the fields here, not necessarily where the lighting or stewards are, and pedestrians could therefore pop up anywhere in the surrounding area. Better to have the pickup and drop off on site, not across the road. Great Howle Farm is not the venue. If it is to be included, then a risk assessment surely must cover its grounds too, not just the entrance as people wander off.

It is difficult to navigate here. The emergency services struggle, especially due to the width of the roads which impedes the larger emergency vehicles, such as the fire brigade, slowing them down even further. The venue is several miles away from any help from the emergency services or others, who are not all 24 hours or local but rely on cover from elsewhere. The shortage already exists of Police, on the ground in normal daily activities. What happens to those that cause problems or commit crimes? Are you going to lock them up or detain them somewhere, whilst waiting for support to arrive? It could be a very long wait, which in turn could tie up more staff than expected, especially if someone is lashing out or in a fighting mood. Are staff trained to deal with these situations and the wait? Underage persons that turn up and are refused entry, what happens to them? This is a rural location. Are the Police expected to come back and forth, especially over these distances?

It could be a long time before help arrives. 1500 plus staff, are a lot to control and or assist when it goes wrong. Even more so in the early hours at a venue which is not suitable and is too remote, with poor road infrastructure surrounding it, putting people in unnecessary danger and harm and ultimately lives at risk. It would be better to hold a festival in a more appropriate location with easier access to main roads, and nearer to facilities. This in turn gives better, faster, support and safety to all at the festival, including staff and residents.

Driving is a must here. The majority of those bringing their own vehicles, will not be familiar with these roads.

The possibility of unfit drivers must be considered with this application and the consequences that may follow on these unlit narrow roads. Are there going to be self-testing kits or something similar available?

Any accidents can easily block the narrow roads for long periods of times. Impeding resident's lives and preventing them from going about their day-to-day business and any emergency situations they have. There are a lot of older residents here and ambulances can be frequent visitors, along with carers and pharmacy deliveries. It is also a flood diversion route for when the River Wye floods the roads below.

There are no streetlights here. It gets very, very dark, making visibility worse. People unfamiliar with the area will have that as an added hinderance. You cannot say everyone will use the shuttles or follow designated routes.

Many accidents and near misses happen regularly. The Council are not aware of most these days, as the criteria to report has changed. So many accidents no longer get reported. People also don't want their insurance costs to spiral, so don't record them.

The times shown on the application form, means the unlit, narrow roads will be in use day and night. The mass exodus of those not staying, people gathering to leave or enter or those who loiter when entry to the public is closed, will exacerbate this. There will still be late comers, there always are.

As stated, there are no shops or public amenities here. There is no public transport for miles. Festival attendees will be totally reliant on the shuttle buses and cars or taxis to get them from A to B. They won't wait necessarily to be picked up and dropped off. Some will start walking, because the long distances the shuttle buses will travel, will mean delays in returning to the site. For example, Gloucester is 14 miles away, so people will get restless waiting for the shuttle buses to return and pick them up and inevitably will wonder off.

Most of the surrounding town like areas here, close early. Especially Ross Town, which is the nearest and has no trains. There is a limited bus service to the bottom of the hills. Public transport stops running when the festival is still in full swing. Are people just left to their own devices, either in this very rural area or those dropped off in towns that have shut for the night? Surely a safety issue. What happens to those that have nowhere to go? What state will some of these people be in after drinking for the length of hours the licence application is asking for?

Are the shuttle buses provided, going to take people anywhere they want to or only to specific designated places and how many are there?

It is very difficult to get a taxi to come here. Just trying to pick up my car from an MOT proved impossible until the next day, as many taxis stop running after office hours here and won't come up the Hills of Walford Parish or will only go as far as the crossroads for example on Howle Hill. It is very easy to become stranded here. Pre booking with a pickup and drop off time, is normally required here. Are there going to be dedicated taxis available? If so, how many?

Every event has people coming to the area for other reasons, some illegal, who may not want to go inside but hang around nearby. Drug supply for example. If persons are searched on entry, that's great but it doesn't stop them taking drugs before they enter or from persons hanging around in the public areas near the site. Without patrols in this vast area, impossible to prevent. You cannot as stated stop people leaving the site, especially in the dark or early hours of the morning. It's very dark here. How many staff are staying overnight? Is the perimeter being patrolled? Is CCTV being used inside and or outside the venue?

A previous music festival was held in a field at Great Howle Farm, which had a serious sexual assault on a 19-year-old reported and apparently sometime after 2017, a Cannabis Farm, was discovered at Great Howle Farm, whilst it was being rented out. It's a very dark remote area.

P133441/S December 2013 relates to a planning application for a road at the venue, which was refused, will the festival be used to get one approved?

This is a dark skies area and extremely quiet. This cannot be emphasised enough. The wildlife here is fantastic, with many nighttime pollinators. The Council has numerous planning applications and objections that evidence this. For example, those that obtained approval had conditions that include lighting restrictions, and others were refused due to the area we are in and landscape harm they pose. They also highlight other issues including the road infrastructure being unsuitable. A few of the planning examples; P223981/F Land at Little Howle Farm Howle Hill Ross on Wye Herefordshire HR9 5SL / P204443/O Land Adjacent to The Old Kilns Church Lane Howle Hill Ross-on-Wye / P190316/F Walford, Kerne Bridge, Waters Edge Sharman Pitch Howle Hill Ross-on-Wye Herefordshire / P221182/F Land South of Springhill Cottage Howle Hill Ross On Wye Herefordshire HR9 5SH / P172215/O Land adj. to Howle Hill Crossroads, Howle Hill Ross-on-Wye Herefordshire.

These planning applications also show drainage issues here. Any runoff from the site could be potentially an issue.

I'm sure the lights at the festival will ruin this dark sky area and disturb the wildlife and residents.

This area is mainly used by people who want peace and tranquillity, and those that like to walk, horse ride, or cycle. How will they be protected from the extra traffic, people, light, and noise that comes with a festival of 1500 persons, plus staff and those dropping off and picking up? Noise travels, as it echoes over the open countryside, with the added hilltop wind which makes matters worse.

Pollution and noise in general will be significantly higher, in an area like this, even the refreshment areas are all outside, in fact with this festival, everything is outdoors, including the stages, campsite, food, seating areas, car park, drop off and pick up points and the very bright lighting.

There is no protection against the increase in noise from this site's recorded music which is being amplified through sound systems. This is not folk music, but recorded drum and bass and garage music, by definition, loud and "thumpy", being played late into the early hours. Its full affect will be felt, coupled with the noise of vehicles and people's activities on and off site, when travelling and moving along the road system, at all times of day and night. The car stereo systems, slamming of doors, horns, loud chattering and singing, over the loud music, will echo in the open countryside.

It's summer so car windows along with windows of resident's home will be open, to cool off.

The festival goes ultimately are not contained to just the site area but will inevitably affect the residents. You can't turn down the general noise of a festival, even with the hotline. It too open here.

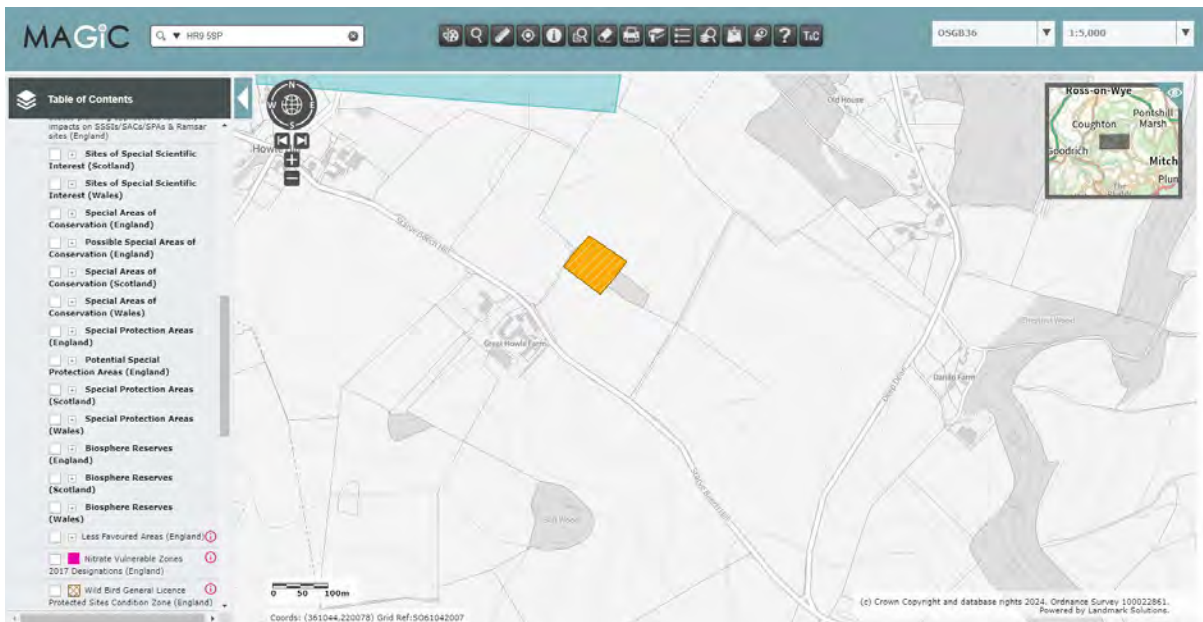
Residents also have horses and their own livestock in nearby fields and neighbouring Farms, such as Howle Farm too. How will the increase in noise and light in the area affect them?

Are there any road litter patrols being provided?

What happens to the historic Great Howle Camp, an oval medieval earthwork scheduled monument listed with Historic England – 1001745, which is sited where the multiple stages are going in the trees?



The Magic Map shows the stages to be directly on top of the site;



These trees are also housing wildlife.

Gem Fest Licencing Application, Howle Hill

The field to the left of the site has the graves of the family that once owned Great Howle Farm. Next to the footpath entrance being used for the festival. (Google Maps used)



Longview is a residential home, currently being constructed and is very close to the venue. (P223981/F Land at Little Howle Farm Howle Hill Ross on Wye Herefordshire HR9 5SL).

This is not shown on the submitted maps, I assume as it is being developed. I believe it should be taken into consideration, especially as this festival seems to be gathering momentum and likely to return next year. Longview is shown as being 261.51m from the sound stage, using Google Maps and measuring tools.

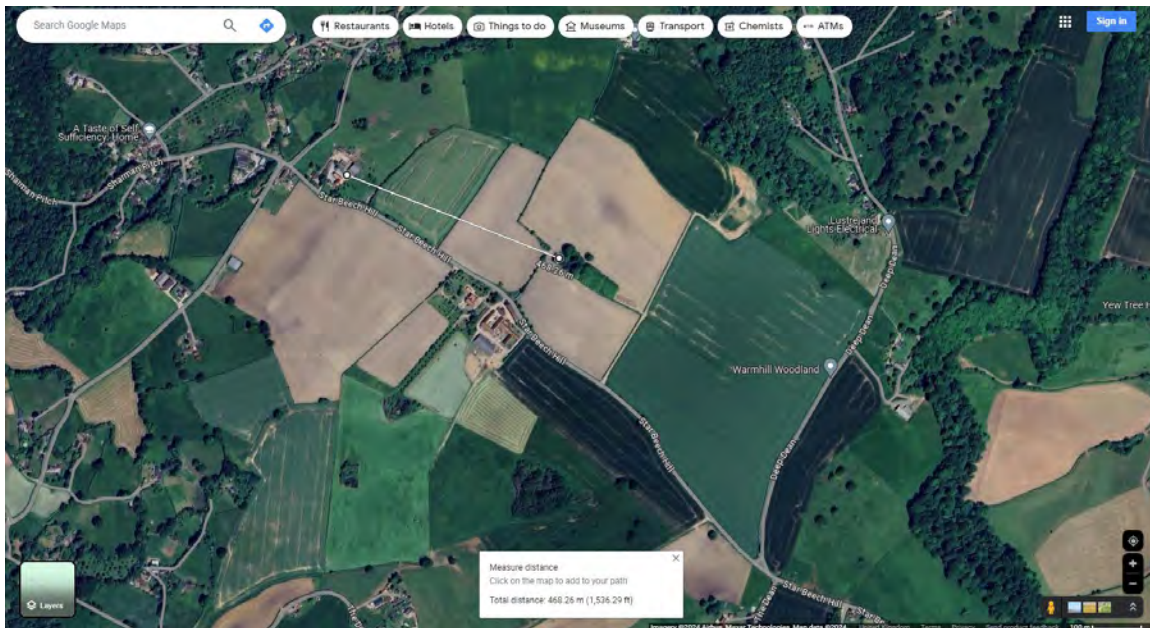


I notice Google measuring distances vary depending on if you go via the road, or via the direct route across the fields;

Other residential locations shown on the application, appear to be nearer than stated, when I used Google measurements, in Google Maps, where the photos were also taken from.

Clearly, if measured in a direct route across the fields and not following the road, there are differences between mine and the application. Sound doesn't follow a road. I appreciate this could be down to who does the measuring. For example;

Little Howle Farm to the sound stages is 468m not 500m.



Another address shown as 480m is 448.90m.



Gem Fest Licencing Application, Howle Hill

Another, 564.92m not 660m.



So, there appears to be discrepancies, re the distances of resident's homes, depending on who is measuring but residential addresses appear to be nearer than stated.

Resident's incomes could be depleted that have holiday lets or B&B's, which many do. Tourists see here as a holiday destination, with the river is at the bottom of the hills. The tranquillity will be ruined, ultimately putting tourists off. They along with residents, wildlife, livestock, and horses will all suffer.

I believe Gem Fest started last year and was sold to locals as a one off, for a known and respected, resident's 21st birthday. (in the field owned by Mr Freeman and by Grove Lodge who had apparently given permission). Private vehicles were still arriving at 10pm, coming from the various routes across the hills. Residents were approached for directions at Deep Dean, and Howle Hill crossroads, by young drivers looking for the party. Balloons were on some of the hedges. Vehicles were seen coming from the directions of Kiln Green and Ruardean too. The cars were full of people, playing loud music. You can't control people off the site, and which routes they take, without road closures and diversions, which would affect the residents. This area is too big with too many ways in and out to achieve this.

Now the birthday has returned as a large public festival. The field has changed, moving nearer to the surrounding settlements, and numbers have increased significantly. It has been extensively advertised online. No one knows the true numbers that will attend. Last minute rushes are not uncommon or gate crashers. The licence is after all for 1500 persons.

What happens next year, it gets even bigger again? Surely this field is then open to even more festivals and events if this gets approved. The road infrastructure cannot cope as it is, let alone with all these people, plus those here to assist the organisers and those that turn up without tickets and all that they bring with them, all entering this area.

There is no capability of soundproofing the festival in the open countryside and it appears there is no installation of any sound limiting equipment of any kind. It will of course adversely affect residents and there are many stages now not just one. Each battling to be heard over the others.

This is a far cry from students attending a birthday party, where some residents were invited to keep Mum and Dad company. There was only one stage under cover of a metal shed. This is an attempt to put on a large scale “commercial rave”. At a totally unsuitable venue and in an area which doesn’t have the infrastructure to support.

Overall, it is hard to comment fully without access to the future planned documents that are referenced in the application, such as the Event Management Plan (EMP) and Traffic Management Plan (TMP). Residents aren’t even aware of what special effects will be used. Are they too loud, such as fireworks? Or light intrusive?

To my knowledge the Parish Council and residents haven’t been engaged with prior to this application being submitted. Why do residents need to suffer this. There are many festivals in Herefordshire as it is. Why is there a need for another one?

Page 3 of Herefordshire Council’s, Statement of Licensing Policy 2020/2025; *Herefordshire is a mixed commercial and residential area, with many areas lying in tranquil rural surroundings, whose amenity Herefordshire Council has a duty to protect, and one of Herefordshire Council’s aims is to protect and enhance our environment and keep Herefordshire a great place to live. These factors may be taken into account in relation to applications that may have a material impact on a vicinity.*

This festival will impact this beautiful, peaceful, tranquil, rural hilltop area. Residents here will be adversely affected.

There is no benefit to the community here.

This application should be refused.

Yours sincerely



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
05/05/2024

Re; Gem Fest Licencing Application, Howle Hill

Dear All,

Further to my previous representations, I would like the following added please.

Gem Fest and Pull Up Recordings go hand in hand and have continually posted their progress together, along with their experiences online, using many platforms, such as, TikTok, YouTube and Facebook.

Having randomly viewed some of these videos, I was appalled at the irresponsible behaviour displayed. Vomiting in the street and being chased by Police, seemed acceptable, to all.

It is now clear and was not known to the residents, that the 21st birthday event in 2023, was intentionally used as the starting point to launch Gem Fest as a brand. It is also clear from the video that the multitude of fields available here, were the target and are referenced in the video. This video is entitled, "How I turned a 21st Birthday into a festival."

<https://www.tiktok.com/@pullup.recordings/video/7246501236009176347>

Posted 2023-6-19

It is also clear that tickets for this unlicenced event have been on sale now since November 2023.

<https://www.tiktok.com/@pullup.recordings/video/7303239482474532129>

Posted 2023-11-19

Just how many tickets are in the public domain, already? Gem Fest 2 video states this year will be bigger and better, and others clearly state open to all. (50 seconds into video).

<https://www.tiktok.com/@pullup.recordings/video/7276066030575783201>

Posted 2023-9-7

There has been plenty of time for the organisers to liaise with any persons that may have concerns, but they didn't. In fact, they only want to talk once they believe you are objecting.

Having known for months the festival was going to take place, they only submitted a licensing request, last minute.

The landowner that has supplied the last two fields, owns many, many more here.

I noticed, posters for Gem Fest were in Ross Town in February 2024.

Gem Fest Licencing Application Howle Hill



The many videos online are too numerous to put here. I hope you take the time to view these in full and or randomly select some yourselves from the others available online, via various platforms, if they are not taken down. The majority of the venues are enclosed areas such as buildings and not the wide open, rural fields here.

It is not known, if any of the following were licenced;

- Staff vomiting in the streets after playing drinking games, whilst working <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7YMZR01pts> (4mins 36 seconds) Please watch entire video.
- Staff issuing extra tickets on the day, after selling out, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9M3RyEuVX1E> (2mins 23seconds) Again worth watching entire video.

- Staff refusing entry as the tickets have run out, so then start a one out, one in policy. Where are people going to be asked to wait if they decide to start this policy here? Where is the transport they arrive in, going?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RO_CiJRWfU
(3mins 14seconds)
- Early birds that arrive too soon. Staff tell them to go and have a drink. The reply was that they already have been drinking. Where are they going to send those that turn up too early? This venue is miles away from anywhere. Has anyone informed Ross Town Council, as this is the nearest town? If they are already drinking prior to the event starting, just how much is safe, with the long hours asked for on this licence and how do they expect people to travel, when they send them away? Clearly driving under the influence will be a realistic issue here.
- Not disposing rubbish correctly but leaving it on top of a Royal Mail Post Box.
<https://www.tiktok.com/@pullup.recordings/video/7334842082277870881>
- Chased by police and police close them down.
<https://www.tiktok.com/@pullup.recordings/video/7344834642706533664>
- Red Bull car clearly acts as a magnet attracting the many people wanting to attend. How many of these cars will be travelling to this venue and what route are they taking? We are adjacent to Wales, Herefordshire, and Gloucestershire here. Has anyone informed them? It is not inconceivable for there to be long convoys of cars following together. How will these be handled, especially on arrival here, with these narrow roads, which will inevitably be obstructed by them?
<https://www.tiktok.com/@pullup.recordings/video/7335168901216472353>

The advice online is to use Great Howle Farm in the sat navs.

<https://www.pulluprecordings.co.uk/gemfest>

It is impossible to say you can control the road infrastructure here, without numerous diversion signs and road closures, along with persons directing traffic. All of which will seriously impact the residents and users, including the emergency services and the like, attending addresses. The Air Ambulance is frequently used because of the rural location and distances involved to hospitals.

If approved, is Gem Fest 2024 going to have anyone outside of those firms involved, monitoring what is actually taking place?

Gem Fest 24, is clearly open to all and goes way beyond the realms of a local resident's birthday, with friends and family, attending. You cannot control who comes here or how many. Especially because of the length of time this unlicensed event has now been advertised - August 2023 announcing there will be a festival and at least November 2023 tickets available online.

It is no good wanting to talk to any interested party only when they believe an objection is going to be submitted or when they realise the cat is out of the bag re the festival's location. I believe anyway, this event is unsafe, in the wrong location, too long and too big. The irresponsible behaviour shown on the videos of some of those connected to the running of Gem Fest 24, does not inspire confidence either.

Gem Fest Licencing Application Howle Hill

There may be many fields but there is not the infrastructure here to support them being used for this purpose. This is a very tranquil, rural part of the Parish and indeed Herefordshire itself, which surely should be protected.

There is no benefit to the community which will be adversely affected and, even more so when the larger 2025 Gem Fest is sure to follow, if this event is allowed to take place.

If we can hear the YFest here which is over 3 miles away, held in Ross Town, reverberating around the hills, you cannot say that residents will not be affected by Gem Fest, which will be much closer.

Please do not approve this licence and in turn the attitude and behaviour displayed by those involved.

Submitted for your consideration, in addition to my earlier one,



**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Licensing Act 2003**

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
**The Licensing Section,
Herefordshire Council,
Plough Lane, Hereford.
HR4 0LE
licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk**

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No. [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED] Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local resident
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: Gemfest at Great Howle Farm	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here ...X.. if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime & Disorder
Public Safety – whilst not objecting to the event, I am concerned regarding the increase in traffic on our very small, pot hole ridden local lanes. We frequently have vehicles driving far too fast. The potholes are often not easily visible to those unfamiliar with the roads. This is hazardous not only to the events' attendee drivers who have potentially had alcohol and/or little sleep, but may have dangerous consequences to other road users -particularly horse riders, walkers and cyclists.
To Prevent Public Nuisance – last years Gemfest event did create loud noise. Our house position is approx 800 metres away and we will undoubtedly hear the music. Again whilst not objecting, it does seem unreasonable that this will continue until 3 a.m. on 2 consecutive nights!! A "noise hotline" is mentioned in the application. I do hope that we local residents will be informed of this number so that we are able to report unacceptable noise levels should it occur.
To Protect Children from Harm



Representation Form – Interested Parties Suggested Conditions

Premise: _____ Your name: _____

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder
Public Safety
Prevent Public Nuisance
Protect Children from Harm

Signed:

Date:

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 May 2024 21:51
To: Licensing
Subject: License application for Gemfestival Ltd 14-16 June

GEMFESTIVAL LTD – OPPOSITE GREAT HOWLE FARM, 14 – 16 JUNE 2024

I wish to object to the late night licence applied for by Gemfestival Ltd, as above

I am a local resident of the hamlet, The Dam. The Festival site opposite Great Howle Farm is on the spine of Star Beech Hill. In front of and below the site to the south is a 'bowl' area of the hill. The Dam is

in a direct line from the site, across a couple of large fields, within clear sight and sound of this location,

hence being an interested party

My legitimate concerns are 28 hours of broadcast music, particularly pulsating Drum and Base music,

proposed well into the early hours, reasoning as follows:-

Less considerate visitors to Great Howle Farm (holiday let for 20 people marketed as Star Hill Manor via

letting website 'Kate and Toms') occasionally have music playing max volume – the music, particularly

the base throb, audible from The Dam. Acoustics of this area also means sound carries. Given this is a

domestic sound system it follows an outdoor music festival with professional equipment and amplifiers,

adjacent to Great Howle Farm on top of the hill, is going to sound very loud down here and all around

the surrounding area given its high location

Looking at the Gemfestival website, the festival is billed as Drum & Base/dance music – a genre I understand recognised as one of the most invasive as far as music noise pollution is concerned

Whilst a certain amount of disruption is to be expected (and tolerated in the short term, live and let live!) by local residents from any event – a late night licence, especially 2 nights running, feels a step too far

The licence application represents 28 hours of music over the weekend, including 8 hours within the acknowledged Night hours between 11pm and 7am, as defined by The Noise Act of 1996.
Gemfestival

website states this is a camping weekend, stands to reason there will be noise and revelry from the site

all weekend anyway, but having a licence for music until 3am on 2 days will be extremely noise-invasive

in a normally quiet and peaceful location. The opportunity for residents to get any sleep is likely to be

limited

I would also like to point out that no-one from Gemfestival Ltd has engaged with anyone I have spoken

to in our hamlet, as 'neighbours', to explain what is happening or foster good relations. I would suggest

the majority of residents in the general area will not be aware it is going on until it starts, unless discovering by chance, as I did.

Throbbing drum and base music during the Night Hours of 11pm – 7am will 'Unreasonably and substantially interfere with use or enjoyment of home or premises'

My concern is, as stated, noise pollution through the night and into the early hours, as that is what I anticipate will directly affect The Dam, but I will just add a couple of general observations

1) The choice of site seems odd, access-suitability wise, unless traffic control is in force for all road users,

given the location. 1 ½, possibly closer to 2 miles from the B4234 along a windy fairly narrow country

lane with blind corners, which climbs to the top of the hill before curving along the spine. It is a spidersweb of lanes here, the majority are (as through The Dam) one track lanes bordered by tall hedges, or barely 2 saloon cars wide, only passable with care and pull-ins.

Please read the description of Great Howle Farm (aka Star Hill Manor) on this link

www.kateandtoms.com/houses/starhill-manor

It describes the lanes here, travelling up to the location, and the location itself – which may prove helpful

and informative

2) The site has a Public Footpath running through it, so security could be an issue? I understand it is illegal to deny access to a Public Right of Way. I am wondering what happens should walkers like me

wish to use the Public Footpath over the weekend if they have security guards at the site? Hopefully that has been addressed by Gemfestival Ltd

Please take account of the amount of disruption the night time element of the licence would allow, and

reduce it accordingly to avoid the Night hours of 11pm to 7am, to allow local residents a degree of respite

Thank you

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
**The Licensing Section,
Herefordshire Council,
Plough Lane, Hereford.
HR4 0LE**
licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No. [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
	Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local resident approx 1000m from site
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: GemFest 2024 Eight acre arable farmland opposite Great Howle Farm, Howle Hill, Ross-on- Wye, HR9 5SL	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here ...✓.. if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing .

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime and Disorder

- 1) The site plan shows the majority of stages located in the wooded area at the back of the site, it states that this **is in order to provide natural soundproofing and a barrier**, however the wooded area contains an Historic England scheduled monument, which must be protected under law
- 2) The area where the festival is proposed is very rural and quiet with very low levels of light pollution, as a result it's rich with wildlife that will be terrified by the noise and light of the festival. The area is part of the Wye valley horseshoe bat Special Area of Conservation (SAC) with ancient woodland less than 400m to the north east of the festival site. These bats are protected by law and it is a crime to knowingly disturb them.

Public Safety

- 1) The one road leading to the festival site is unclassified and only suitable for the local traffic, pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders that normally use it, there are no pavements. Due to the amount of traffic the risk of an incident will increase significantly (Note on site layout map states the site is NOT accessible by pedestrians under any circumstances).
- 2) The traffic using the road leading to the festival will increase dramatically, given that the nearest A or B road connection is approximately 1.6 miles to the west (Ross-on Wye direction) 1.9 miles to the east (Ruardean direction), this will cause potential havoc for anyone using the road, in several places it's not wide enough for two cars to pass. There are also several even smaller unclassified roads that connect onto the festival road. If measures are not taken to stop festival traffic using these roads during the festival period then even greater havoc will be created over a larger area.

Prevent Public Nuisance

- 1) Based on previous experience of noise, in the extended area surrounding the festival, it will be a nuisance to the local public to a far greater extent than the 820m distance shown on the residential area map, and to an extent above the statutory permitted level. Numerous factors can effect the noise level heard by residents, basing assumptions on distance from source calculations alone will under estimate the number of residents who will be affected. The position of the site at a high point and the reverberating effect of the valley's will also be a factor.

Protect Children from Harm

- 1) Local children walking on the road will be at a greater risk, as detailed in "Public Safety" section above.



Representation Form – Interested Parties Suggested Conditions

Premise: GemFest 2024

Eight acre arable farmland opposite Great Howle Farm, Howle Hill, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 5SL

Your name: [REDACTED]

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder

- 1) Amend site layout so that scheduled monument and wooded area are not used and are adequately protected from damage.
- 2) Surveys of the site, surrounding area and ancient woodland need to be conducted by a recognised organisation for bats and a report issued, with recommendations implemented to comply with the law.

Public Safety

Prevent Public Nuisance

Protect Children from Harm

[REDACTED]
Date:04/05/2024

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact
Licensing at licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
**The Licensing Section,
 Herefordshire Council,
 Plough Lane, Hereford.
 HR4 0LE**
 licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
 Licensing Act 2003**

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No. [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
	Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local resident approx 1000m from site
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: GemFest 2024 Eight acre arable farmland opposite Great Howle Farm, Howle Hill, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 5SL	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing .

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime and Disorder

- 1) The site plan shows the majority of stages located in the wooded area at the back of the site, it states that this **is in order to provide natural soundproofing and a barrier**, however the wooded area contains an Historic England scheduled monument, which must be protected under law.
- 2) The area where the festival is proposed is very rural and quiet with very low levels of light pollution, as a result it's rich with wildlife that will be terrified by the noise and light of the festival. The area is part of the Wye valley horseshoe bat Special Area of Conservation (SAC) with ancient woodland less than 400m to the north east of the festival site. These bats are protected by law and it is a crime to knowingly disturb them.

Public Safety

- 1) The one road leading to the festival site is unclassified and only suitable for the local traffic, pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders that normally use it, there are no pavements. Due to the amount of traffic the risk of an incident will increase significantly during the festival period (festival days plus days setting up and dismantling either side of the event), there will undoubtedly be young visitors attending the festival by car who may have little or no experience of driving on narrow country roads which have a 60mph speed limit.
- 2) The traffic using the road leading to the festival will increase dramatically, given that the nearest A or B road connection is approximately 1.6miles to the west (Ross-on Wye direction) 1.9 miles to the east (Ruardean direction), this will cause potential havoc for anyone using the road, in several places it's not wide enough for two cars to pass. There are also several even smaller unclassified roads that connect onto the festival road. If measures are not taken to stop festival traffic using these roads during the festival period then even greater havoc will be created over a larger area

Prevent Public Nuisance

- 1) The vast majority of the 1500 festival visitors are likely to be young adults, with alcohol being sold until 3 am each day the potential for public nuisance and disorder must increase significantly.
- 2) Based on previous experience of noise, in the extended area surrounding the festival, it will be a nuisance to the local public to a far greater extent than the 820m distance shown on the residential area map, and to an extent above the statutory permitted level. Numerous factors can effect the noise level heard by residents, basing assumptions on distance from source calculations alone will under estimate the number of residents who will be affected. The position of the site at a high point, the reverberating effect of the valley's and the nature of the noise (drum and base as advertised by the event organisers) will also be factors.

Protect Children from Harm

- 1) Local children walking on the road will be at a greater risk, as detailed in "Public Safety" section above.



Representation Form – Interested Parties Suggested Conditions

Premise: GemFest 2024

Eight acre arable farmland opposite Great Howle Farm, Howle Hill, Ross-on- Wye, HR9 5SL

Your name: [REDACTED]

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder

- 1) Amend site layout so that scheduled monument and wooded area are not used and are adequately protected from damage.
- 2) Surveys of the site, surrounding area and ancient woodland need to be conducted by a recognised organisation for bats and a report issued, with recommendations implemented to comply with the law.

Public Safety

- 1) Prevent festival visitors from driving to the site, with shuttle mini buses used to transport visitors from and to train stations and designated car parks located close to major roads.
- 2) Prevent festival visitors from driving to the site, with shuttle mini buses used to transport visitors from and to train stations and designated car parks located close to major roads.

Prevent Public Nuisance

- 1) Preferably don't sell alcohol, if not achievable, then limit hours it can be sold and implement system to limit the amount that can be sold or consumed by individuals.
- 2) Reduce noise levels such that residents cannot hear **any** festival noise when outdoors. Achieve by reducing the level of noise created by the festival and or use specialist company to install temporary acoustic barriers to enclosed the whole site.

Protect Children from Harm

- 1) Prevent festival visitors from driving to the site, with shuttle mini buses used to transport visitors from and to train stations and designated car parks located close to major roads.

Signed:



Date:04/05/2024

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing at licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
**The Licensing Section,
 Herefordshire Council,
 Plough Lane, Hereford.
 HR4 0LE
 licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk**

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
 Licensing Act 2003**

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.
 When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Your Name:	Contact Telephone No. [REDACTED]
Address:	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: eg local resident/local business LOCAL RESIDENT	
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: GEMFEST 2024 GREAT HOWLE FARM HR9 5SL	

14-16 JUNE 2024

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing.

PLEASE ANONYMISE

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime & Disorder
Public Safety
To Prevent Public Nuisance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To Protect Children from Harm

Public nuisance - noise, environmental damage, road access, litter. Length of the disruption. Inappropriate use of farming land in Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

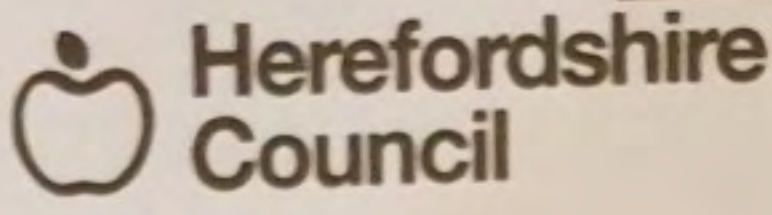
I live 2.1 km from the site. It sits high above the Mansell valley (AONB). Previous events at this site have caused considerable disturbance, noise nuisance, helicopter traffic. It caused considerable inconvenience, fear, loss of ability to enjoy a quiet summer evening in my own property. The noise over two days and nights, into the Sunday morning will cause distress to my animals, will prevent sleep and the right of me to enjoy this quiet rural environment.

It will impede access to my elderly friends at Stave Beech for 3 or more days. I appeal under Noise and Statutory Nuisance 1993 (noise from Loudspeakers and car noise). The hours and length of the event are excessive.

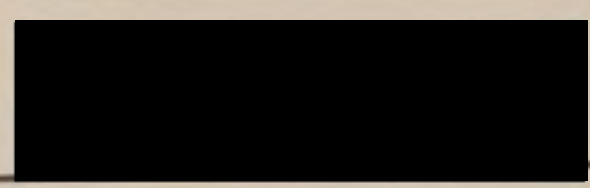
If you have any queries about this form or are

Date:

If you are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing on licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk



Representation Form – Interested Parties Suggested Conditions

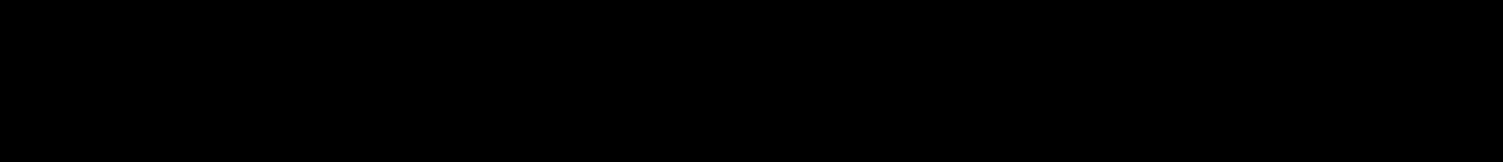
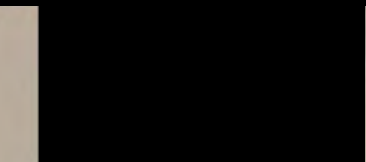
Premise: GREAT HOWLE FARM. Your name: 
GEMFEST 14-16 JUNE 2024

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder
Public Safety
Prevent Public Nuisance
Protect Children from Harm

- Conditions to improve the ^{event} conditions:
- 1) Limit of hours (example 7pm - midnight)
 - 2) Reduction of days - Saturday ONLY.
 - 3) No music before the stipulated hours.
 - 4) Limit to Decibel level of music - enforce.
 - 5) Restriction of number of attendees.
 - 6) Drug check
 - 7) Site and immediate neighbourhood to be cleared of litter.
 - 8) Relocation outside AONB and away from rare nesting birds + livestock.


 27 Apr 2024.

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing at licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

RECEIVED
 20 MAY 2024
 BY: LP

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
 Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority. When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
The Licensing Section,
Herefordshire Council,
Plough Lane, Hereford. HR4
OLE
 licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: local resident

Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about:
 Gemfest, Great Howle Farm (aka Star Hill Manor) Howle Hill, HR9 5SL

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing .

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

<p>To Prevent Crime & Disorder</p> <p>A previous 'music festival (rave) held on land at Great Howle Farm, was also supposed to be secure. A serious sexual assault occurred and the event was never held again.</p>
<p>Public Safety</p> <p>The access road B4235 (60mph limit) is mostly single track, with blind bends. A head on collision occurred on the road outside Howle Hill Nursery, north of the crossroads, and 2 vehicles were written off. This event will create a great increase in traffic on a difficult and dangerous road, causing safety issues for the many walkers, horse riders and drivers who use this road every day.</p> <p>People arriving will do so during a very small window of time. This may lead to queues on a single track road, which will therefore be blocked. Similarly with the Sunday exit.</p> <p>A public right of way crosses the proposed site, but I can not see any mention of this in the licence application. Without an application for temporary closure it will not be possible to prevent anyone who wants to from using it.</p> <p>A scheduled monument, English Heritage Legacy ID HE 66 is located on the site, but I can not see any provision to protect this within the application.</p>
<p>To Prevent Public Nuisance</p>

The event is on the edge of the Wye Valley AONB. The event will be both seen and heard from within the AONB, regardless of any design or placement of the sound stage or equipment. It is not in keeping with the ethos of an area of peace and quiet.

#The aerial plan showing nearby residences does not show the whole picture. My house [redacted] is not included, nor are the 2 at Crossways, on the crossroads. These are about 550m from the sound stage.

#The proposed site took me only 5 mins to walk to from my property. It is obvious that the proposed festival will be fully audible, and visible, for the whole 28 hours which it is playing.

I have 4 horses who will be exposed to loud noise for the whole time. It is not feasible to either move or sedate them. They will be very distressed by the noise and lights and their health could be compromised by injury, and by colic/thumps' caused by prolonged exposure to distressful conditions.

The Gemfest event last year, which, I was lead to believe, was a one-off private party, generated complaint from a local resident and horse owner. The event proposed this year is much bigger, and goes on for much longer. If the event last year caused distress for those animals, it is obvious that a much larger event, much closer to my property, will cause distress to my horses.

Please note that my horses are rare Akhal Teke horses which are recognised as being of World heritage importance.

#The proposed festival music carries on for 13 hours, continuously on Fri/Sat, finishing at 3a.m, and for 15 hrs continuously on Sat/Sun, finishing at 3 a.m. Thus us excessive, even in the world of music events. As an animal owner I get up at 6a.m to feed etc, as do the other livestock owning residents (including farmers). Therefore we will only get 3 hours sleep. In actual fact I will be sitting up for the duration in order to attempt to keep the animals calm, or in case I need to call an emergency vet.

This is based on past experience when a similar event went ahead in the area. The music then could be heard for the duration of the whole event, even with the windows closed.

It is likely that the weather will be warm, residents will not be able to enjoy their outdoor spaces without being subjected to the noise from the event. Keeping windows closed when inside will be uncomfortable.

The event spokesperson himself admits that local residents will hear the noise.

#I note that there will be some clearing of the site prior the event. This will, inevitably, involve destruction of habitat for nesting birds and mammals at the height of the nesting season. Furthermore this area is rich in wildlife, including several species of bat, which will be impacted by the proposed event. The sound and light will affect ability to hunt and forage for what will be, for them, a crucial amount of time.

This event brings no benefits to the local communities. In fact it only brings costs. The disruption which will be caused by this event has led local Air b&b / holiday let businesses to close their facilities for the period of the event, thus losing income.

It is unclear whether there will be a firework display. Should there be any pyrotechnics my animals will be terrified and their welfare will be seriously compromised.

To Protect Children from Harm

Date: ✓ 09/05/24

**Representation Form – Interested Parties
Suggested Conditions**

Premise: _____ **gemfest, Great aHowle Farm** _____ **Your name:** _____

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder Indoor venue
Public Safety Indoor venue with good access
Prevent Public Nuisance Indoor venue
Protect Children from Harm

Signed:

Date:

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing at licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Licensing Act 2003

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
The Licensing Section,
Herefordshire Council,
Plough Lane, Hereford.
HR4 0LE
licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No. [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: <input type="checkbox"/> local resident <input type="checkbox"/> local business local resident	
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: GREAT HOWLE FARM HOWLE HILL, HEREFORDSHIRE	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing.

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime & Disorder *28 DAYS NOTICE HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN TO ENABLE PEOPLE TO RAISE OBJECTIONS TO THIS APPLICATION
Public Safety RECENTLY THERE ^{HAS} BEEN AN INCIDENT INVOLVING THE POLICE WHERE, DRUGS A CONSIDERABLE CASH WAS SIEZED. HOW IS THIS GOING TO BE MONITERED FOR FURTHER DRUG ACTIVITY
To Prevent Public Nuisance TWO PREVIOUS OCCASIONS WERE "BOOMING" MUSIC THAT VIBRATED WINDOWS HERE CONTINUED TO AT LEAST 3AM, AS A KEYWORKER IN A HOSPITAL WHO STARTS WORK BEFORE 7AM TO BE KEPT AWAKE UNTIL 3AM IS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE
To Protect Children from Harm [REDACTED]

Signed: [REDACTED]
Date: 4/5/24

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing on licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk



Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
**The Licensing Section,
Herefordshire Council,
Plough Lane, Hereford.
HR4 0LE**
licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No.: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
	Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: LOCAL RESIDENT
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: GEMFEST GREAT HAWKES FARM, HOWKES MILL, HOLEFORDS MILLS	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing.


A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime & Disorder	I AM CONCERNED THAT THE STATUTORY NOTICE PERIOD OF 28 DAYS FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO BE MADE HAS NOT BEEN ADHERED TO IN THIS CASE. IT IS ONLY LINGERING 15 DAYS ON YOUR WEBSITE
Public Safety	
To Prevent Public Nuisance	LAST YEAR THE NOISE LEVEL WAS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE. THE TYPE OF MUSIC IS VERY BASS LED AND THIS TRAVELS DOWN THE VALLEY AFFECTING ALL THE RESIDENTS OF HOPE MASSON. MANY OF WHOM WERE AND A 3AM FINISH IS BOTH UNREASONABLE & UNACCEPTABLE. THIS EVENT SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO CARRY ON SO LATE
To Protect Children from Harm	[REDACTED]

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing on licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

4/05/24

RECEIVED
08 MAY 2024
BY: HC

**Representation Form – Interested Parties
Suggested Conditions**Premise: GOLFPOST GROFT HOWLE FARM Your name: 

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder
Public Safety
Prevent Public Nuisance <i>ONLY ALLOW THE EVENT TO CONTINUE TO 11 PM.</i>
Protect Children from Harm

Signed:

Date:

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing at licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

RECEIVED
09 MAY 2024
BY:

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Licensing Act 2003

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
The Licensing Section,
Herefordshire Council,
Plough Lane, Hereford.
HR4 0LE
licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No.: [REDACTED]
---------------------------------	---

Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about:
RESIDENT – IMMEDIATE VICINITY

Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about:
GEMFEST STARBEECH, HOWLE HILL, ROSS-ON-WYE

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing .

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

↕	To Prevent Crime & Disorder - SMALL COUNTRY ROADS, LARGE VEHICLE & ON MASS DOG WALKERS, RAMBLERS, HORSE RIDERS, JOGGERS, PUSH CHAIRS ETC
	Public Safety DRUGS - KNOWN DROP OF POINT FOR DEALERS! ALCOHOL (MISUSE) CREATING OUT OF CHARACTER/CONTROL BEHAVIOUR (RESIDENTS TOO CLOSE!)
	To Prevent Public Nuisance NOISE, LIGHTS, RUBBISH ROAD BLOCKAGE / DANGER. DISRUPTION TO IMMEDIATE & BEYOND DOMESTIC & WILD ANIMALS. INTROUSION TO IMMEDIATE NEIGHBOURS.
	To Protect Children from Harm FAMILY WALKS / PUSH CHAIRS / TODDLERS ON SAID ROAD.
	[REDACTED]

Date: **7.5.24**



If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing on licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

**Representation Form – Interested Parties
Suggested Conditions**

Premise: _____ Your name: _____

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder <u>IMPOSSIBLE - UNLESS</u> <u>DISALLOWED -</u> <u>TOO LARGE AREA TO POLICE</u>
Public Safety AS ABOVE TOO MUCH TRAFFIC - TOO SMALL ROADS.
Prevent Public Nuisance AS ABOVE TOO WATE - LOUD MUSIC / LIGHTS
Protect Children from Harm AS ABOVE - HEAVY TRAFFIC / BLIND COUNTRY ROAD.

Date: 7.5.24

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact

I work weekends. I will have no sleep & therefore enable safe work practice. I will be unable to leave my property / animals unattended for duration - I will lose £.

It is not affordable or acceptable² disruption to my life / work.

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED
PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
**The Licensing Section,
Herefordshire Council,
Plough Lane, Hereford.
HR4 0LE
licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk**

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No. [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
	Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local resident - Gemfest
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: GemFest Great Howle Farm Howle Hill Ross on Wye HR9 5SL	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing .

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime & Disorder

This is a rural area without cameras to monitor streets because there are no 'streets'. This festival has been advertised on media platform as a place you can 'do as you want'. What exactly does this mean?
Will there be any control on people bringing their own alcohol and potentially drugs on to the site?

Public Safety

Whenever there is a large gathering of people there is always the potential for greater risk to public safety.

To Prevent Public Nuisance

The GEMFEST license is for an annual event based on what last year was supposed to be a private 21st Birthday party. As it was a private party for a special occasion and for one night, few people wished to complain despite the noise levels we were subjected to.

Many people have been led to believe this event will be of similar nuisance as last year. However, this is completely untrue. This event which is now not a private party but a commercial event, and is called an Annual Event in the license application is for the whole weekend and continuing until 3am. It has been relocated to a field much closer to our residence and has the potential, if license is allowed to be 5 times the number of people attending the birthday party, with not 1 sound stage but 5 sound stages. This is unacceptable. The venue is only a few hundreds of meters from our home. The impact on the environment will be significant and if this festival is permitted it will undoubtedly grow larger each year and thereby increase the nuisance to be inflicted on us the local residents.

To make financial success of an event it is in the organizers best interest to achieve maximum attendance. Requesting licensing for 1,500 people attending in 2024 will no doubt be double in 2025 should this be allowed to be held.

The premises of the festival is on land adjacent to Great Howle Farm and we hear more land is available for the future expansion of the festival so this growth is expected and planned.

This area is inhabited by a few local residents who chose to live in the area due to the benefits of living in a rural area which are mainly the peace and quiet. The property prices reflect these benefits. The lanes are narrow and provide little opportunity for passing without destroying verges.

A music festival is well documented statistically see a rise in crime in local areas, cause significant impact and inconvenience of local lane access and disputes with festival attendees and also hinder the access of any emergency services needed at local properties.


The environmental impact is, high fossil fuel carbon emissions from generators, transportation of equipment, and buses, coaches and cars from festival goers, and the creation of enormous disposable plastic waste from food and beverages, plus other waste left by campers and the undeniable huge noise pollution.

This may all be removed at the end of the weekend but it still has a long term effect on the environment.

This quiet area does not deserve to be severely disrupted because of a few people's desire for financial gain.

If we the local residents are not heard and respected the local area will lose its desirability our quality of life will be damaged which will be reflected in the value of our homes.

To Protect Children from Harm
 Bringing in busloads of unknown people from cities introduces the areas potential to criminals this can put people, property and children at greater risk in the future.

Signature: 
 Date: 9th May 2024



If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing on licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

Representation Form – Interested Parties
Suggested Conditions

Premise: GEMFEST Your name: [REDACTED]

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder

Ideally restrict this to a one off event and NOT an annual event.

Do not allow the Festival to be more than 500 people and prevent the license being increased in the future.

Inspect random cars for drug and alcohol being bought in for sale and consumption.

Public Safety

Not an annual event.

Do not allow the Festival to be more than 500 people and prevent the license being increased to more in the future.

Speed limit restrictions of 20 miles an hour in lanes to reduce danger to local residents entering and leaving their properties.

Restrict alcohol sales and close sales 2 hours before end of event.

Local residents often walk to visit their friends in the evenings. During the day they walk their dogs or attend the verges outside their properties.

They also have cats and other animals which will be more vulnerable to the increased traffic and the speed we know young people drive at.

By strictly imposing speed limits this risk can be reduced.

Prevent Public Nuisance

Ideally do not allow this to become an annual event.

Do not allow the festival to be more than 500 people and prevent the license being increased in the future.

Turn the music off before midnight. We are entitled to undisturbed sleep.

Have music played within a structure to reduce the spread of noise as much as is possible.

Restrict transport arrival and leaving times.

Instruct festival goers not to drive with music playing and car windows down, especially when leaving at night.

Instruct festival goers that local traffic has right of way. Many of us have to attend work even at the weekends and we should not be prevented or delayed from doing so because of the traffic from a party.

Protect Children from Harm

**Restrict the number of people attending to no more than 500 people.
This will reduce the importing of people from further away and most likely only
involve known people from the area.**

Signed

Date: 9th MAY 2024

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REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: LOCAL RESIDENT	
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: GEMFEST, GREAT HOWLE FARM, HOWLE HILL HR9 5SL 14th - 16th June 2024	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing.

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime & Disorder I note the application was only posted to allow the public to make representations on your website on 26/4/24 with a closing date 10/5/24. I am concerned this does not ^{meet} the 28 day time frame specified for the public to make their representations

Public Safety

RECEIVED
07 MAY 2024
BY: M30

To Prevent Public Nuisance The application is to enable the provision of regulated entertainment, application form states recorded music. I note from the advertising of this event there will be many live acts and dancing. This has not been applied for under due process. When event previously held in 2023, noise level in the village of Hope Masell was completely unacceptable making it impossible

To Protect Children from Harm for people to sleep and affected peoples ability to carry out their jobs the following day. The proposed finish time of 3am over 2 consecutive days is completely unacceptable. We have actual experience of the event taking place in 2023 & the volume of noise due to the shape of the valley affected every household, we are directly below where event takes place.

Signed: [REDACTED]

Date: 3 May 2024

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing on licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

**Representation Form – Interested Parties
Suggested Conditions***GEMFEST, GREAT HOWLE FARM*Premise: Howle Hill HR9 5SL Your name: [REDACTED]

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder
Public Safety
Prevent Public Nuisance Noise levels will not have a detrimental affect on neighbouring properties. Earlier British time 5012 MN I note there is supposed to be a noise hotline number to make contact with the event organisers however it does not state they will actually take any action to reduce noise level as requested. I want assurance everyone in Hope Mansell will be given the noise number
Protect Children from Harm

Signed: [REDACTED]Date: *3 May 2024*

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing at licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Licensing Act 2003

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REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

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When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No. [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: LOCAL RESIDENT	
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: Gemfest, Great Howle Farm, Howle Hill HR9 5SL 14/6/24 – 16/6/24	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing.

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime & Disorder APPLICATION POSTED ON YOUR WEBSITE 26/4/24. CLOSE DATE 10/5/24 DOES NOT MEET 28 DAY TIME FRAME FOR TIME TO OBJECT
Public Safety
To Prevent Public Nuisance PREVIOUS EVENT 2023 NOISE LEVEL IN HOPEMANSELL EXTREMELY LOUD, IMPOSSIBLE TO SLEEP FINISH TIME OF 3AM ON 2 DAYS RUNNING NOT ACCEPTABLE, AFFECTED EVERYONE IN THE VALLEY. WE ARE DIRECTLY BELOW VENUE WHERE EVENT TAKING PLACE
To Protect Children from Harm

Signed: [REDACTED]
Date: 03.05.2024

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing on licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

RECEIVED
07 MAY 2024
BY: M30

**Representation Form – Interested Parties
Suggested Conditions**

GEMFEST GREAT HOWLE FARM
Premise: HOWLEHILL HR9 5SL Your name: [REDACTED]

It would help us with this application if you could suggest conditions you would be happy for the premise to operate under to rectify the problems you are experiencing.

All suggested conditions shall be considered in line with the Herefordshire Council Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Objectives.

To Prevent Crime and Disorder
Public Safety
Prevent Public Nuisance NOISE LEVEL SIGNIFICANT UNACCEPTABLE AFFECT ON NEARBY PROPERTIES. SHOULD FINISH 12 MIDNIGHT NOISE HOTLINE NUMBER MUST BE GIVEN TO EVERY HOUSE IN HOPE MANSELL. ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN IMMEDIATELY IF REDUCTION OF NOISE LEVEL IS REQUESTED
Protect Children from Harm

Signed: [REDACTED]

Date: 03.05.2024.

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact Licensing at licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

From: XXXXXXXX

Sent: 08 May 2024 16:48

To: Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Strong objection to GemFest occasional licensed application

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to strongly oppose the application for an occasional premises licence for GemFest at Great Howle Farm. My objections stem from serious concerns regarding the negative impact such an event would have on our community, particularly in light of past occurrences.

It is imperative to address the significant history of criminal activities associated with past events held at similar venues on Howle Hill. Previous instances have seen a disturbing trend of criminal behaviour, including incidents of assault, car crashes resulting from impaired and careless driving in country lanes, and tragically, even instances of sexual assault. These occurrences not only jeopardise the safety and well-being of attendees but also cast a shadow of fear and anxiety over the local residents.

Moreover, the inherent risks posed by large gatherings, amplified by the remote location of Great Howle Farm, heighten the potential for such incidents to escalate beyond manageable proportions. The strain placed on law enforcement and emergency services to maintain order and respond to emergencies amidst such chaos is both unsustainable and unacceptable.

In addition to these concerns, I urge you to consider the impact of GemFest on the local wildlife and livestock, including horses. The increased human activity, noise pollution, and disruption to the natural environment can cause distress and harm to wildlife populations and domesticated animals. Great Howle Farm is not only a venue for human recreation but also a habitat for various species of wildlife and a home to livestock, including horses. Granting a licence for GemFest could subject these animals to unnecessary stress and potential harm.

In light of these concerns, I implore you to prioritize the safety and welfare of our community, including both human and non-human residents, by denying the application for the occasional premises licence for GemFest at Great Howle Farm.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

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Your Name: [REDACTED]	Contact Telephone No.: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]	E-mail address: [REDACTED]
	Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local Resident
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: Gemfest, Great Howle Farm, HR9 5SL	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing.

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

To Prevent Crime & Disorder

The introduction of an Event such as Gemfest at Great Howle Farm poses a significant risk in terms of crime and disorder within the local vicinity. You only have to look at historical events with this type of entertainment to see that an influx of people into a rural area, contained or not will inevitably bring with it various forms of misconduct ranging from minor disturbances to more serious offenses.

Whilst the applications have been complied well through a promotional business I as a resident will not feel safe from the increased foot fall and traffic onto Howle Hill, as this will attract individuals with malicious intent seeking to take advantage of the crowds and the temporary disruption to normal neighborhood routines.

The mere presence of a sizable crowd can put strain on local law enforcement resources making it more challenging to effectively monitor or respond to incidents as they arise. This in turn creates opportunistic criminals to exploit the situation, whether through theft, vandalism or other unlawful acts, not to mention the litter and disorder to the natural environment.

Our local police station is only part time covered and is at least 20 minutes' drive away. Can we be guaranteed that police will be in the local vicinity keeping a watchful eye on activities outside the venue.

The overnight camp is 'sold out' so where do all the other party goers stay?

Who will be monitoring this activity outside the venue?

Public Safety

The venue is situated in an isolated, rural area devoid of any public transportation links. Festival attendees arriving by train at Hereford or Gloucester stations are advised of the availability of a shuttle bus service, failing which they must arrange private vehicular transport to reach the site. Access to the site is via a lengthy, unclassified rural lane that frequently narrows to a single vehicle width, inevitably leading to traffic congestion before, during, and after the event. This congestion poses a significant inconvenience to locals who rely on private transport to access essential services, including healthcare, in nearby towns, as no services are available locally.

The region is frequented by horse riders who would inevitably not be able to exercise or safely keep animals in fields. The substantial increase in vehicular traffic during the event heightens the risk to horses and their riders while out exercising. A similar concern applies to dog-walkers, who form a substantial portion of the community.

To Prevent Public Nuisance

Howle Hill and the immediate local residents value a respectful low crime community, quite and peaceful space. The form of entertainment advertised is not only irrelevant to most residence but also deeply unwelcome.

The Natural environment is enriched with various deers, hares, badgers, bats, red kites, buzzards not to mention the nesting birds, all of which will be disturbed by the noise, lighting and extra footfall.

The area is besides an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (ANOB) which is safeguarded by the Wildlife and Countryside Act against any harm or disturbance to their habitat.

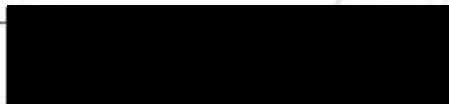
Moreover, the site is not only an ancient monument but also a burial ground, safeguarded by law, prioritizing its preservation over other uses.

Given these delicate environmental and historical considerations, respect and duty should be the utmost priority when deciding on such events.

To Protect Children from Harm

Signed:

Date:



8/5/24

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact **Licensing** on licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk