

Supplement to the agenda for

Licensing Sub-Committee

Monday 23 March 2026

10.00 am

**Online meeting / Conference Room 2 - Herefordshire Council,
Plough Lane Offices, Hereford, HR4 0LE**

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| 5. REVIEW OF A PREMISES LICENCE IN RESPECT OF: OUT TO GRASS, WOODEND FARM, CRADLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE, WR13 5JW - LICENSING ACT 2003 | 3 - 82 |

OUT TO GRASS LEISURE LIMITED

SUMMARY OF LICENCE HOLDERS SUBMISSIONS

1. These submissions are aimed at assisting the Herefordshire Council Licensing Sub Committee, officers and local residents who are party to the application for review. In essence, it summarises the submissions that the licence holder will make to the Licensing Sub Committee (**LSC**) on Monday 23 March.

2. The licence holders' case is supported by the following:
 - Statement of Ian Johnson (DPS and Director of the Licence Holding Company)

 - **Annex 1** – Proposed Operating Schedule
 - **Annex 2** - Marketing brochure for OTG
 - **Annex 3** – Email of 24 April 2025 cancelling booking
 - **Annex 4** – Letter from Charlie Elcock
 - **Annex 5** – Noise Management Action Plan
 - **Annex 6** – Noise Management Plan
 - **Annex 7** – Noise Management Plan Monitoring Policy and Procedure
 - **Annex 8** – Noise Check Reports 19 July 2025
 - **Annex 9** – Noise Check Reports 26 July 2025
 - **Annex 10** – Noise Check Reports 5 September 2025
 - **Annex 11** – Email from Simon Durrant – event on 30 August 2025
 - **Annex 12** – Email form P Collins to HCC 3 September 2025

3. These submissions are structured as follows:
 - Revised National Guidance Issued under s.182 of the Licensing Act 2003 – February 2026
 - HCC Licensing Act Policy 2003
 - HCC Plans and Strategies
 - The Applicant and the Premises
 - Sound Management
 - The Application for Review
 - Representations supporting the review

- Representations supporting the Premises
- Options on Review
- Licence Holders Proposal
- Conclusion

Revised National Guidance issued under s.182 of the Licensing Act 2003 – February 2026

4. Relevant sections of the National Guidance can be found at:

Each Application on its Merits

1.17 – Each application must be considered on its own merits and in accordance with the licensing authorities' statement of licensing policy...

Conditions attached to licences...must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned

1.18 – When making licensing decisions all licensing authorities should consider the need to promote growth and deliver economic benefit

1.19 In coming to a decision on individual licensing applications, licensing committees should have regard to relevant local plans and strategies – such as those relating to town planning, the night-time economy, or business support provided these considerations are consistent with the licensing objectives and the authority's published licensing policy

Powers of licensing authority on determination of a review

11.17 The licensing authority may decide that the review does not require it to take any steps appropriate to promoting the licensing objectives

11.20 In deciding which of (their) powers to invoke, it is expected that that licensing authorities should so far as possible seek to establish the cause or causes or the concerns that the representations identify. The remedial action taken should generally be directed at these causes and should always be no more than appropriate and proportionate response to address the causes of concern that instigated the review

11.23 It is always important that any detrimental financial impact that may result from a Licensing authority's decision is appropriate and proportionate to the promotion of the licensing objectives...

Council Licensing Act 2003 Policy

5. The Licensing Authority Policy (Page 2) recognises *“that the licensed entertainment business sector and community licensed facilities in Herefordshire contribute to the local economy and social infrastructure”*.
6. The Policy also states at page 2 that *“the Licensing Authority wishes to encourage licensees to provide a wide range of entertainment activities throughout their opening hours and to promote live music, dance, theatre etc. for the wider cultural benefit. They are a factor in supporting an economy which builds on the county's strengths and resources, which is one of Herefordshire Council's aims.”*

Herefordshire Council Plans and Strategies

7. The Herefordshire Council Plan 2024 – 2028 sets out how the council will make its contribution to achieving a better and more successful Herefordshire

“Herefordshire is a hub for farming, business activity and tourism, and we are a county with true entrepreneurial spirit...”

Wonderful and growing tourism destination with a strong, renowned cultural and heritage offer...

We are committed to working alongside partner organisations to grow the tourism economy.”

8. The Herefordshire Cultural Strategy 2025 – 2030 *“builds on the achievements of the 2019-2024 Cultural Strategy while responding to the changing context for cultural development locally, regionally, and nationally”*

“Strategic Approach

Cultural Tourism: Positioning Herefordshire as a distinctive rural cultural and heritage destination through coordinated marketing, digital innovation, and development of the festivals and events offer...

The Opportunity

Cultural Assets: A rich ecosystem of cultural organisations, from the new Museum of Hereford to internationally recognised festivals to community-led initiatives, spanning urban and rural settings”

The Applicant and the Premises

Statement of Ian Johnson – paras 3 – 20

Annex 2 - Marketing brochure for OTG

9. The Premises are situated on land that the Johnson family have been custodians of since the 1960's.
10. The premises has a seasonal business from early May through to September and was set as part of the Governments Rural Enterprise Scheme (1990) opening in August 2000 with the premises licence being granted in 2013
11. In excess of £500,000 has been invested in the site since it opened (*para 19 of the statement of I Johnson*)
12. The premises provides permanent employment for 4 people (*paras 17 and 18 of the statement of I Johnson*) and seasonal employment for many more (*para. 16 of the statement of I Johnson*).
13. The premises licence is structured such that different conditions apply to events with a capacity of under 500, with these events taking place over no more than 2-3 days, and for those events with a capacity of over 500.
14. There are no restrictions on the current licence limiting the number of events that can be held during the course of any calendar year.
15. The licence includes a condition that

“The Premises Licence Holder or DPS must immediately comply with any request to adjust noise levels/ frequency spectra made by an ‘authorised person’ (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or the Police.”
16. No such request has ever been made of the Premises Licence Holder or DPS

Sound Management

Statement of Ian Johnson – paras 21 - 31

Annex 4 – Letter from Charlie Elcock

Annex 5 – Noise Management Action Plan

Annex 6 – Noise Management Plan

Annex 7 – Noise Management Plan Monitoring Policy and Procedure

17. Significant time, money and effort is invested in noise management which, amongst other things, includes engagement with professional sound engineers
18. An action plan has been developed to further address sound management and provide additional mitigation against noise escape from the site (*Annex 5 Noise Management Action Plan*).

The Application for Review

Statement of Ian Johnson – paras 32 - 35

Annex 8 – Noise Check Reports 19 July 2025

Annex 9 – Noise Check Reports 26 July 2025

Annex 10 – Noise Check Reports 5 September 2025

Annex 11 – Email from Simon Durrant – event on 30 August 2025

Annex 12 – Email form P Collins to HCC 3 September 2025

19. The application for review has been commenced by the Environmental Health Officer and is based on 4 events that it is alleged have taken place at the premises over the course of 2025. Reference is also made in the application for review to noise abatement notices served on the premises 25 and 11 years ago.
20. Each of these events is attended to in the statement of Ian Johnson
21. On one of the occasions when it is alleged noise was witnessed coming from the premises, the premises were shut and not operating, and a further complaint arose after the premises had shut (*para 35 of the statement of I Johnson*)

Representations in support of the review

Statement of Ian Johnson – paras 36 - 50

22. The application for review has drawn 7 representations in support of the review
23. Of those who have made supporting representations, only 3 have previously engaged and raised their concerns directly with the premises.
24. It is the licence holders case they are being unfairly and incorrectly blamed for noise issues caused by other commercial and residential properties in the locality (*para 49 of the statement of I Johnson*)

Representations in support of the premises

25. There are in excess of 90 representations supporting the premises.
26. These include local residents who are untroubled by the day-to-day operation of the site as well as people who have attended events at OTG and well as commercial organisations who have connections with OTG.
27. The picture that the significant majority of persons who have taken time in engaging with the process and writing to the Committee on this matter paint the picture of a welcoming and inclusive premises, taking their responsibilities seriously, proactively managing sound as well as customers attending events on site.

Options on Review

Statement of Ian Johnson – paras 53 – 55

28. On a review the licensing authority has a range of powers that include:
 - Revocation
 - Suspension for a period of no more than 3 months
 - Removal of the DPS
 - Amend conditions
 - Taking no further action
29. The EHO has set out in the application for review a suggest list of options for consideration (which does not include revocation or suspension).
30. Mr Johnson responds to these suggestions at paras 53 and 54 of his statement.

Licence Holders Proposal

Statement of Ian Johnson – paras 57 – 59

Annex 1 – Proposed Operating Schedule

31. The licence holder submits that the appropriate way to deal with the application for review is to replace the existing schedule of conditions on the licence with those set out at **Annex 1**
32. This includes

- Removal of all non-standard timings
- Limiting the capacity of the premises to no more than 500 (inclusive of staff and performers)
- Limiting the number of Large Events where the capacity is over 300 (but no more than 500) to no more than 5 in any calendar year
- That a Noise Management Plan be produced
- That for Large Events an Event Specific Noise Management Plan be provided to the Licensing Authority and EHO no less than 14 days in advance of event
- Removal of all conditions in so far as they relate to events with a capacity of more than 500 people

33. This remedial action *is*

- (a) directed directly at the causes of the review and
- (b) is an appropriate and proportionate response to address the causes of concern that instigated the review

Conclusion

34. The Licensing Authority must carry out its duties with a view to promoting the licensing objectives (s.4 (1)) of the *Licensing Act 2003*).
35. It follows that operators of licensed premises cannot, nor should not, be expected to manage every risk out of their operation, as a consequence of the operation by virtue of holding a premises licence.
36. In making their determination the Licensing Authority shall have regard to their Licensing Policy and the National Guidance (s.4 (3)) of the *Licensing Act 2003*).
37. The licence holder respectfully submits that, given all of the circumstance of this case, that the appropriate way to dispose of the Review is for the existing conditions attaching to the licence to be modified.
38. The existing conditions should be replaced with the updated, comprehensive and robust, schedule of conditions as set out at **Annex 1**

- 39.** The proposed conditions provide a proportionate balance between ensuring that the licensing objectives, and in particular that relating to the prevention of public nuisance, will be promoted, and address directly the concerns that the review has raised.

Ewen Macgregor

Partner

TLT LLP

13 March 2026

**OUT TO GRASS
WOODEND FARM
CRADLEY
MALVERN
WORCESTERHSIRE
WR13 5JW**

STATEMENT OF IAN JOHNSON

I, **IAN JOHNSON**, of Woodend Farm, Cradley, Malvern, Worcestershire, WR13 5JW say as follows

Introduction

1. I am the sole director of Out to Grass Leisure Limited who are the holders of the premises licence at Out to Grass ('**OTG**').

2. I make this statement in support of the premises. Attached to this statement are a number of appendices as follows:
 - **Annex 1** – Proposed Operating Schedule
 - **Annex 2** - Marketing brochure for OTG
 - **Annex 3** – Email of 24 April 2025 cancelling booking
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 - **Annex 5** – Noise Management Action Plan
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Background

3. The Johnson family have been the custodians of the land on which OTG is based, and which belongs to the Duchy Of Cornwall, since December 1962 on a 3 generation tenancy. My father was the original tenant and I took over the tenancy on 1st August 1990.
4. In the late 1990s the government introduced the Rural Enterprise Scheme. The objective of the scheme was threefold:
 - (i) To enable farmers to be less dependent on production subsidies:
 - (ii) To increase rural employment and
 - (iii) Bring people and therefore income to rural communities.
5. In line with government objectives, I opened OTG on 6th August 2000. My business has achieved all the stated objectives. Since Brexit all productions subsidies (Single payment scheme) have been phased out completely and we need the income from OTG to survive as a business. We are a community of 8, OTG has created 7 seasonal jobs and provides homes for four people.
6. OTG bring in the region of 4,000 people Herefordshire each year. People who spend money in shops, garages, rent local accommodation and use local pubs. We also source all our beer and spirits and catering/food locally.
7. OTG has a GOLD AWARD from "Green Tourism". We use no chemicals, no bleach and supply eco-friendly soap and shower gel in our ablution blocks. We use super-efficient fridges and freezers, and a rated water heater. Everything is A rated.
8. No expense has been spared on double glazing and insulation, If we can't up-cycle it, we recycle it! All lights are low energy and intentionally not bright so we minimise light pollution and our visitors can enjoy the stars they rarely see if they live in a city. I visit many licensed venues and festivals, and we are the quietest venue I know.
9. The model of the business was always that it should be a public facing activity and events business. I am proud of what I have been able to develop at OTG. Demand without any external marketing has meant that the business has grown to what it is now. A copy of the marketing brochure can be found at **Annex 2**.

10. The site now comprises

- Enclosed stages/dance floors x 2 (Geodesic domes used for entertainment)
- Enclosed Art space
- Camping spaces for up to 500 people
- 5 glamping pods
- Shower blocks
- Lavatories
- Licensed bar
- On site kitchen and catering
- Covered area with central fire
- Electricity provision via 112 hook-ups
- Water provision across the site
- Café
- Roads, car parking and extensive pathways.

11. Although the business has grown it is important to set this in some context. This is, naturally, a seasonal business, open from May through to early September. We trade from Spring till Autumn.

12. We have built a business around the current licence granted to us. Our bookings have moved further away from general camping to exclusive hire. Events are varied with up to 5 larger music events, with in the region of 300 – 499 attendees, some smaller gatherings of friends and family, birthday parties usually 30-60 age range and wedding celebrations, and which can attract anything from less than 100 people up to 250 people.

13. Of the larger events that we hold these take place on a Friday to Sunday with people leaving on the Monday, or a Thursday to a Saturday, with guests leaving on a Sunday. We do not hold 4- or 5-day events as is suggested in the representations, and with a capacity limited to 500 any suggestion that our site is becoming a “mini-Glastonbury” is, I am afraid, fanciful.

14. If someone leaves rubbish behind or leaves their tent, then they will not be allowed back on to site

15. We are very careful about who we allow on site. We do not accept all booking enquiries we receive. By way of example, I exhibit at **Annex 3** an email I sent to a couple who had booked OTG. It became apparent that they wished to play a style of music – techno – which I did not feel was appropriate for OTG and as a consequence I cancelled the event.

16. From Spring through to Autumn, we provide employment for a wide range of people on the site:

- Bar Crew 2-3 per weekend
- Cafe Crew 2 persons

- Events Manager x 1 (50 hours per week)
- Site Crew x 3
- Sound Engineer x 1
- During the closed season we have:
- Events Manager x 1 (20 hours per week)
- Maintenance and Build Crew x 2

17. During the closed season we employ:

- Events Manager
- 2 x Maintenance and Build Crew

18. As well as this we have an accounts manager working throughout the year.

19. Since the site opened in 2000, I estimate that I have invested in excess of £500,000 in OTG and which includes investment in glamping pods, sound equipment, path and road maintenance, storage, bar and café and the GeoDomes.

20. This is a business that I am genuinely proud of and it is pleasing to see, from the significant number of letters in support from a wide range of people, the affection in which OTG is held

Sound Management

21. It is clear from the review application, and the comments that are made in the letters supporting the review application that the sole issue of concern in so far as the licensing objectives are concerned is the prevention of public nuisance.

22. I am acutely aware of the potential impact that OTG may have on the local community which is what we have over the years taken a considerable number of steps to mitigate against causing our neighbours issues of public nuisance. Amongst other things we engage noise consultants, set noise levels at nationally accepted levels, carry out noise checks during events taking remedial action as necessary, and have sought to engage with the Council in advance of a larger event.

23. In recent years OTG has engaged professional assistance from Andrew Bayliss and Charlie Elcock. Andrew is a “live sound engineer” working in venues across, Bristol, Birmingham, Oxford and beyond for more than 15 year, also touring, albeit selectively, with artists on festival shows, nationally promoted tours and DIY/self-promoted shows. When not on a show,

he is the technical manager at Exchange, a live music venue in Bristol, overseeing technical kit specification, deployment and maintenance.

24. In addition to this Andrew runs his own small PA company working shows across the country, including the work with West Holts at Glastonbury and bespoke festivals hosted on beautiful and sensitive sites around the country. He has also worked in other sectors as quality manager including accreditation to ISO standards so has an excellent grasp on interpretation of legislation and ways of implementing compliant systems.
25. Andrew was brought in to OTG in 2025 to improve the interface between delivery of live sound during shows, understand the needs of bands, artists and promoters, understand the sensitivities of the site its sensitivity to noise and deliver on all three areas without allowing any one to be compromised. This has led to substantial involvement in the organisation's ongoing conversations around noise management and ensuring there is an effective and evolving noise management plan now and in the future. Andrew understands that the plan is not only integral to the business going forward but is also practical and flexible enough to be a practical reference rather than a piece of work gathering dust on the shelf.
26. OTG is also being supported by Charlie Elcock who has worked in sound management for over 10 years. A letter from Charlie Elcock setting out his background and credentials is attached at **Annex 4**.
27. I attach at **Annex 5** a Noise Management Action Plan which sets out the work that we aim to carry out on site prior to the season starting in May 2026, as well as on going proposals for 2026 and beyond.
28. I have also attached at **Annex 6** a draft Noise Management Plan and at **Annex 7** – Noise Management Plan Monitoring Policy and Procedure. These are living documents that will be adapted and updated as circumstances require
29. The reality is that I have had very few complaints made direct to me over the years that I have been operating OTG and where complaints are made to me, I seek to deal with these in as an efficient and appropriate a manner as possible.
30. The event manager, who is on site when any events are taking place, is always contactable by telephone on event nights and where local neighbours do have concerns then they can contact the telephone number so that their concerns can be addressed.
31. Although this is not currently a condition of our licence it is something that I am happy to commit to by way of a licence condition in the future.

Review Application

32. The application for review (which is dated the 30 January 2026) specifically references 4 events in July, August and September of 2025. I deal with each of these below:

- **20 July 2025**
- **26 July 2025**
- **30 August 2025**
- **5 September 2025**

33. The application for review also references two more historic events, one in 2001 (arising out of a Mountain Boarding Event) and in 2015 (a booking by Piers Shiapara). In so far as the event in 2001 is concerned, any noise issues that may have been caused were caused by the commentary on the event. The Mountain Boarding event is no longer held at OTG.

34. In so far as the Piers Shiapara event is concerned, the booking was accepted on the basis that the event organiser used our sound system and was due to run for three nights (Friday, Saturday and Sunday). On the first night the event organisers bypassed the in house sound system and used their own system. I was advised of this on the Saturday morning and immediately closed the event down and cancelled the further 2 days of the event. These clients have been banned from booking further events at the site.

35. In so far as the more recent events are concerned, I comment as set out below:

- 20 July 2025

Malvern Magic is a gathering of friends and their families. They like the music they play to be quiet such that their children require no ear protection.

Noise checks were carried out by my Events Manager during the course of the day with these being recorded on a Noise Check Report which can be found at **Annex 8**

My events manager has confirmed to me that she continued to monitor the noise levels until the entertainment ended at 1am

At the end of the night of the 19 July (going in to the 20 July) when the entertainment ended at about 1am, we could still hear music which everyone said was coming from the south east of the venue. It was loud!

I am not surprised people complained nor that properties near to whoever was playing the music could hear it in their homes. It was still playing when I retired and the event organiser could hear it in her tent long after the music on site ended and long after our licenced hours.

- 26 July 2025

This was an event called All Sorts.

Having received a letter from Herefordshire Council on the day before this event I personally monitored the sound with my events manager. The climatic conditions were ideal for us and the wind was a gentle breeze unusually coming from the northwest

I was unable to hear any music at the set monitoring positions we use off site. I was pleased with how well our sound control was working that I chose to take Clare, our event manager to our nearest neighbour where she was also unable to hear any music whatsoever during their headline act at 1.30 am.

At our meeting with Environmental Health four days after the event, their officer, Josh Greaves, concurred with me that there was no audible music anywhere near the venue but when he drove half a kilometre east he could distinctly hear someone speaking over a PA system.

In moving 500 meters east he had aligned himself with a wedding venue on a neighbouring farm and, in my experience, weddings are the only events we run who use PA systems. In any event, AllSorts were playing music and had no access to a PA system.

Furthermore, if no music could be heard at our entrance as Mr Greaves stated and our entrance is to the east of the stage then moving three times as far away in the same easterly direction, the sound would be less not more.

Copies of Sound Check Records are attached at **Annex 9**

- 30 August 2025

Any noise nuisance that was caused to the neighbourhood on this day did not originate from OTF

OTG was not trading on this date. The GeoDomes were closed and the sound system locked away.

It is perhaps no coincidence that on this night a house party was taking place near Seedwood Cottage.

I attach at Annex email I received from Simon Durrent and which states as follows:

“We live at Whitewells Farm House which is on the A4103 between the turn to Bromyard and Tanhouse Lane. We believe that the music was coming from the vicinity of Seedwood cottage at the junction of Tanhouse Lane and the A4103. The music was very loud and raucous and went on well into the evening on three or four occasions. It was so clear that we could identify what song was playing. Kate, at Seedwood cottage held an end of school holidays party in their garden on 30th August. It was particularly loud and noisy. Apparently, She did text her immediate neighbours to warn them of the event I am aware that there was an event being held that night. “

- 5 September 2025

This was an Arts and Music Event, with an emphasis on independent artist and neurodiverse demographic.

As Something Different are one of our larger events. We hired the services of Pete Collins who is a sound technician and who works for multiple festivals across the country. His company is called Central Audio Services and has been providing services to the entertainment industry for 25 years.

Pete contacted EHO at Herefordshire Council to set parameters to do checks. A copy of his email to the Council is attached at **Annex 12**

Pete did hourly checks through the site and made regular adjustments on site to ensure 10Db above ambient was not exceeded.

Copies of the Noise Check Reports are attached at **Annex 10**.

Support for the review

- 36.** I have lived for 60 years on Woodend Farm and am keen to ensure that I get on with all of my neighbours. I was surprised when I saw the letters of representation as save for Barratt Price, John Ellis and Mike Moorhead (which I address below), I have not previously been contacted by the other residents.
- 37.** Jerry and Alison Reakes – Williams, Lucinda Lidell, Mike Wennen or Stuart and Mary Horner have not previously engaged with me. That is of course not to say that I would welcome the opportunity of meeting with them to discuss and address their concerns in person.
- 38.** I have not previously spoken to Victoria Price although I have had numerous exchanges with her husband Barratt Price. Any engagement I have had with Barratt has, save for on one occasion, been in relation to farming matters.
- 39.** The only occasion I can recall Barratt discussing the operation of OTG was back in 2023. The specific issue was addressed and not repeated.
- 40.** It is fair to say that I have had a number of engagements with John Ellis over the years. These have related to not only to farming issues but also, on occasion to the operation of OTG. These complaints have included noise levels (both from the music as well as noise generated by children on site, enjoying themselves and having fun. Notices were placed on site asking children to be quiet as a consequence of this.
- 41.** We have taken a number of steps to address John's concerns and these have included:
- Changed Soundsystem to a very expensive short throw system and had to turn away many events that want their own sound system
 - Directed sound system away from Mr Eliis' house
 - Sound check point specifically outside his property with most of the monitoring being based around avoiding audible music at his property and Pool Farm.
- 42.** In July of 2025, Mr Ellis came to visit OTG and said that he had a house viewing on the weekend Saturday July 4th. As a consequence of this we shut all stages for 3 hours to appease him at the detriment of the 400 people on site and cancelled musicians on the line-up.

43. The event had to have silence during this time and the bookers were upset but willing to work with us.
44. In so far as my engagements with Mike Moorhead are concerned, I have never had any complaints from Mike until the 7 September 2025 when he called me on my home landline. He asked me to turn the volume of the music down. I spoke to the sound engineer and the music was turned down as requested. I was very much left with the impression that Mike was happy with the steps we had taken to address his issues.
45. We do not, and have never, run 5 day events, nor have we ever traded beyond our permitted licensing hours as is being suggested.
46. I am willing to work with the local residents and as part of the mediation in this process. I have circulated an updated operating schedule to all those who have supported the review as well as to the EHO who brought the review.
47. I address below in more detail the proposed conditions being offered
48. It is my intention going forward to involve all my neighbours in achieving a resolution to any issues they have, including monitoring their homes for noise which is being played elsewhere in the neighbourhood.
49. It is clear that every time local residents hear music, they assume it comes from my business and that the EHO also assumes this to be the case. In recent years there have been a number of properties in the locality that offer Air BnB facilities. There are three in particular. Seed Farm House (which, on its website sets itself up as a wedding and events venue), Seed Wood Cottage (the noise source on the 30 August 2025 and in my view also on the 20 July) and Hope End Cottage.
50. I had had no noise complaints whatsoever for two years before July 2025 and can give assurances that we have changed nothing in our operation to have caused the complaints made to the council in July, August and September last year.

Support for OTG

51. I was pleased to see that so many people had taken the time to write in to the Licensing Authority in support of the review application.

52. There are in excess of 90 representations supporting OTG. These come from a wide variety of sources that includes local residents, patrons, commercial operators all of whom have experience of OTG and they reflect the positive experiences that they have had at OTG

Solution to the review

53. I note that the EHO has asked for a number of possible actions to be considered by the Licensing Committee. I would make the following observations on these:

54. Our base running costs are such that limiting the size or number of events that we have would have a drastic financial impact on our business.

- (i) restricting the number of large festival events to for e.g. 2 a year

Whilst no definition is given of what constitutes a “large” event we consider this to be events with a capacity from 300 to no more than 499 people

We have offered a condition that limits these larger events to no more than 5 a year

- (ii) restricting entertainment days to a maximum of 15 days a year

As a venue it's important to have a number of dates available, especially if we are moving more towards weddings. It's essential we don't restrict the dates available.

In terms of crew retention, we offer a full season of events in order to ensure we have a solid crew throughout the season. If we only had sporadic events, we would struggle to find crew that can find more consistent work elsewhere. In terms of food and drink we have a lot of perishable goods. We order beer each week and minimise waste as having 1 week between events ensures food and drink don't perish. Waste would be considerable

We provide consistent business to stakeholders and suppliers, minimising our days would affect these relationships and have impact on our procurement and business relationships.

- (iii) restricting live music to smaller events
Music is the heart of all events

Even weddings and family gatherings, wellness and wakes.

Live music has always been in our opinion less invasive than electronic music as the noise is less persistent and heavy. Having an entertainment license is the heart of events, we would literally have to divert the trajectory of the business and spend a lot of time and money restructuring the whole business to 'non-entertainment. It's very hard to make enough to make the business viable without music.

Alcohol sales without music does not appeal at all to our ethos or create a safe, creative and inclusive space.

(iv) limiting areas on site where you can provide entertainment

The site is already sectioned into the venue area and camping. All the infrastructure above is on 'the site'. We could not operate elsewhere as it lacks sewage, drains, electric, lighting etc.

We have 3 geodomes, one not allowing music in the camping field. 2 is a minimum for the events we run as its not safe to have overcrowding in one dome for events up to 499 (which is few of our events)

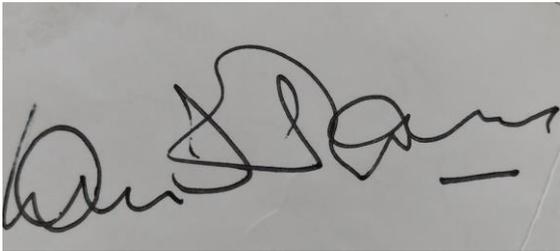
55. As such we do not believe that the options suggested by the EHO are appropriate to address the concerns that have been raised.
56. As an alternative we have offered a modern and updated operating schedule of new conditions to replace the existing conditions on the licence.
57. A copy of the proposed schedule of conditions (which has been shared with all parties to the review), can be found at **Annex 1**.
58. These conditions include the following:
 - Limiting capacity to no more than 500 (inclusive of staff and performers)
 - Limiting the larger events with a capacity of between 300 to 500 to no more than 5 in any calendar year
 - Removing all non-standard timings

- Enhanced conditions in relation to prevention of public nuisance that includes:
 - (i) Provision for a noise management plan
 - (ii) Event specific Noise Management Plans for events with a capacity of over 300
 - (iii) additional on-site signage requesting patrons to respect the amenity of local residents
 - (iv) Litter patrols

- Provision of a contact number to residents that will be manned during all events

- Removal of all conditions in relation to events with a capacity of over 500

59. I would also happily welcome officers from the local authority (both the licensing officer and the EHO) to the site to carry out an inspection in advance of our first event this year.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored surface. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Ian Johnson'.

Ian Johnson

Date the 13th day of March 2026

ANNEX 1 PROPOSED OPERATING SCHEDULE

Out To Grass Woodend Farm Cradley Herefordshire WR13 5JW

Proposed Operating Schedule

Opening Hours

- Sunday – Thursday 12:00 – 24:00
- Friday – Saturday 12:00 – 02:00

~~Non-standards timings~~

~~An additional 2 hours at the end of permitted hours on Christmas Eve and Boxing Day, if these fall on a day other than a Saturday.~~

~~An additional 2 hours at the end of permitted hours on the Sunday of Bank Holiday weekends~~

~~▮~~

~~From the end of permitted hours on New Years Eve until the commencement of permitted hours on New Years Day~~

~~▮~~

~~An additional hour at the end of permitted hours on the day British Summertime begins.~~

Hours for provision of licensable activities

Live Music, Recorded Music,

- Sunday – Thursday 12:00 – 24:00
- Friday – Saturday 12:00 – 02:00

Late Night Refreshment

- Sunday – Thursday 23:00 – 24:00
- Friday – Saturday 23:00 – 02:00

Sale/Supply of Alcohol

- Sunday – Thursday 12:00 – 23:00
- Friday – Saturday 12:00 – 01:00

~~Non-standards timings~~

~~An additional 2 hours at the end of permitted hours on Christmas Eve and Boxing Day, if these fall on a day other than a Saturday.~~

~~An additional 2 hours at the end of permitted hours on the Sunday of Bank Holiday weekends.~~

~~From the end of permitted hours on New Years Eve until the commencement of permitted hours on New Years Day.~~

~~An additional hour at the end of permitted hours on the day British Summertime begins.~~

For Events of less than 500 people (including staff etc)

General

1. The capacity of the premises, inclusive of staff and performers, shall be no more than 500 people.
2. The number of events where the capacity is more than 300 people ("**Large Events**"), inclusive of staff and performers, shall be no more than 5 in any calendar year
3. The dates of any Event shall be notified to the Police and the Licensing Authority at least 14 days before the day of the event.

Prevention of Crime & Disorder

4. An incident log must be kept at the premises and made immediately available on request to the police or an authorised person (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or an authorised Trading Standards of Hereford Council.
5. The log must record the following :
 - (a) All of the ejections of patrons
 - (b) Any incidents of disorder
 - (c) Seizures of drugs or offensive weapons
 - (d) Any refusal of the sale of alcohol
 - (e) Failure of the CCTV system
 - (f) Any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service
6. A copy of the incident log will be retained for a period of at least 12 months
7. SIA door staff will be employed on a Risk Assessed basis.
8. A copy of the risk assessment shall be kept premises for 12 months and produced to the police or an authorised person (as defined by Section 13 Licensing Act 2003) or a person authorised by the SIA.

The prevention of Public Nuisance

9. Noise or vibration shall not emanate from the premises so as to cause a **public** nuisance.

10. The premises licence holder shall develop and maintain a Noise Management Plan.(NMP)
11. The NMP shall contain (but not be limited to) the following:
 - Noise Assessment
 - Noise Control Measures
 - Monitoring and reporting
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Complaints Management
 - Review and revision
12. The NMP shall be reviewed at least annually
13. A copy of the NMP shall be retained on site and made available to authorised officers of the licensing authority
14. For each Large Event, an Event Specific Noise Management Plan shall be devised.
15. A copy of the Event Specific Noise Management Plan shall be provided to the Licensing Authority and EHO not less than 14 days before the event
16. The Premises Licence Holder or DPS must immediately comply with any request to adjust noise levels/ frequency spectra made by an 'authorised person' (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or the Police.
17. Noise' from the premises must not ~~be 'audible or discernible' so as to cause a public nuisance~~ within any occupied permanent structure people normally reside or sleep, when assessed with windows and doors closed.
18. Noise is defined as sound which is created by entertainment consisting of either vocal (recorded or live) or instrumental music (recorded or live) or a combination of both. ~~Audible or discernible' is defined as 'noise' which is above the general hubbub of activity on the site which can be identified by the human ear as origination discrete sources from the licensed premises'.~~
19. Notices shall be placed on the premises, and at all entrances and exits, reminding customers to respect local neighbours
20. Litter patrols shall be undertaken during the course of any event and up to, and including the day after any event

21. A contact number for the premises, which shall be manned during any event, shall be made available to local residents.

22. A record of any call to the contact number during events shall be maintained and shall record:

- (a) Date and time of call
- (b) Name and location of caller
- (c) Nature of complaint/incident
- (d) Any remedial action taken

Public Safety

23. A system shall be in place which can show the number of persons on the premises at any one time.

24. This number shall be given immediately on demand to an 'authorised person' (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or the police.

First aid

25. A HSE Compliant Industrial High Response First Aid Kit for 21-50 people shall be kept fully stocked at the premises and kept behind the bar.

Such kit shall contain:

- 1 x Guidance Leaflet
- 60 x Washproof Plasters
- 6 x Eye Pads with Bandage
- 8 x Triangular Bandages
- 12 x Safety Pins
- 16 x Assorted Sterile Dressings
- 20 Moist Wipes
- 3 Pairs Disposable Gloves

26. An accredited First aid trained person must be on duty at all times when the premises operate for licensable activities.

27. An accredited First Aid trained Person is defined as a person who holds a current certificate in first aid at work (FAW) issued by a training organisation approved by the Health & Safety

Executive (HSE) or a current certificate in emergency first aid at work (EFAW) issued by a training organisation approved by the HSE or by a recognised awarding body of Ofqual or the Scottish Qualifications Authority or any other equivalent qualifications accepted by the Licensing Authority]

Electrical wiring and distribution systems

28. Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall be signed off by a competent person prior licensable activity taking place at the premises. The competent person must be a member of a recognised electrical association such as NICEIC, NAPIT, ECA or other association as agreed by the licensing author sign off certificates shall be available for inspection on demand of an authorised person (as defined by Sec of the Licensing Act 2003).

Structures

29. The Premises Licence Holder will ensure that all temporary structures and any other elements of infrastructure artistic installation have been inspected and signed off as being safe prior to the commencement of its use
30. Sign off certificates shall be available for inspection on demand of an authorised person (as defined by Sec of the Licensing Act 2003).

Protection of Children

31. The premises shall operate a Challenge 25 Policy. Such policy shall be written down and kept at the premises.
32. The policy shall be produced on demand of an authorised person' (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or the police or an authorised Trading Standards Officer of Herefordshire Council.
33. Prominent, clear and legible signage (in not less than 32 font bold) shall also be displayed at all entrances to the premises as well as at, at least one location behind any bar advertising the scheme operated.
34. **The only acceptable identification will be a passport, a photo driving licence, card bearing the official PASS hologram, and any authorised digital identification.**
35. A written register of refusals will be kept including a description of the people who have been unable to provide required Identification to prove their age. Such records shall be kept for a

period of 12 months and will be collected on a daily basis by the Designated Premises Supervisor and produced to the police or an 'authorised person' (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or an authorised Trading Standards Officer of Herefordshire Council on demand.

36. No adult entertainment or services or activities must take place at the premises (Adult Entertainment includes, but is not restricted to, such entertainment or services which would generally include topless bar staff, striptease, lap-table, or pole-dancing, performances involving feigned violence or horrific incidents, feigned or actual sexual acts or fetishism, or entertainment involving strong and offensive language).
37. No person under the age of 18 shall be permitted on the premises unless accompanied by an adult aged 21 or over.

FOR ANY EVENT OF 500 PEOPLE OF MORE

General

- ~~38. The dates of any event shall be notified in writing to the Police and Licensing Authority at least three months prior to any event.~~
- ~~39. The Premises Licence Holder or a nominated deputy (in writing) must be on this licensed premise and available to the Responsible Authorities and the Licensing Authority at all times when Licensable activities are taking place.~~
- ~~40. Details of the Premises Licence Holder or his deputy who is on duty when licensable activities are undertaken shall be recorded, on this premise, at the time. These records shall be made available to the Licensing Authority or a Responsible Authority on demand. Such record shall be kept for a period of 12 months after the end of licensable activities. This information post event must be provided to the Licensing Authority or a Responsible Authority within 24 hours of the request.~~
- ~~41. The name and contact details of the Premises Licence Holder's deputy(s) will be provided to the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) in writing no later than 7 days prior to the event.~~
- ~~42. At all times there shall be one personal licence holder on this premises for each 2 bars which are open for the sale and supply of alcohol.~~
- ~~43. Written information shall be provided of details of the personal licence holder who is on duty and their areas of responsibilities when licensable activities are undertaken on this premises. This will be made available to the Licensing Authority and or other responsible authority during the period of the event on demand. Such record shall be kept for a period of 12 months after the end of licensable activities. This information must be provided to the Licensing Authority or a Responsible Authority within 24 hours of the request.~~
- ~~44. The names and contact details of the personal licence holders will be provided to the SAG no later than 7 days prior to the event each year.~~
- ~~45. An EMP must be provided to the satisfaction of the SAG.~~
- ~~46. The EMP will be a working document providing details of how the Festival is to be conducted and how safety issues, identified in the event risk assessment, are to be addressed.~~

~~47. The EMP will include an event risk assessment and provide specific details on the following areas:~~

- ~~• Health and Safety Responsibilities~~
- ~~• Venue and Site Design~~
- ~~• Fire Safety~~
- ~~• Major Incident Planning (Emergency planning)~~
- ~~• Communication~~
- ~~• Crowd Management (including steward and security numbers and their roles)~~
- ~~• Transport~~
- ~~• Management Structures~~
- ~~• Barriers~~
- ~~• Electrical Installations and Lighting~~
- ~~• Food and Alcohol~~
- ~~• Water~~
- ~~• Merchandising and Special Licensing~~
- ~~• Amusements,~~
- ~~• Attractions and Promotional displays~~
- ~~• Sanitary Facilities • Waste Management~~
- ~~• Sound: Noise and Vibration~~
- ~~• Special Effects, Fireworks and Pyrotechnics~~
- ~~• Camping~~
- ~~• Facilities for People with disabilities~~
- ~~• Medical, Ambulance and First Aid Management~~
- ~~• Information and Welfare~~
- ~~• Children – including Lost Children's Policy~~
- ~~• Performers~~
- ~~• TV and Media~~

~~48. The event must take place in accordance with the Final EMP produced for the event following approval by the Licensing Authority.~~

~~49. The first draft of the Event Management Plan (EMP) will be produced 2 months (or such lesser period as agreed with the SAG) prior to the first day of any event and will be submitted to the SAG via the Licensing Authority.~~

~~50. The final EMP will be submitted to the SAG via the Licensing Authority at least 14 days prior to the start of the event. This must meet with the agreement of all the members of the SAG. No change shall take place to this document without the consent of the Licensing Authority.~~

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

~~51. West Mercia Police and the Premises Licence Holder will agree 28 days prior to the first day of the event all issues that are required to be reported immediately to them during the duration of the event. This agreement will be provided to the Licensing Authority at least 14 days prior to the first day of the event.~~

~~52. A special policing services request will be made by the Premises Licence Holder to West Mercia Police, this will be submitted at least 3 months prior to the first day of the event.~~

Security and Stewards

~~53. A Site Security and Communications Control room will be provided on site. Access will be made available to the Licensing Authority and the Police.~~

Numbers of Personnel

~~54. Written information shall be provided, 2 months prior to the start of the event, of the number of SIA Security personnel to be employed on site, during the period the premises is licensed for licensable activities.~~

~~55. Written information shall be provided, 2 months prior to the start of the event of the number of personnel to be employed as Stewards during the period the premises is licensed for licensable activities.~~

~~56. The Premises Licence Holder or DPS or a person nominated by them in writing for the purpose, shall maintain a register of door supervisors which shall be kept on the premises showing the names and addresses of the door supervisors, their badge numbers. The register shall be made available on demand for inspection by Police, Licensing Authority or an authorised officer of the Security Industries Authority.~~

~~57. No person under the age of 18 years will be employed as stewarding personnel.~~

~~58. No person under the age of 21 years will be employed as SIA badged staff.~~

~~59. No security staff or stewards are to consume or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs whilst working. They shall be fit to carry out the duties required of them. Security Uniforms and Security Logs All security and stewarding personnel will be readily identifiable by means of a tabard bearing a job title and a conspicuous unique personal identification number. This~~

~~identification number will be displayed prominently on the front and rear and will be at least 30mm high and the width of the written number shall be at least 10 mm.~~

~~60. No person shall perform the role of stewarding personnel without wearing a tabard.~~

~~61. No person shall perform the role of security personnel without wearing a tabard.~~

~~An incident log must be kept at the premises, and made immediately available on request to an authorised officer of the Council or the Police, which must record the following~~

- ~~(a) all crimes reported to the venue~~
- ~~(b) all ejections of patrons~~
- ~~(c) any complaints received~~
- ~~(d) any incidents of disorder~~
- ~~(e) seizures of drugs or offensive weapons~~
- ~~(f) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service~~

~~62. Secure and safe systems are to be in place for the storage of items seized. These systems are to include secure methods of storing any drugs or weapons seized or found and procedures for handing the items over to the responsible authority where required. In addition records of seizure are to be kept in the incident book and made available to the Licensing Authority on demand or to the police on authority of the operational commander during the duration of the event or to any authorised person of West Mercia Police post event.~~

Transport

~~63. A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) will be drawn up for the event and will be provided to SAG no later than 28 days prior to any event. Such plan shall be agreed by the Safety Advisory Group.~~

~~64. The TMP will cover all aspects of vehicle and pedestrian access to and egress from the site during the 'load in and load out as well as for the event itself.~~

Public Safety

~~65. A selection of soft drinks will be available to buy, along with an ample supply of free drinking water at clearly signed locations throughout the Licensed Premises.~~

~~66. Each bar will be run by a bar manager and this person under the direction of the Designated Premises Supervisor will be fully in control of the sale of alcohol from that bar.~~

~~67. All staff shall be trained prior to undertaking any sale of alcohol on the premises. The training shall included:~~

- ~~• Drugs Awareness~~
- ~~• Conflict resolution~~
- ~~• Selling to under age person~~
- ~~• Selling to drunks~~

~~68. Such training will be recorded and records shall be kept at the premises which will be produced to an authorised officer the licensing authority or the police on demand.~~

~~69. The Premises Licence Holder will appoint an Event Safety Co-ordinator who will be able to authorise and supervise safety measures.~~

~~70. The Event Safety Co-ordinator will be responsible for:~~

- ~~• Monitoring of contractors~~
- ~~• Liaison with contractors~~
- ~~• Checking of method statements and risk assessments~~
- ~~• Preparation and monitoring of site rules~~
- ~~Safety inspections and audits~~
- ~~• Collection and checking of completion certificates~~
- ~~• Communication of safety information to contractors~~
- ~~• Communication of safety information to employees~~
- ~~• Monitoring and coordinating safety performance~~
- ~~• Coordinating safety in response to a Major Incident~~
- ~~• Liaison with nominated officers from Herefordshire Council.~~

Electrical wiring and distribution systems

~~71. Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall be signed off by a competent person prior to any licensable activity taking place at the premises. The competent person must be a member of a recognised electrical association such as NICEIC, NAPIT, ECA or other association as agreed by the licensing authority. The sign off certificates shall be available for inspection in the Licence Compliance Office located on the licensed premises.~~

~~72. Any additional electrical work required after the event has commenced shall be signed off by a competent person. The competent person must be a member of a recognised electrical association such as NICEIC, NAPIT, ECA or other association as agreed by the licensing authority. The sign off certificates shall be made immediately available to an authorised person (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003).~~

Structures

~~73. The Premises Licence Holder will ensure that all temporary structures and any other elements of infrastructure or artistic installation have been inspected and signed off as being safe prior to the commencement of its use.~~

~~74. A copy of each safety sign off certificate shall be kept on site and shall be made immediately available to an authorised person (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003).~~

~~75. The maximum permitted numbers in each enclosed structure where regulated entertainment activities are to be provided will be submitted and agreed by the Responsible Authorities prior to the commencement of the festival.~~

~~76. The premises licence holder must submit arrangements to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authorities on how such maximum occupancy capacities will be managed. In this licence "enclosed structures" are classed as a structure whether tented or not, which has less than 25% of its sides open to the atmosphere (excluding entrances and exits) and which are accessible to the public when regulated entertainment is provided.~~

~~77. A system shall be in place which is capable of showing the number of persons on the premises at any one time. This number shall be given immediately on demand to an 'authorised person' (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or the police.~~

First aid

~~78. A HSE Compliant Industrial High Response First Aid Kit for 21-50 people shall be kept fully stocked at the premises and kept behind the bar. Such kit shall contain:~~

- ~~• 1 x Guidance Leaflet~~
- ~~• 60 x Washproof Plasters~~
- ~~• 6 x Eye Pads with Bandage~~

- ~~8 x Triangular Bandages~~
- ~~12 x Safety Pins~~
- ~~16 x Assorted Sterile Dressings~~
- ~~20 Moist Wipes~~
- ~~3 Pairs Disposable Gloves~~

~~79. An accredited First aid trained person must be on duty at all times when the premises operate for licensable activities. [An accredited First Aid trained Person is defined as a person who holds a current certificate in first aid at work (FAW) issued by a training organisation approved by the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) or a current certificate in emergency first aid at work (EFAW) issued by a training organisation approved by the HSE or by a recognised awarding body of Ofqual or the Scottish Qualifications Authority or any other equivalent qualifications accepted by the Licensing Authority]~~

~~Special Effects~~

~~80. The installation and use of laser beams, pyrotechnics or real flames, explosive or highly flammable or smoke/foam producing agent, for any purpose shall not be permitted without prior notification to the Licensing Authority.~~

~~81. A detailed description of the method of use, shall be made to the Licensing Authority not less than 14 days prior to the day on which the above equipment is to be used.~~

~~Water~~

~~82. A Water Management Strategy for the provision of drinking water will be provided to the satisfaction of Herefordshire Council's Environmental and Trading Standards Service at least 28 days prior to commencement of each Festival. Once agreed, the strategy will be followed throughout the Festival. No significant changes will be made without consultation with Herefordshire Council.~~

~~Prevention of Public Nuisance~~

~~83. The applicant must provide a Noise Management Plan to the Environmental Health Department at Herefordshire Council prior to the event taking place.~~

~~84. Noise limits and background levels to be used must be agreed with Environmental Health Officers and incorporated into the plan.~~

~~85. The Premises Licence Holder or DPS must immediately comply with any request to adjust noise levels/ frequency spectra made by an 'authorised person' (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or the Police.~~

~~86. Noise' from the premises must not be 'audible or discernible' within any occupied permanent structure where people normally reside or sleep, when assessed with windows and doors closed. 'In this conditions; 'Noise' is defined as sound which is created by entertainment consisting of either vocal (recorded or live) or instrumental music (recorded or live) or a combination of both. Audible or discernable' is defined as 'noise' which is distinct above the general hubbub of activity on the site which can be identified by the human ear as originating from discrete sources from the licensed premises'.~~

Protection of Children Under 16s

~~87. Any unaccompanied person under the age of 16 years found on the Licensed Premises will be accompanied to the Welfare Tent.~~

~~88. This task will be undertaken by at least 2 members of staff. No unaccompanied person under the age of 16 years shall be permitted on the Licensed Premises. Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Check~~

~~89. Any personnel whose role involves the looking after of children or vulnerable adults shall have a current CRB (dated within the 9 month period preceeding the first day of the Festival).~~

~~90. No person shall be involved in this role unless the CRB shows 'None Recorded' against the following categories:~~

~~Police Record of Convictions,~~

~~Cautions,~~

~~Reprimands and Warning~~

~~(i) Information from the list held under Section 142 of the Education Act 2002~~

~~(ii) ISA Children's Barred List Information~~

~~(iii) ISA Vulnerable Adults Barred List Information~~

~~(iv) Other relevant information disclosed at the Chief Police Officer(s) discretion~~

~~91. The name, date of birth and address together with a copy of the CRB shall supplied to the Licensing Authority 2 weeks prior to the first day of the event.~~

Lost Children Policy

~~92. The goal of the Lost Children Policy is to reunite each lost child with its parents or guardians. However if there is any evidence or suspicion of abuse or neglect of children, then this must be reported to the appropriate authority~~

Age Verification

~~93. The premises shall operate a Challenge 25-21 Policy. Such policy shall be written down and kept at the premises.~~

~~94. The policy shall be produced on demand of the Licensing Authority or Police.~~

~~95. Prominent, clear and legible signage (in not less than 32 font bold) shall also be displayed at all entrances to the premises as well as at, at least once every 5 metres behind any bar advertising the scheme operated.~~

~~96. In conjunction with the above, proof of the attainment of 18 years of age will be required through production of a full or provisional photo card driving licence, by a passport or by a national identity card with a hologram photo prior to any alcohol sale taking place or entry to age restricted areas.~~

~~97. Bar staff must ask for proof of age ID whenever the customer appears to be under 18. If there is any doubt as to the age of the customer they will be refused service. Prominent, clear and legible signage (in not less than 32 font bold) shall be displayed stating that: It is an offence to purchase or attempt to purchase alcohol if you are under the age of 18 – Section 149 Licensing Act 2003.~~

~~98. A register of refusals will be kept by each bar with the names of people who have been unable to provide required Identification to prove their age. These records will be made available to the Licensing Authority on request.~~

~~99. The Designated Premises Supervisor will brief bar security staff in the arena and the campsites bars that they should take reasonable steps to monitor the final destination of the drinks and where it would appear that supply is being made to a person under the age of 18 years take steps to prevent the consumption by that person. No bar servers will be under 18~~

~~100. ——— The Designated Premises Supervisor, the bar manager and other bar supervisors will monitor the performance of the serving staff to ensure adherence to the licensing laws.~~

- ~~101. Any underage persons who are found arriving at or on the Licensed Premises with alcohol will have the alcohol confiscated by security.~~
- ~~102. Staff will be trained to ensure that all customers who appear to be under the age of 21 will be asked to produce identification.~~
- ~~103. The only acceptable identification will be a passport, a photo driving licence, or a card bearing the official PASS hologram, and any authorised digital identification.~~
- ~~104. Alcohol will only be sold to individuals who are able to prove their age through the production of any of the above when challenged.~~
- ~~105. All bar staff engaged in the sale of alcohol to be trained in Responsible alcohol retailing to the minimum standard of BIIAB level 1 or any other training recognised and agreed with Herefordshire Council Trading Standards prior to selling alcohol.~~
- ~~106. Training records shall be kept on the premises and shall be produced to the police or an 'authorised person' (as defined by Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or an authorised Trading Standards Officer of Herefordshire Council on demand.~~

OUT TO GRASS

Camping, Glamping, Weddings and Events



Nestled in the picturesque rolling hills of Worcestershire, Out To Grass has been welcoming guests since August 2000. Our passion lies in creating beautiful and unique spaces for all kinds of celebrations. OTG operates for 6 months of the year, May to September.

Our site is home to a number of annual micro-festivals and gatherings as well as hosting our own, in-house events and camping weekends. Our site is available for hire exclusive hire for weddings and large gatherings (100+), as well as non-exclusive options for smaller, more intimate celebrations meaning you can hire a dome for entertainment alongside camping and any optional extras you like.

Our goal is to turn your dreams into reality! We have a range of permanently installed geodomes available for hire, offering large spaces ideal for live music, complete with sound systems, lighting, and decor. For those seeking something more intimate, we also provide smaller areas suitable for DJs, workshops, and other activities.

With an extensive selection of accommodation, we have something for everyone. Our offerings include an on-site farmhouse, enchanting sculpted cob house pods that feel straight out of a fairy tale, Luna tents, Bell tents, and plenty of space for general camping.

As a fully licensed venue, we pride ourselves on providing great service, including a bar that serves local beers and a café offering delicious coffee, toasty snacks, and smoothies. We look forward to welcoming you!

Geodomes and Infrastructure



Our permanent infrastructure truly sets us apart. We take pride in maintaining a beautifully kept site that features wood-chipped pathways and cozy areas to relax. You'll find a spacious communal fire pit surrounded by comfortable sofas, three geodomes, and a fully stocked onsite bar and café. Plus, we offer proper toilets and hot showers for your convenience.

Just bring us your dreams and good vibes; we'll take care of the rest!

The Main Dome

Live music and dancing
12 Meter dome
Approx. Max Standing Capacity 120

- Large Stage (6x4m)
- Sound system
- Lighting
- Internal decor
- Carpet
- Rig points for decor

Optional Extras

- Disco Ball
- Sound Engineer

The Hive

DJ's and dancing
9m Meter Dome
Approx. Max Standing Capacity 100

- Raised DJ Platform
- Sound System
- Lighting
- Internal lighting rig
- Carpet

Optional Extras

- Removal of internal fixtures

The heART Dome

Workshops and Chill
14 Meter Dome
Approx. Max Standing Capacity 100

- Sofas and seating
- Carpet
- Festoon Lighting

Optional Extras

- Art Boards
- Art displays
- Other tables and chairs suitable for your event



Main Dome

Out To Grass is a licenced venue and therefore although a small amount of personal alcohol is allowed to be consumed on the the campsite, we ask that you use our fully stocked wonderful bar whilst in the 'venue' area . **Our licenced hours are:**

Friday/Saturday

12pm-1am (alcohol), 2am (music)

Sunday

12pm-11am (alcohol), 12pm (music)

Times may vary on bank holidays and midweek

Facilities



Toilets and Showers

We have 9 flushing toilets, 2 urinals and 2 showers on site near the main camping field across 2 blocks. For larger events extra units can be hired through our preferred supplier. Toilets are cleaned and stocked by our crew throughout the weekend.



Toilet Block



Fire Labyrinth

Fire Labyrinth

A unique spectacle and wonderful activity to end the evening. Our Crew will prepare and light the maze and guests walk the maze. This is the perfect moment for a speech or opening/closing ceremony after which your guests can walk the labyrinth together.

Communal Fire Pit

Our stunning undercover communal fire pit is permanently installed on the site. The large firepit is surrounded by sofas and provides a lovely space to hang out in the evenings.



Fire Pit

Wood Fired Hot Tub

Positioned in the glamping field is our wood fired hot tub, perfect for bubbling your way through a sunny day

Smaller fire pits can be hired for suitable events and wood is available at the bar

Food, Drink and Vendors



Bar and Cafe

We are a licenced venue with our own permanent staffed bar and cafe which will be open for your event (hours depend on event timings and numbers). We use local brewers Wye Valley and stock lots of options of beer, cider, ale, cans, cocktails, sprits etc.

Our cafe serves delicious coffee, tea, smoothies, milkshakes, snack and toasties.

We do not allow other alcohol vendors



Mal's Bar

Catering

For smaller events we may be able to assist with catering. For larger events you may require a food vendor. We have a list of approved local caterers who we can recommend. Please ensure any vendors booked are communicated with site before the event so discussions can take place regarding PLI, positioning on the site, arrival, departure and electrical needs.

For catering vendors we ask that they provide our crew with food throughout the weekend, we can be flexible in the approach to this and can communicate directly with your vendor. We do allow gas on site and electrical hook-ups are charged at £25 per day for vendors.

Our catering pitch is 270x900cm but we are flexible and can host them at an alternative pitch where required



Out To Grass Cafe

Other Vendors

Where other vendors are required, we have a list of contacts which may help. This could be for equipment and tent hire, independent stalls, kids entertainers. Pitch fee'd required dependant on vendors.

Smaller fire pits can be hired for suitable events and wood is available at the bar

Glamping and Accommodation



Woodend Farmhouse Stays

7 Bedroom stunningly decorated, spacious farmhouse with incredible views on our farm. Suitable for big family get togethers, celebrations, weekend retreats and more and there's even a barn which can be hired for late night partying. Special rates for those hiring as extra accommodation for their exclusive event at Out To Grass.



Cob Hut Houses

We've collaborated with an amazing team of talented artists and craftsmen. Our cob is crafted using locally sourced materials, including clay from our land, straw from our farm, and reclaimed roofing materials. We've even repurposed charred timbers from an old barn, along with stained glass, glass jars, and items salvaged from refuse yards. The stone we use is sourced from a nearby woodland in an old quarry and the results are magical.

Prices from £500 per pod for 3 nights

Luna Tents and Bell Tents

We have 4 hireable Luna tents on site and glamping options and work closely with trusted bell tent hire companies to provide more glamping options if required (based on a min order). Our Luna Tents have proper beds, bedding, lighting, furnishings and tea and coffee making facilities.

Prices start from £280 per luna for 3 nights



Our Environment



Environmental Impact

As members of the Green Tourism Business Scheme, we are committed to reduce carbon footprint and our environmental impact by complying with and surpassing minimum standards, continually monitoring initiatives and targets, adopting sustainable business practise and being accessible & inclusive to all visitors and staff.

Our Aims Are to:

- Reduce our environment impact
- Protect and preserve nature
- Enhance the value of the surroundings for wildlife
- Reduce the consumption of energy and water on site
- Reduce the waste we produce on site
- Comply with the relevant environmental legislations
- Train employees in environmental subjects and engage them in improvement projects
- Help our visitors to do their bit for the environment
- Work with and to support our local community

Our environmental statement can be viewed in full on our website.

Waste Management

We have waste removal included on our booking form. This is for waste created on site and covers general waste and recycling, It des not include excessive litter picking or catering waste. For larger events these things need to be considered.

Noise Management

As an independent local music venue, we are aware that noise management is our biggest priority. We have fantastic sound systems which are spec'ed specifically to have a short trow range and we ask that all events use our pre-approved stsems and make themselves aware of our Noise Management Plan.

Enquire Now

Contact Clare Kelly (Events and Booking Manager) infoouttograss@gmail.com

Annex 4 Letter from CHARLIE ELCOCK

Charles Elcock,
Hill House,
Castle Hill,
Cleobury Mortimer,
Worcs.
DY14 8DA

I, Charlie Elcock, trading as C Elcock Production, to my knowledge have been the sole supplier of audio equipment to Mr. Ian Johnson.

My instruction is to provide PA systems smaller than their own, and ultimately contain the sound to the best of my ability. This effort is going to be amplified this year, and sound testing days have been scheduled to deploy a multitude of different setups in different areas in order to find the most effective method of containing the sound going forward. I'm confident that we will be able to contain the sound effectively through speaker placement and cardioid configurations to make the sound ultimately steerable. This, along with the sound-proofing work together with Coppice Audio should resolve any noise problems going forward.

I have been trading for over ten years providing many PA systems, sound engineering services, and noise management services across the country and internationally, and this is by far the quietest event space I deal with regularly. I don't believe that there's current cause for complaints, but we will be doing everything in our power to mitigate future issues.

A great deal of time, effort, and money are being invested in this, as any further restrictions will have a major impact on not only the many crew employed here every year, but on small local businesses such as myself, and the thousands of people who enjoy wholesome events here year in, year out.

Thank you for your time.

Charles Elcock



OTG Noise Management Action Plan

OTG Action Plan

Noise Management Action Plan 2026



Last Updated: 10th March 2026

Ref: OTG-002-V2

Completed By: Clare Kelly (Events and Bookings Manager)

Reviewed: N/A

Introduction

In addition to our existing Noise Management Plan, we have developed this Noise Management Action Plan to outline a series of proposed measures. Some actions will be implemented immediately, while others will be introduced progressively based on neighbour feedback and ongoing consultation.

Because several areas require us to find the right balance and due to the financial impact of the proposed actions, we have included a set of flexible, evidence-based proposals that can be trialled throughout the 2026 season. By combining community feedback with sound monitoring data, we will identify the most effective measures and incorporate them into the long-term Noise Management Plan. This approach will help us build a robust and comprehensive strategy to prevent public nuisance.

The key areas of focus are:

- Sound level limits - source and pathways
- Professional sound engineering
- Monitoring at site boundaries / nearby properties
- Stage and speaker orientation and setup
- Communication and consultation with neighbours
- Complaint response procedure
- Review and adjustment after events
- Frequency and duration of potential disruption

At the end of this six-month period of consultation and incremental improvements, our aim is to eliminate the risk of public nuisance and ensure the venue operates responsibly within the community.

Improvements in place before May 2026

Soundproofing of the main dome

Timescale of Implementation: End of April 2026

Financial Impact: £5000+vat

Aim: To reduce sound escaping by obstructing the path of sound

As part of the Out to Grass noise containment plan, 18mm plywood panels cut to fit the triangular sections of the dome are being installed as the first structural layer of acoustic containment. The panels will be mounted onto the frame using pipe lagging on the steel tubes to provide mechanical isolation and reduce vibration transfer. Installation of this base layer is scheduled for completion by the end of April. Where required, selected panels may later be upgraded with a second plywood layer and approximately 100mm of mineral wool insulation, with CNC-cut diffusion openings on the outer surface to help disperse mid and high frequency sound energy and further improve containment.

This will be tested and adjusted before the site opens to ensure effectiveness.

Increased Acoustic Straw Bail Barriers

Timescale of Implementation: End of April 2026

Financial Impact: £2400 (using approx 30 bails at £80 per bail)

Aim: To reduce sound escaping by obstructing the path of sound

Hay bales (specifically, straw bales) act as effective, low-cost acoustic barriers by absorbing noise across wide frequencies due to their density and air pockets. We currently use bails as sound barriers behind the main stage area and in a horse shoe around the second dome. We plan to increase this provision to almost double the number of bails used.

Soundsystem Upgrades and Configuration

Timescale of Implementation: End of April 2026

Financial Impact:

Aim: To reduce risk of public nuisance by amending the direction and shape of sound at source

We believe the system in the main dome to be the most suitable system for the job, this was installed as the main and only system for the main dome in 2015

The second dome however can be further improved and we have decided to go with the following system:

Second Dome System

PA System

- Turbosound TCX10 - Tops x 2
- Element 5 RB212 - Subs x 3 or 4 (subject to best containment option)

Amplification and Processing

- Linea Research 88C10

We will try various configurations including hung bass speaker which should further diver the sound meaning less sound escaping the dance floor area. This will be tested as per below.

Sound Test Days

Timescale of Implementation: - Proposed dates May 4th-6th

Financial Impact: £1200 in wages for consultants/professionals

Aim To set up a site for comprehensive noise testing. Sound systems will remain in the positions agreed for the entire 2026 season. Residents will be informed via letter as noise may escape the venue as we do a number of tests to work holistically. Set over 3 days to test during varied conditions.

Charlie Elcock of C.Elcock Production- Deployment

Speaker placement and configuration will be such to maximise coverage of audience area and minimise off site spill.

Main dome

Hi/Mid Tops to be deployed higher than previous years
aimed down at the audience

Subs to be deployed with the intention of an increased cardioid coverage pattern

System processor with presets for general use and reduced power/low range option

Secondary Dome

Subs to be deployed above dance floor to minimise spill

Tops to be deployed to minimise lateral spill

Clare Kelly - OTG Events Manager - Sound Checks and setting ambient levels and 'triggers'

To take sound readings at points across the site and neighboring properties throughout and provide feedback to the site team, allowing adjustments to be tested and refined based on what proves most effective.

To take detailed readings and notes on audibility based on a number of tests.

Mal - Coppice Audio - Sound & Insulation Testing

To test and amend sound insulation panels and make any adjustments required.

Andy Bayliss - House Sound Engineer - Sound desk and frequency presets

To test current speaker deployment, frequency sensitivities and directional sensitivities.

To test effectiveness of limiters

To set pre-sets based on sound testing into the sound desk for the season.

Hotline and consultation with residents

Timescale of Implementation: End of April 2026

Financial Impact: £800 in extra staffing

Residents will be posted a letter detailing the events occurring this season, the proposed changes and details of this plan. This will give details of our hotline which is the main number for

OTG which is diverted to the Events Manager. This number will be manned from 10am until 2am Friday-Monday and during regular office hours during the week.

The Events Manager or OTG representative will conduct regular visits to residents to check on the progress of this action plan and to seek feedback on changes as they are implemented.

In house sound engineer at all events

Timescale of Implementation: Already in place

Financial Impact: £800 per weekend

Although OTG has always employed sound engineers for events involving live music or DJs, particularly larger or multi-stage events, we previously did not require an engineer for one-day events such as weddings where only a playlist was played through the sound system. In addition, we worked with a pool of engineers who had varying levels of familiarity with the site.

Following a recommendation, we have appointed Andy Bayliss, whose extensive knowledge and experience made him the ideal choice. Andy has now been booked as the dedicated sound engineer for all OTG events in 2026, regardless of size or type.

This ensures a consistent and professional approach to sound management. Andy is fully familiar with all aspects of our Noise Management Plan (NMP) and has worked with us directly in developing both the NMP and this action plan. Having a single, dedicated engineer will be essential as we implement incremental changes, carry out consultation, and gather feedback in order to identify and maintain the most effective long-term solutions.

Incremental improvements to be tested throughout 2026

Upgrade of sound check equipment

Timescale of Implementation: By start of season 2026

Financial Impact: £1700-£2500

Conditions for implementation: To be implemented if it is felt that the current equipment is not capturing enough specific data during testing and consultation.

Sound Monitoring Equipment

- At the moment we use CEMDT815
- We have been recommended NTi Audio XL2

Sound Check frequency and locality

- See current sound check sheet,
- Increase number of sound checks to 2 per hour and 1 per hour for larger events
- Increase the numbers of check points to be monitored

New sound limiting devices - Various Options

Timescale of Implementation: Testing throughout May-June

Financial Impact: £500-£3000 dependant on solution

Aim: To limit the sound at source

This can be implemented if we feel that our current mitigation method of having an on site sound engineer at every event proves to fail at managing artists 'pushing' the current system.

Current Sound Limiters: In 2025 and previous years we have used various equipment for this including AUC Flash Box and Red Alert RC audio. These had limited success.

Upgrade Options: RC Audio Tolon (TLM 1)

RC Audio Tolon (TLM 1) is an advanced, transparent audio processor designed for professional sound management, whereas a "Flash Box" typically refers to a standard sound limiter that visually warns users before cutting power to the equipment.

Reduced levels/frequencies between 12-3pm and 11pm-2am (or suitable time based on feedback and testing).

Timescale of Implementation: Testing throughout May-June

Financial Impact: Sound Engineer time only

Aim: To reduce the daily duration of noise impact

Limit larger events to 5 per year

Timescale of Implementation: Testing throughout May-June

Financial Impact: Unknown, possibly in the thousands based on decreased footfall and economy of scale, running costs don't vary between small and large events.

Events with over 300 and running 3 days with a full schedule of music limited to 5 per year.

Soundproofing of the second dome

Timescale of Implementation: End of 2026 season, sooner if required

Financial Impact: up to £4000+vat

Aim: Further reduce sound escaping from the dome for overall sound monitoring improvements

Following testing on sound proofing the main dome we can make an analysis of whether soundproofing the second dome is going to make an overall difference.

Silent Disco Headphones from 11pm

Timescale of Implementation: End of 2026 season, sooner if required

Financial Impact: £3 per headset per night of event

Aim: To reduce the duration of noise impact

For events with more than one stage we can decrease the overall impact and length of noise impact by using silent disco headphones on the second stage. We have links with a local company who can provide these.

For smaller events that have DJ's after midnight we could do a tapered cross over to headphones with the sound being dropped at 11pm and headphones being offered to those who wish to listen to the music louder. Cost implication per event and the quality of sound through the headphones is not excellent. Current events have also been booked under the terms of our current licence so may cause some negative feedback from clients.

Annex 6 Noise Management Plan

OTG Policy and Procedure

Noise Management Plan 2026



Last Updated: 10th March 2026

Ref: OTG-003-NMP-V2

Completed By: Clare Kelly

Reviewed: Annually

Aim

This **Noise Management Plan (NMP)** outlines the strategies and procedures implemented to control noise levels within a specific environment, aiming to minimize disturbance to workers, residents, and other sensitive receptors.

1. Introduction
2. Noise assessment
3. Noise control measures
4. Monitoring and reporting
5. Stakeholder engagement and complaints management
6. Review and revision

1. Introduction

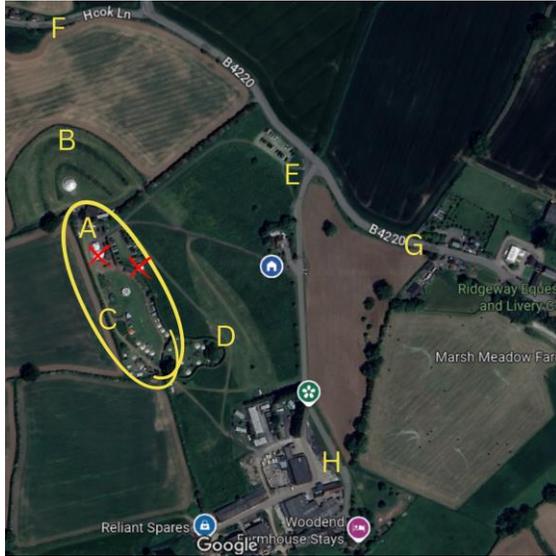
The purpose of this document is to ensure that OTG is abiding by the licensing regulations and to ensure we do prevent public nuisance to residents locally.

Business and Location:

OTG is a 5 acre events site located within 440 acres of rewilded land which is rented from the Duchies of Cornwall. OTG operates for 6 months of the year and is a licensed events venue. Both exclusive and non exclusive event hires and private functions such as weddings as well as internal camping weekends. The site is an outdoor venue and music is played in geodome structures. OTG's closest local neighbors are noted on the map below with boundaries of the farm also marked:

Hook Lane House - 250m

Houses on Bromyard Road - 350m



To the left OTG licensed site in yellow, main stage a second stage with red x's. Letters indicate sound check points.

Below shows the boundaries of Woodend Farm. Nearest neighbors marked with yellow X, 2 of which are hireable holiday accommodation.

A-H are check points for sound monitoring (see OTG Sound Monitoring P&P

Document)

Regulatory Framework:

- Environmental Protection Act 1990 - in particular:

F4(fb) *artificial light emitted from premises so as to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance; noise emitted from premises so as to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance;*

- Licencing Act 2003

Controls in place to manage noise at the site:

At point of booking: All our enquiries are vetted and a discussion is held with potential clients to ensure that they agree to use our pre-approved soundsystem, that the type of music is non offensive, that they are aware of our licensing rules and limits on sound before any booking is taken.

Contract and Documentation: It is stated in our terms and conditions and in our booking form: **MUSIC / SOUNDSYSTEM** *The only sound system that can be used is the system that we supply. We do not permit people to set up their own system to play amplified music. Our sound system consists of PA speakers, monitors, 32 channel mixing desks, mics, Dis etc but not DJ decks. DJ decks to be supplied by you, the client, or your DJ/s. We require the style of music to be inoffensive, encourage live music and discourage events with predominantly repetitive beat music.*

Implementation during events: OTG crew monitor sound at every event with amplified sound. All events must adhere to our T&Cs and an approved sound engineer will be present at all events to ensure that sound is managed in accordance with our NMP with the priority of ensuring we are not causing public nuisance and are adhering to our Licencing at all times. Where issues are identified we will take action immediately to ensure music is turned down, certain frequencies are removed or if necessary turned off entirely.

2. Noise assessment

Baseline Noise Assessment: Baseline Sound is logged at 4 weeks before the first event to identify base level ambient sound. This will be documented with photographs of the monitor readings for reference. A test day to check set-up of speakers and insulation will be conducted at the same time.

Identification of Noise Sources:

Noise sources are limited on site with very little noise emitting machinery or construction. OTG's main risk is from amplified music.

OTG's main dome is used for live music, amplified vocals for ceremonies and talk etc. OTG has approved soundsystems with the aim to safeguard against any escaping sound predominantly at source as well as to improve the sound quality of events due to the limitations imposed.

Main Dome System

Matrix PA System

- 2 x T112 FOH Tops
- 2 x S15 FOH Subs
- 4 x Stage Monitors - Turbo Sounds NUQ12
Frequency Response 30Hz-22kHz, limited to the correct volume for the venue

Amplification

- Matrix XT Series
- Crest CA Series Monitors

Processing

- XTA DP226

Second Dome System

PA System

- Turbosound TCX10 - Tops x 2
- Element 5 RB212 - Subs x 3 or 4 (subject to best containment option)

Amplification and Processing

- Linea Research 88C10

In some cases OTG allow for areas of the licenced site to be used as performance areas, we deal with these in a case by case way ensuring that the systems of amplified sound are checked and approved by our Sound Engineers. Sound checks made to ensure they are suitable and limits are set.

3. Noise control measures

Notice to Council: OTG submit a document annually listing all the seasons events at the start of the year to inform the council.

Hierarchy of Controls: Administration: OTG aims to avoid issues at the earliest point possible. We do this carefully vetting clients and events by having the below statement on our booking form:

MUSIC / SOUNDSYSTEM The only sound system that can be used is the system that we supply. We do not permit people to set up their own system to play amplified music. Our sound system consists of PA speakers, monitors, 32 channel mixing desks, mics, Dis etc but not DJ decks. DJ decks to be supplied by you, the client, or your DJ/s. We require the style of music to be inoffensive, encourage live music and discourage events with predominantly repetitive beat music.

Elimination/Substitution: OTG has taken action to improve any noise escaping by adopting a pre-approved system and professional sound engineer to manage sound at the source and continues to make improvements in 2026 the findings of which will be applied to the updated NMP 2027. (see Noise Management Action Plan 2026)

Engineering Controls: OTG will have an 'in house' approved sound engineer at every event booked. The SE has knowledge of the NMP and is trained in accordance with all our noise management protocols.

Source Control: Our equipment is regularly maintained and checks are done annually to ensure all equipment is sound and working correctly. OTG has sound limiting devices at source to manage issues at source.

Path Control: OTG has increased its insulation around stages in 2023 adding hay bale walls and fabric lining the main geodome. Plans are in place to add more sound panels to the main dome in the next 12 months and to keep reviewing and improving path control infrastructure. OTG will have hay bail sound insulation around the domes to improve insulation.

OTG will have installed sound insulation in the main dome.
(see Noise Management Action Plan 2026 - NMAP).

Site Layout and Design: Location of sound systems have been planned in accordance with our NMP with soundsystems facing away from our nearest neighbor on Hook Lane. OTG will continue to make amendments to the orientation and direction based on any complaints or new information logged.

Working Hours: OTG operates strictly within the guidelines of our premises licence. Levels are dropped and frequencies of bass removed via the sounddesk before 3pm and after 11pm to below our usual aim of 5-10db above ambient for readings around the site to 3-5db.

Plans for 2026 are to drop certain levels and frequencies before 3pm and after 11pm, more info on this can be found in the NMAP 2026)

Operational Practices: At the start of a day the sound desk is set up for 12 midday or whenever the event start time is to ensure it can not be used outside of the licensed hours. This will be done by a trained crew member or sound engineer only.

At the end of play each night the Sound Engineer is responsible for letting the events manager know the desk has been turned off and packed away in a locked area (bar). All speakers are turned off.

Photo evidence will be taken each evening at 2am of the soundsystem once packed away by the SE and sent to Event Management.

The Events Manager is responsible for doing sound checks before the event to check ambient readings as well as throughout the night at least every 2 hours and adjustments will be made where necessary.

Training and Awareness: All crew trained on noise management procedures, the proper use of noise control equipment (including PPE), and the importance of minimizing noise. All bookers are made aware of the NMP in advance of their booking.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): OTG provides ear plugs to all crew and guests on site, they are kept behind the bar and can be requested at any point.

4. Monitoring and reporting

Noise Monitoring Plan: OTG currently conducts sound monitoring using a CEM DT-815 sound decibel hand held device. This is done 3-5 times throughout the event and more regularly where deemed appropriate. A new sound monitoring sheet will be made annually to incorporate any new problem areas to monitor based on complaints and feedback from neighbors via the hotline.

Main Number for OTG:

01886880099 (forwarded to Events Manager Phone 07831827236)

Available: Throughout events from 9am - 2am Friday Saturday, 9am - 1am on Sundays and during weekdays 10am - 6pm

Compliance Checks and Audits: OTG shall monitor this plan and make amendments where required as information comes to light or if issues occur with complaints. The NMP will be reviewed yearly at the start of the season.

Record Keeping: OTG maintains detailed records of noise monitoring data, inspections, incidents, and actions taken. These are kept in the bar and updated to the business drive spreadsheet weekly.

5. Stakeholder engagement and complaints management

Communication with Neighbors: OTG will notify all residents of a full schedule of events at the start of a season alongside our usual letter to the council to give notice of events.

Complaints Procedure: OTG shall make available and regularly promote a contact number for local residents to contact the premises to discuss any specific incidents or concerns either during or after events.

6. Scheduled Improvements

OTG has taken proactive steps to enhance mitigation. These include installation of acoustic panels within the geodome, reconfiguration of the bass system into a directional cardioid arrangement, and a proposal for structured internal level verification in partnership with Environmental Health.

Following a licence review we have implemented a year long action plan to make further improvements (*See Noise Management Action Plan 2026*)

7. Review and revision

Regular Review: OTG commits to regularly reviewing the effectiveness of the NMP and updating it as necessary (e.g., due to changes in operations, equipment, or regulations). This is to be done annually before each spring.

Adaptation: OTG are prepared to adapt the NMP and implement further measures if noise impacts remain unacceptable despite the implemented controls.

Annex 7 NMP Monitoring Policy and Procedure

OTG Policy and Procedure

Sound Checks and Monitoring 2026



Last Updated: 10 March 2026

Ref: OTG-004PP-V1

Completed By: Clare Kelly

Reviewed: Annually

Aim

To lay out the details of sound checks and monitoring for events at Out To Grass. Checks are completed to ensure compliance with our Noise Management Plan with the objective of preventing public nuisance. This plan includes extra check point areas and more regular checks than previous years to further reduce risk of public nuisance.

Key Responsibilities/Personnel

OTG Management - Events Manager

- Responsible for sound tests and logging results
- Fielding complaints from nearby residents
- Identifying appropriate timely response to complaints
- Deciding when to deploy restrictions

OTG Sound engineer

- Responsible for managing system to agreed level
- Changing system presets at agreed points
- Reporting problem performers to OTG Management

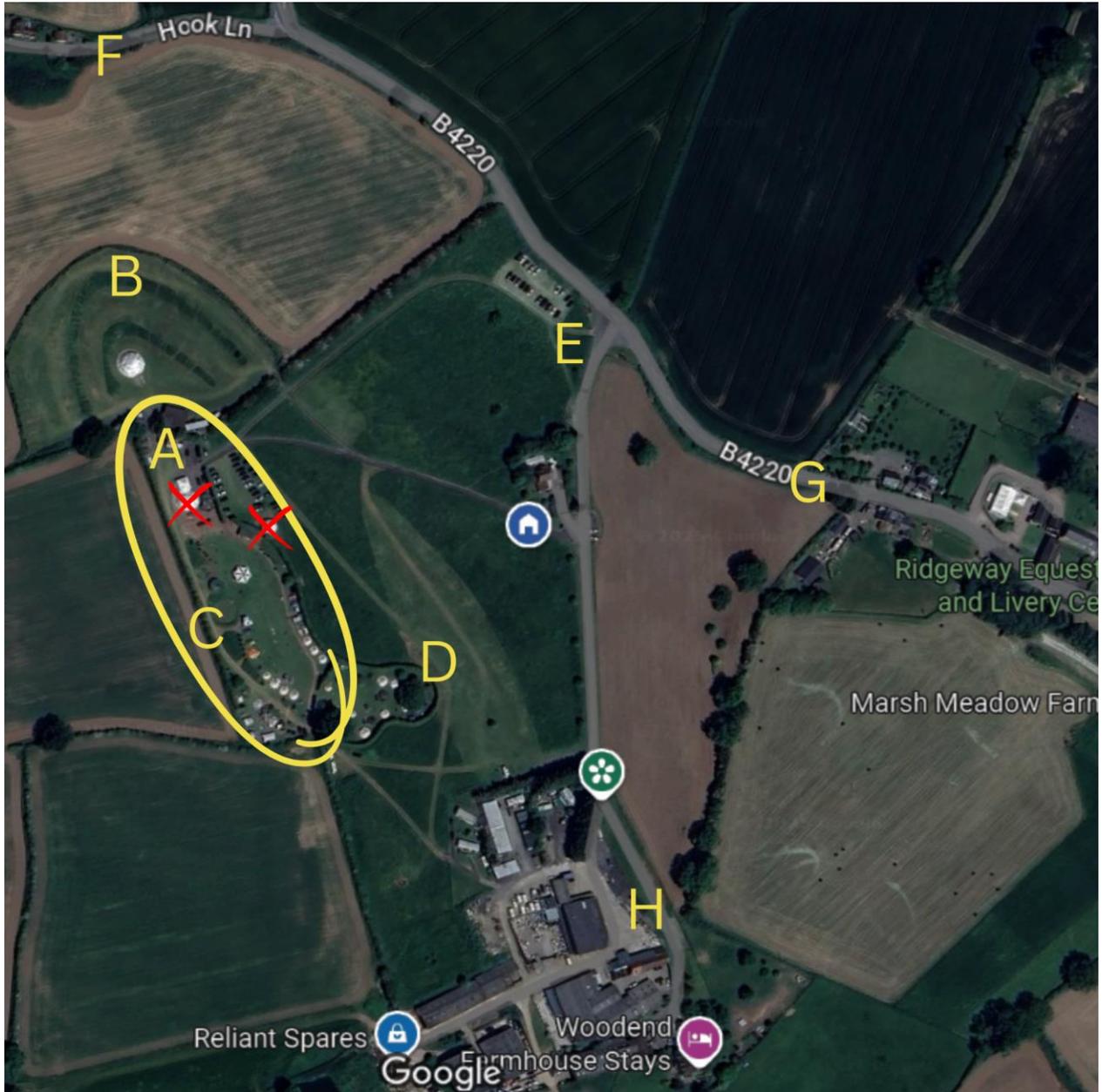
Sound Monitoring Equipment

CEM-DT-815

Sound Check Map

- A - Main Stage
- B - Toms Bank
- C - Fire Pit
- D - Glamping
- E - Gate House
- F - Hook Lane

G - Bromyard Road
H - The Yard



Extra areas may be added based on feedback, a what.three.words. Location will be added in the sound check form where this is the case.

Sound Check Procedure

Working to levels of 10db above ambient. Where levels exceed this or where music is audible from neighboring properties, the venue 'the management' will liaise with the 'sound engineer' to reduce levels in accordance with the NMP.

Ambient Sound Check

The Events Manager will conduct ambient checks to set a base from which to measure before music commences each day (before midday) at all check points listed below and logged on the Sound Check Form

Regular Sound Checks (throughout event)

Sound checks will be done throughout the event approx every 2 hours at all points A-H on the map.

Close Of Night Checks

The 'Sound Engineer' shall send a whatsapp to 'Event Manager' to confirm the system has been turned off and shall send a photo/video of the sound desk once locked away at close of night.

Triggers

- 1) Where a check has exceeded the 10db limit or where sound is audible checks shall be increased to hourly until below 10db and inaudible outside neighboring properties. Once resolved sound checks can resume their usual frequency.

- 2) Where a complaint has been logged, sound checks will increase to once per hour and 'Events Manager' will visit the complainant to log data on sound and liaise with the complaint directly. Once resolved sound checks can resume their usual frequency.

Complaints

Residents will receive a letter with a schedule of events 4 weeks prior to opening with details of the Out To Grass number to address any complaints directly.

Main Number for OTG:**01886880099** (forwarded to Events Manager mobile)

Available: Throughout events from 9am - 2am Friday Saturday, 9am - 1am on Sundays and during weekdays 10am - 6pm.

All complaints will be logged in the NMP File behind the bar.

All complaints will be added to the complaints log spreadsheet held by 'the management' on a weekly basis.

Where a complaint is logged the events manager will make immediate contact to try to resolve the issues and take detailed notes.

Sound Check Record

Event: Halvern Magic

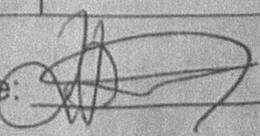
19/07

- A - Dome
- B - Fire Maze
- C - Glamping Area
- D - Toms Bank

- E - Gate House
- F - John Ellis House
- G - The Pool (if reading high at F)
- H - The Yard

| | Time | Reading | Weather Notes | Comments |
|---|-------|----------------------|---------------|----------|
| A | 12:00 | 54.8 | Windy, dull | |
| B | | 52.0 | but warm | |
| C | | 49.3 | | |
| D | | 46.2 | | |
| E | | 40.1 | | |
| F | | 46.7 | | |
| G | | | | |
| H | 21:37 | 52.9 | | |
| A | 18:20 | 58.7 | | |
| B | | 63.2 | | |
| C | | 46.1 | | |
| D | | 61.5 | | |
| E | | | | |
| F | | 46.7 | Not audible | |
| G | | | | |
| H | | | | |
| A | 21:35 | 63.0 | | |
| B | | 1 stage, low volume. | | |
| C | | | | |
| D | | | | |
| E | | | | |
| F | | | | |
| G | | | | |
| H | | | | |

Date: _____

Name: 

Sign: _____

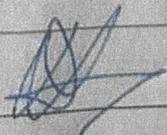
CENT 815

Sound Check Record

Event: All Souls 26/07/25

- A - Dome
- B - Fire Maze
- C - Glamping Area
- D - Toms Bank
- E - Gate House
- F - John Ellis House
- G - The Pool (if reading high at F)
- H - The Yard

| | Time | Reading | Weather Notes | Comments |
|-------|-------|---------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| A | 11.48 | 53.7 | warm breeze | |
| B | | 49.2 | | |
| C | | 56.9 | | Challenging. |
| D | | 51.3 | | |
| E | | 46.2 | | |
| F | | 48.1 | | |
| G | | 54.8 | | |
| H | | 45.0 | | |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| A | 17.35 | 61.4 | wind blow | |
| B | | 54.0 | wind | |
| C | | 60.7 | | |
| D | | 58.6 | | |
| E | 17.48 | 52.1 | | Not audible |
| F | | 50.3 | | |
| G | | | | |
| H | | | | |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| A | 21.42 | 59.1 | | |
| B | | 45.8 | | |
| C | | 53.2 | | |
| D | | 48.8 | | |
| E | | 50.6 | | |
| F | | 51.7 | | Quiet slight sound when breeze |
| G | | | | |
| H | | | | |

Date: _____ Name:  Sign: _____

devered vol @ 2200. Check (E) 51.3.

Annex 10 – Noise Check Reports 5 September 2025



Friday 11pm

Hook Lane top (first house) 42.5dB LAeq 63Hz 39.5dB
Hook Lane first farm 38.7dB LAeq 50hz 34.7dB a few more dB than 63Hz
Last farm house Hook Lane 36.5dB LAeq 30.8dB 50/63Hz same.
Top road first house 46.7dB LAeq, 47.0dB 63Hz
Marsh farm 50.4dB LAeq 48.2dB 63Hz.

All within tolerance. top road 50dB LAeq on the edge, but 63hz well under.

Friday 12pm

Hook lane end farm 40.1dB LAeq 38.2dB 63Hz
Hook lane Middle farm 46.4dB LAeq 39.6dB 80Hz
Hook lane top house 41.3dB LAeq 39.8dB 63Hz
Ridgeway 50.5dB LAeq 51.9dB 63Hz
Waine 48.5dB LAeq 49.0dB 63Hz
Marsh 52.0dB LAeq 51.6dB 63Hz

Wind picking up, happy

Friday 1am

Hook lane end farm 39.5dB LAeq 36.0dB 63Hz
Hook lane Middle farm 48.4dB LAeq 43.7dB 80Hz
Hook lane top house 40.6dB LAeq 39.3dB 63Hz
Ridgeway 50.9dB LAeq 50.6dB 63Hz
Waine 48.7dB LAeq 47.0dB 63Hz
Marsh 50.3dB LAeq 48.8dB 63Hz

Friday 2am

Hook lane end farm 31.7dB LAeq 30.3dB 63Hz
Hook lane Middle farm 33.8dB LAeq 33.6dB 80Hz
Hook lane top house 39.7dB LAeq 38.8dB 63Hz
Ridgeway 47.8dB LAeq 46.2dB 63Hz
Waine 46.3dB LAeq 47.4dB 63Hz
Marsh 45.7.7dB LAeq 46.0dB 63Hz

Annex 11 - EMAIL – SIMON DURRANT TO OTG 17 NOVEMBER 2025

MIME-version: 1.0
From: [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2025 13:39:36 +0000
X-Gm-Features: AWmQ_blhRXDIvoir1jDbMsqnnxf1VaU2LILhuhRfuBN-KBzyTbSs6n9NbdJ67mk
Message-ID: <CAJuBCbXyAtN15HpjXqKK_HHiwYCsSUaS+uM5QfZXPY2_sL5j4g@mail.gmail.com>
Subject: Loud music
To: [REDACTED]
Content-Type: multipart/alternative; boundary="00000000000025b0e40643ca7b3e"

--00000000000025b0e40643ca7b3e
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="UTF-8"

To whom it may concern
There were a number of occasions over the summer when we could hear excessively loud music inside our house and we went outside to listen and work out where it was coming from.
We live at [REDACTED] which is on the A4103 between the turn to Bromyard and Tanhouse Lane.
We believe that the music was coming from the vicinity of Seedwood cottage at the junction of Tanhouse Lane and the A4103. The music was very loud and raucous and went on well into the evening on three or four occasions. It was so clear that we could identify what song was playing.
[REDACTED] at [REDACTED] held an end of school holidays party in their garden on 30th August. It was particularly loud and noisy.
Apparently, She did text her immediate neighbours to warn them of the event.

Someone even asked on the Cradley Facebook page on July 12th where the party was that they could hear, as they felt they were missing out on a good time....

It's always good to hear people having fun and enjoying life together, even if we can hear it up the road...

Regards

[REDACTED]
Wells Lane
Cradley
[REDACTED]



Noise management at Out To Grass

Wed, Sep 3, 2025 at 8:58 PM

TO: Hi ,

Hope this email finds you well?

Central Audio Services has been appointed by Out To Grass as noise management consultant for their events. As such I will be on site across the weekend for Something Different festival.

On Thursday night, prior to the event, I will be taking a background noise measurements at 9pm, 10pm and 11pm to establish a baseline background level. This will be taken in both LAeq 15 minutes and L90.

Out To Grass has provided me with the license that is granted and this does not establish agreed noise facades. Unless advised by the council I will pick 5 residential locations closest and around the site to monitor during the event.

As the national guidelines state that 65dB LAeq 15 minutes until 11pm is a reasonable limit, I will ensure the event does not exceed this. I will also ensure that the under 125hz does not exceed 70dB lzf on a 5 minute average.

Past 11pm unless advised otherwise, we will ensure a +10dB above background (L90) is adhered to. I will also use my judgement to make sure we do not cause disturbance to residents. This is also advised in the government advice to councils concerning noise management at events.

Hopefully this is inline with your expectations for the event. If it is not please let me know how you would like to specify the restrictions, as the license does not specify.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information and hope you have a good weekend.

Best regards,



