From: Website <no-reply@herefordshire.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 01 June 2025 12:05

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

**Subject:** Online form received: Comment on licensing application

# Licensing - Comment on a licensing application FS719244757

Contact details		
Name:		
Address:		

What is your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local Resident

Name and address of premises you are making representation about: Nozstock, Rowden paddock, Winslow, Bromyard, HR7 4LS

# Prevention of crime and disorder

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

This application for imbibing of alcohol every day of the week is of great concern. When alcohol is readily sold at events such as this, frequented mainly by young people, there is a great temptation to consume excessively. This invetibably leads to loss of inhibition and change of character in many people. There is a tendency to become aggressive due to loss of rationale thought and to engage in other harmful and dangerous acts like the taking of illicit drugs which are now commonplace amongst young people at these events. Ther are many people living in and around Nozstock. Edwyn Ralph, for instance is nearby and quite isolated. many residents are elderly and live alone. I believe that the above puts us all at risk of disorderly behaviour. While the authorities attention is focused on the event it encourages others to act criminally. I am sent regular crime and prevention notices and have become aware of a lot of theft and vandalism in Bromyard. I am certain that should this licenced be agreed this sort of behaviour will escalate. I know from talking to friends and neighbours this threatens us all and worries us. I sincerely hope your committee will taken notice of our grave concents and refuse licence for this application.

Suggest any conditions:

# **Public safety**

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

The ingestion of significant quantities of alcohol and, most likely, other substances, raises the real possibility of accidents and harm to others. There is electrical equipment, generators and other danagerous material at the event, people are crammed together around stages and left to wander around the site and potentially off site when worse for wear. This puts the people attending at risk and necessitates the provision of emergency services at the event. The worry is that while they are taken away to attend to mediacl issues at the event there could be a delay in obtaining other emergency help for local residents. In addition to this there is the significant increase in traffic entering and exiting the event on the B4124, a narrow road yet a main artery between Tenbury, Edwyn Ralph and Bromyard. The temporary traffic lights slow down traffic and cause long delays. People get stressed an annoved about the hold up and react badly. This application is not just for one weekend in the Summer but for every day of the week. This is alarming. The B4214 is a busy road especially on working days and the licensing of an event such as this seven days a week will markedly put public safety at risk. It is bad enough without the event due to people driving too fast and erratically. If they are held up by event visitors and traffic lights there is the real temtation to accelerate more to make appointments and work times. Ther are many cyclists who use the road too, my partner and I included. This will create a real risk to them too.

Suggest any conditions:

#### Public nuisance

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

We were so relieved to hear after the 2024 event that regular Nozstock music events were being stopped. The nosie levels are so incredible and continue for hour after hour through the day and night, on one occasion going on to 4am. We, and our friends and neighbours, are totally unable to sleep. The music just booms and we can hear the shrieking voices of the performers on stage due to the amplitude of the microphone and loud speaker systems. Closing windows does not mitigate the nosie sufficiently and so we endure three nights of sleep deprivation. There has also been unruly behaviour from people who must live in the locality, during the early hours when the days events have ceased. We have been woken up by shouting and unruly behaviour from people walking through Edwyn Ralph. There is no respite during the day as the music starts again. It takes away all enjoyment being in the garden or sitting outside. Most of us are forced to stay indoors, despite the weather being hot. Imagine our dismay and disappointment to hear about an application to hold events each day of the week. This will be too intrusive for those of us who moved to rural Herefordshire for the beautiful countryside and the peace and quiet of Nature. I'm afraid my partner and I have already been talking about selling and moving if this licence was to be passed. We have been tempted to make compalints to Environmental Health officers when Nozstock takes place but fear this will go on record and lead to retaliatory behaviour from some and we will be required to inform potential buyers. My partner and I are in our mid-sixties. I am retired and my partner, a medical doctor, lectures online from his study. He is very concerned about the noise disruption this application will produce and it's effect on his important work. We had hoped to retire here for the remainder of our lives but we are seriously reconsidering this decision in light of this application. It is barely tolerable for one weekend per year but the granting of this application would be awful.

Suggest any conditions:

#### Protection of children from harm

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

I am aware that families with young children have attended Nozstock in nprevious years. I have written of my concerns about alcohol consumption, illecit drug-taking and unruly, disruptive behaviour above. Young and vulnerable children exposed to this inevitably will be traumatised in some way. Some adolscents may even be tempted to follow suit. I belive this is potentially harmful to children's physical and emotional well-being. I hope their parents are sensible and act responsibly but this cannot be regulated and controlled unfortunately. Children acn get separated from their parents or possibly left alone for parents to attend late night music. If this was to occur there is the real danger of harm to the children in some form or other. The very young have no say in matters such as this. The parents make th decision to go and whilst I'm sure there are some child-friendly peripheral events many people act inappropiately at music events and children are again exposed to this. My partner ceratinly wouldn't want his grandchild to go to something like this. If events were to take place every day of the week can we be sure that older schoolchildren won't be tempted to play truant and attend? The other danger to children is the increase in traffic through bromyard and immediately outside Nozstock. My friends and I implore you to recognise the potential disruption and risks that such a licence would undoubtedly cause for local residents.

Suggest any conditions:

### Supporting evidence

What evidence do you have to support this information:

I have never attended the event because of the noise levels and disruption we all endure in our homes. Personal experience of the loud music and singing and the volume of traffic when travelling to and from bromyard though has been enough. My partner and I also saw an individual come out of Nozstock last year walking on the wrong side of the road towards Bromyard. He was dishevelled and unsteady and unaware of the traffic. Instead of walking on the verge he walked on the road. We had to slow quickly to manouevre around him.

From: Website <no-reply@herefordshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 31 May 2025 15:21

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

Subject: Online form received: Comment on licensing application

# Licensing - Comment on a licensing application FS719129983

Contact details
Name:
Address:
What is your interest in the premises you are making a representation about:

Name and address of premises you are making representation about:

Nozstock Ltd Rowden Paddock Winslow Bromyard HR7 4LS

Local resident

# Prevention of crime and disorder

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

An event such as this continuing to serve alcohol until the early hours will undoubtedly encourage excessive alcohol consumption, illegal drug taking and subsequent disorderly behaviour. There are a number of properties in the near neighbourhood, including ours, that could become the target for crime whilst police and other emergency services attention is focused at Nozstock. A licence to allow this event every day of the week up until 03:00 hours on some days is irresponsible and ignores the effect this will have on the local community. There are many elederly people who live alone in Edwyn Ralph, including our neighbour, who, I'm sure, will feel threatened and vulnerable if this application was to be granted.

Suggest any conditions:

### Public safety

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Each year during Nozstock weekend the volume of traffic on the road outside both entering and exiting the event is excessive. The B4214 is a very busy road being the

main road between Tenbury and Bromyard. The road is narrow and winding with a lot of heavy farm machinery using it regularly. The traffic build up at Nozstock entrance forms a long queue and and blocks throughfare on the road. This is compounded by the installation of traffic lights to control the volume of traffic. This creates a risk to public safety particularly for residents who have to use the road every day. This application is for events each day of the working week and weekends. This will undoubtedly have a detrimental effect on the flow of traffic to and from Bromyard our nearest town for shops and amenities.

Suggest any conditions:

#### **Public nuisance**

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Each year when Nozstock is due to start we brace ourselves in preparation. It interferes with what is a normally tranquil life and we find ourselves having to endure the event. The noise levels are truly excessive and invade everything. On one occcasion the noise continued to almost 4am. We were annoyed and dismayed. We have experienced this event for four years now trying to cope with the traffic jams, the constant noise and unruly behaviour of those who attend. It is impossible to sleep until the constant booming noise and shouting using the microphone have stooped. We have to shut our windows when it is hot and sultry as this takes place during the height of Summer. This has a negative effect on our physical and meantal wellbeing. In fact we know of people who arrange to go away during the same time. There is no enjoyment in being outside and trying to have a relaxing day in the garden. We find the noise and din intrusive. My partner and I are in our mid-sixties and came to Edwyn Ralph to enjoy a peaceful and relaxing time in our later years. To now be faced with an application for such an event seven days a week is harrowing to contemplate. I am a doctor who still works. This will undoubtedly impact my concentration and work as I lecture and teach others on line from my study. During previous Nozstock weekends we have also been disrubed by rowdy behaviour from young people walking through Edwyn Ralph during the early hours. This only occurs when Nozstock is taking place. This application is not just for an event over a single weekend once a year. It is for every day of the week including schooldays. This will impact everyone in the vicinity, particularly those who have young children, the elderly and the working population. I strongly object to this application. In fact if it was to be granted I would seriously contemplate moving. That, in itself, may effect the sale of the property as it will need to be declared to potential buyers. This may put buyers off and could reduce the asking price. I'm sure people who don't live here will hear about it and will likely put them off purchasing in the area.

Suggest any conditions:

#### Protection of children from harm

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

# Supporting evidence

What evidence do you have to support this information:

My past personal experience. I have been concerned about complaining to the environmental health authority due to the need to declare this in a future sale of our home. To be honest I am very upset to hear about this application. This area is wholly unsuitable for such an event and I would appeal to you to reject this application forthwith. Thank you.

From: Website <no-reply@herefordshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 05 June 2025 08:20

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

Subject: Online form received: Comment on licensing application

Licensing - Comment on a licensing application FS720515865
Contact details
Name:
Address:
What is your interest in the premises you are making a representation about:

Local resident for some of the year

Name and address of premises you are making representation about: Nozstock festival Rowden Paddocks Winslow Herefordshire HR7 4LS

### Prevention of crime and disorder

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest any conditions:

# **Public safety**

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest	any	condition	s:
00			_

#### Public nuisance

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

The noise last year was horrendous, (I was told that last year was the last festival) there are no dates given, just the times in the application notification received on the 15-05-25, so this licensee application could be for 7 days per week all year, the times stated in the application ranging from 10:00 to 03:00 for live music, recorded live music, comedy performances, late night refreshments and supply of alcohol, are very ambiguous, and would be very detrimental to health and wellbeing of surrounding residents.

If this application is for one weekend per year, then as the previous festival was for I would have no objections, but as previously stated, this application is very open ended and not clear in the intentions

Suggest any conditions:

#### Protection of children from harm

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest any conditions:

# Supporting evidence

What evidence do you have to support this information:

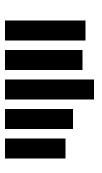
From:

Sent: 10 June 2025 12:04

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

Subject: OBJECTION TO NOZSTOCK, ROWDEN PADDOCKS PREMISES LICENSE APPLICATION

Importance: High



Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Objection to Premises Licence Application – Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, Bromyard, Herefordshire, HR7 4LS.

I am writing to formally object to the proposed premises licence application for Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, which seeks permission to host live music, recorded music, comedy performances/performance art, the provision of late-night refreshments, and the supply of alcohol.

My objection is based on the grounds of Prevention of Crime & Disorder, Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance and the Protection of Children from Harm.

As a resident living nearby in this quiet rural area, I am extremely concerned about the impact this proposal would have on the local community if they are granted the license with the list of timings and activities as per their application.

The proposed activities and timings —particularly those involving live and recorded music and alcohol late into the night—pose a serious risk of noise nuisance and disruption.

This is a peaceful and family-oriented area, and the introduction of loud music and events running until 3am will disturb residents' sleep, increase antisocial behaviour, and negatively impact the wellbeing of children and families living nearby.

There is also a significant elderly population in the area, many of whom are especially vulnerable to noise and late-night disruption. Sudden loud music, disturbances from guests leaving the premises, and ongoing late-night activity can cause considerable stress to older residents, whose health and quality of life must be protected.

In addition to concerns about public nuisance and the protection of both children and the elderly, I would also like to raise issues under the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety.

Events of the nature proposed, particularly those involving alcohol being served until **2am**, increase the potential for disorderly conduct, antisocial behaviour, and criminal activity. The combination of late-night alcohol consumption, lack of transport options, and large gatherings creates a situation in which safety risks are significantly heightened.

Without proper control or a visible security presence, such events can quickly lead to disturbances, aggressive behaviour, and altercations - particularly as attendees leave the venue in the early hours. This has been observed during previous events where loud confrontations and intoxicated individuals have posed a concern for both local residents and their property.

The lack of public transport infrastructure in this rural location raises serious questions about how guests will safely leave the premises at such a late hour. With no buses or adequate taxi services operating at that time, there is a very real risk of:

- Unsafe driving by those under the influence
- Congregation and loitering near homes while waiting for lift or taxis
- Parking congestion and traffic problems on narrow rural roads

Furthermore, emergency access in rural areas such as ours is more limited than in urban centres, and increased traffic or road obstruction from these events could hinder emergency services from reaching those in need.

These factors present a real risk to both crime prevention and public safety and further reinforce my view that this application should be refused.

I would also like to highlight my own personal experience of events previously held at this premises, such as the Noztock Festival. On those occasions, I have either felt compelled to leave my home entirely to escape the disturbance, or have had my sleep significantly disrupted by loud, ongoing music and the shouting and screaming of attendees late into the night. These past experiences demonstrate the real and direct impact such events have on neighbouring residents and underline my concerns should this licence be granted.

In conclusion, I believe this application is wholly inappropriate for a rural setting such as ours. The risks to public peace, community safety, and the wellbeing of residents – particularly children and the elderly – are too great.

I respectfully urge the licensing authority to refuse this application.

Thank you for considering this objection.

Yours faithfully,

From:

**Sent:** 15 June 2025 19:22

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

Subject: Ref License application 15/05/2025 Nozstock HR74LS

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would like to convey my concern over the licensing application for the Nozstock premises.

My concern will be under the category of 'Public nuisance'.

Over the Sixteen years of living in Edwyn Ralph Nozstock though for the majority of time caused no issues, the days of the Nozstock festival and some similar functions were extremely loud and disruptive at times to our enjoyment of our garden and ability to sleep. Now with a new application for events of an unknown nature and time this is a major concern to us, based on the history of the noise in the past.

Yours Faithfully



From: Website <no-reply@herefordshire.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 15 June 2025 18:46

Contact details

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

**Subject:** Online form received: Comment on licensing application

# Licensing - Comment on a licensing application FS723204121

Contact deta	IIIS	
Name:	I	
Address:		

What is your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local resident

Name and address of premises you are making representation about: Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, HR7 4LS

# Prevention of crime and disorder

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest any conditions:

### **Public safety**

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest any conditions:

#### Public nuisance

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

My objections to this application primarily address the prevention of public nuisance objective. In addition, I have comments about the prevention of crime and disorder. I will be referencing HCC Statement of Licensing Policy 2020/25 throughout in support of my comments and will also refer directly to the submission form provided by the applicants. As per the Licensing Policy [21.13], my comments will bear in mind the following: 'Regard will be had to any history or likelihood of nuisance' and the need to 'avoid unreasonable disturbance to residents of the neighbourhood.' As such, I offer instances from previous, one-off annual Nostock festivals whilst also addressing the substantive and potentially open-ended changes to this pattern demanded by the new application. Applicants must 'take reasonable steps to prevent' any behaviour which might have a negative impact on the surrounding area. This is described as 'the dispersal of customers', obstruction of highways, or noise from the arrival and exit of attendees, all of which 'may extend beyond the immediate vicinity of the premises' [Licensing Policy 19.3 and 21.1. See also 21.12]. Prevention of public nuisance is a major concern for myself as well as many residents. Whilst some residents are in favour of the application, others in immediate proximity to the Hidden Valley site have been adversely affected during previous Nozstock festivals and other events such as weddings and will be increasingly vulnerable to such nuisance under the proposal to increase the number of such events. I experienced the misery of a weekend of hours of incredibly loud pounding music and shouting festival goers, which ran until 4am at last years "final" event day, resulting in little sleep for anyone in my household. In the same way, residents up to 5 miles away in any direction report disturbance. In addition, the lack of facility for dispersal of Nozstock guests affects myself and other neighbours. Public transport in this vicinity is nonexistent: there are no buses or taxi ranks, the B road is unlit, narrow and without pavements or marked verges, and last year as I travelled down to Bromyard and back during the final event weekend, I saw no less than 3 near misses involving Nozstock quests wandering along the side or middle of the B road as if it was a guiet country lane. when it is in fact a really busy route. In the past, fellow residents can also testify to loud revellers attempting to walk along this road at night or even attempting to sleep rough in our local church. The Hidden Valley website suggests there is a taxi firm travelling to and fro, but it should be noted that the nearby Rowden Abbey wedding venue provides advice on its website that there are only a 'restricted number [of taxis] available in such a rural location.'

Traffic management (lights) for previous festivals and their set up and dismantling days, blocks the road which is the main thoroughfare to and from Bromyard. The flow of traffic appeared poorly managed last year; the 3 way lights were not balanced to reflect the amount of traffic flowing up and down the B road being heavier than that leaving the site in the daytime. I saw people overtake me as I sat in the gueue to Bromyard, presumably

frustrated at the lengthy delays and thinking everyone else in font was waiting to turn into Nozstock site, which wasn't the case. That caused a lot of horn blasting and angry drivers; there was no-one at the gate monitoring the traffic lights at any point when I travelled past the entrance.

I can see nothing in this current application to show steps have been taken to prevent any of this in accordance with Section 13.3: the applicants' responsibility to show that nothing is 'detrimental to the licensing objectives.' Indeed, requesting extended food and drink serving hours well into the small hours does not suggest that customers will be leaving as events end, despite Licensing Policy, Section 21 indicating that whether outside or in temporary open structures this ought not to take place AFTER an event is over. Likewise, Section 21.11 advises that permitted open air activities – including tents and marquees – should finish by 11pm, and that earlier hours may be imposed in 'sensitive' or residential areas such as ours.

With this in mind, the wholly unreasonable impact on residents is clear from the current application. Many of us are work from home or have early starts. Some of us are elderly or just enjoy peace and quiet. We live here because we want our dark skies, and enjoy our abundant wildlife, our tranquil location. We keep pets, farmyard animals, horses, livestock. We enjoy owls and protected species like bats. All of these things are adversely affected by a proposal that calls for events to end at 2am on Fridays and Saturdays and Sunday through till 1am. According to this submission, we can expect live and recorded music, or any other event, throughout most of the day, both IN and OUT of doors until the early hours of the morning. This appears to contradict Section 21.11 requirements. We cannot enjoy our peaceful gardens or have friends and family over on any number of occasions during the summer months when we assume most largely outdoor activities will take place. Food and alcohol will be served BEYOND event closure times: Monday to Thursday until midnight, 2 hours after event finish, and 2am and 3am on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays. That is both indoors and outdoors, with customers not dispersed until those times, or potentially later. This will create unreasonable disturbance while the timings and nature of activities out of doors in particular are not realistic in a setting such as ours where sound carries far and wide and the Hidden Valley in fact sits high up over the surrounding countryside.

We are asked to tolerate live and recorded music, inside and out, amplified and unamplified. Special care is needed [21.5]to make music 'inaudible' in residences or otherwise minimise disturbance. At a public meeting on 9 June the applicants assured us that noise levels are continually monitored and they didn't expect it to be as loud as before but were vague about how that would be achieved; it was explained that people report many instances of intolerable noise level that disturbs sleep and affects well-being and the ability to work at home, impacting their business. Likewise, Policy states there is a duty to ensure 'noise or vibration causes no nuisance [21.18], and also that light pollution causes no nuisance [21.21]. Pounding music and revellers noise was clearly audible and discernible, through double glazing and closed windows, across a wide area, with myself and other residents unable to sleep and able to identify foul language, song lyrics and DJ sets. All of this appears contrary to licensing policy. Many residents chose to leave their homes during Nostocks annual event; we cannot even plan to leave for a weekend if this application succeeds thanks to its ambiguous nature.

The vague and open-ended details of this application are hugely concerning. In a BBC news article 18 July 2024, Ella Nosworthy said future events would not necessarily be musical; they could be 'anything really', an unspecific concept I feel is reflected in the failure of this application to give specifics or clear goals. All applicants are required to

adhere to licensing objectives and to show that the details of their application are enforceable, unequivocal, unambiguous [8.13]. This cannot be emphasised enough. Instead, this application asks for a permanent licence without end date to permit 5 events totalling no more than 10 days under the scope of permitted development, Class B. In fact, the 28 day permitted total must include all events PLUS their set up and dismantle times. So, even if we assume five events at say one day each plus associated staging we arrive at 15 in total and not the 10 days specified here. Other permutations are possible but they have not been specified and nor has the calculation included set up and dismantling, as per policy.

In addition, the Hidden Valley, Nostock website offers event space for hire to weddings, parties, corporate events and the like. There was a recent wedding event where music was heard at a number of places. There is no indication on this application of how such additional events might impact residents or if they form part of this submission. So too, what is meant by 'indoor' events and how does this conform to policy, including any planning requirements and change of use?

At a recent meeting on 9 June the applicants kindly offered to clarify the number, nature and duration of events and to allay public concerns over noise and nuisance. Despite lengthy questioning, they seemed unable to offer precise details. The applicants claim they are planning 'less events...for the moment' and suggest that everything is an experimental work in progress. This leaves me and indeed other residents without clarity about how our own lives might be negatively affected by the choices the applicants make, it's all quite a worry.

I note that Licensing Policy rightly supports events of this type for cultural benefits. It also strongly advises this is a balance against a 'duty' to protect and enhance the environment, to avoid 'material impact on a vicinity', and to take special consideration of 'tranquil rural surroundings whose amenity' demands protection [p.3]. I trust my concerns encourage careful consideration of this application. I am also alarmed at a web article, A history of Nozstock (2024), which boasts of how acts have always played late into the night often over their allocated time slots which is presumably why last year's festival played past 4am. I feel this does not bode well for future proposed timings. Nor does the avowed hype that 'we will party on the ...hills...the fields...the streets' and onto the moon. I therefore would like to request the rejection of this vague application in its current form and instead, ask that you require the applicant to provide clearer details of their plans for future events timings. I would also ask that you consider the rights of every person to have peace and respect for their home and private life ahead of commercial interest [Human Rights Act, Article 1 and 8]. Thank you for considering my comments.

Suggest any conditions:
Finish music by 11pm
Finish drink and food service by 11pm
Manage and monitor traffic access closely
Reduce volume and bass level of music

# Protection of children from harm

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest	anv	condition	าร:
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# Supporting evidence

What evidence do you have to support this information:

Please read the above submission - personal evidence is included but repeated here:

Public transport in this vicinity is non-existent: there are no buses or taxi ranks, the B road is unlit, narrow and without pavements or marked verges, and last year as I travelled down to Bromyard and back during the final event weekend, I saw no less than 3 near misses involving Nozstock guests wandering along the side or middle of the B road as if it was a quiet country lane, when it is in fact a really busy route. In the past, fellow residents can also testify to loud revellers attempting to walk along this road at night or even attempting to sleep rough in our local church.

The flow of traffic appeared poorly managed last year; the 3 way lights were not balanced to reflect the amount of traffic flowing up and down the B road being heavier than that leaving the site in the daytime. I saw people overtake me as I sat in the queue to Bromyard, presumably frustrated at the lengthy delays and thinking everyone else in font was waiting to turn into Nozstock site, which wasn't the case. That caused a lot of horn blasting and angry drivers; there was no-one at the gate monitoring the traffic lights at any point when I travelled past the entrance.

I experienced the misery of a weekend of hours of incredibly loud pounding music and shouting festival goers, which ran until 4am at last years "final" event day, resulting in little sleep for anyone in my household. Pounding music and revellers noise was clearly audible and discernible through double glazing and closed windows, across a wide area, with myself and other residents unable to sleep and able to identify foul language, song lyrics and DJ sets. Also see the web article, A history of Nozstock (2024), which boasts of how acts have always played late into the night often over their allocated time slots which is presumably why last year's festival played past 4am.

From: Website <no-reply@herefordshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 15 June 2025 18:40

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

**Subject:** Online form received: Comment on licensing application

# Licensing - Comment on a licensing application FS723199094

Contact details		
Name:		
Address:		

What is your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local Resident

Name and address of premises you are making representation about: Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, HR7 4LS

#### Prevention of crime and disorder

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest any conditions:

# **Public safety**

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest any conditions:

#### Public nuisance

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

My objections to this application primarily address the prevention of public nuisance objective. In addition, I have comments about the prevention of crime and disorder. I will be referencing HCC Statement of Licensing Policy 2020/25 throughout in support of my comments and will also refer directly to the submission form provided by the applicants. As per the Licensing Policy [21.13], my comments will bear in mind the following: 'Regard will be had to any history or likelihood of nuisance' and the need to 'avoid unreasonable disturbance to residents of the neighbourhood.' As such, I offer instances from previous, one-off annual Nostock festivals whilst also addressing the substantive and potentially open-ended changes to this pattern demanded by the new application. Applicants must 'take reasonable steps to prevent' any behaviour which might have a negative impact on the surrounding area. This is described as 'the dispersal of customers', obstruction of highways, or noise from the arrival and exit of attendees, all of which 'may extend beyond the immediate vicinity of the premises' [Licensing Policy 19.3] and 21.1. See also 21.12]. Prevention of public nuisance is a major concern for myself as well as many residents. Whilst some residents are in favour of the application, others in immediate proximity to the Hidden Valley site have been adversely affected during previous Nozstock festivals and other events such as weddings and will be increasingly vulnerable to such nuisance under the proposal to increase the number of such events. I experienced the misery of a weekend of hours of incredibly loud pounding music and shouting festival goers, which ran until 4am at last years "final" event day, resulting in little sleep for anyone in my household. In the same way, residents up to 5 miles away in any direction report disturbance. In addition, the lack of facility for dispersal of Nozstock

guests affects myself and other neighbours. Public transport in this vicinity is non-existent: there are no buses or taxi ranks, the B road is unlit, narrow and without pavements or marked verges, and last year as I travelled down to Bromyard and back during the final event weekend, I saw no less than 3 near misses involving Nozstock guests wandering along the side or middle of the B road as if it was a quiet country lane, when it is in fact a really busy route. In the past, fellow residents can also testify to loud revellers attempting to walk along this road at night or even attempting to sleep rough in our local church. The Hidden Valley website suggests there is a taxi firm travelling to and fro, but it should be noted that the nearby Rowden Abbey wedding venue provides advice on its website that there are only a 'restricted number [of taxis] available in such a rural location.'

Traffic management (lights) for previous festivals and their set up and dismantling days, blocks the road which is the main thoroughfare to and from Bromyard. The flow of traffic appeared poorly managed last year; the 3 way lights were not balanced to reflect the amount of traffic flowing up and down the B road being heavier than that leaving the site in the daytime. I saw people overtake me as I sat in the queue to Bromyard, presumably frustrated at the lengthy delays and thinking everyone else in font was waiting to turn into Nozstock site, which wasn't the case. That caused a lot of horn blasting and angry drivers; there was no-one at the gate monitoring the traffic lights at any point when I travelled past the entrance.

I can see nothing in this current application to show steps have been taken to prevent any of this in accordance with Section 13.3: the applicants' responsibility to show that nothing is 'detrimental to the licensing objectives.' Indeed, requesting extended food and drink serving hours well into the small hours does not suggest that customers will be leaving as events end, despite Licensing Policy, Section 21 indicating that whether outside or in temporary open structures this ought not to take place AFTER an event is over. Likewise, Section 21.11 advises that permitted open air activities – including tents and marquees – should finish by 11pm, and that earlier hours may be imposed in 'sensitive' or residential areas such as ours.

With this in mind, the wholly unreasonable impact on residents is clear from the current application. Many of us are work from home or have early starts. Some of us are elderly or just enjoy peace and quiet. We live here because we want our dark skies, and enjoy our abundant wildlife, our tranquil location. We keep pets, farmyard animals, horses, livestock. We enjoy owls and protected species like bats. All of these things are adversely affected by a proposal that calls for events to end at 2am on Fridays and Saturdays and Sunday through till 1am. According to this submission, we can expect live and recorded music, or any other event, throughout most of the day, both IN and OUT of doors until the early hours of the morning. This appears to contradict Section 21.11 requirements. We cannot enjoy our peaceful gardens or have friends and family over on any number of occasions during the summer months when we assume most largely outdoor activities will take place. Food and alcohol will be served BEYOND event closure times: Monday to Thursday until midnight, 2 hours after event finish, and 2am and 3am on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays. That is both indoors and outdoors, with customers not dispersed until those times, or potentially later. This will create unreasonable disturbance while the timings and nature of activities out of doors in particular are not realistic in a setting such as ours where sound carries far and wide and the Hidden Valley in fact sits high up over the surrounding countryside.

We are asked to tolerate live and recorded music, inside and out, amplified and unamplified. Special care is needed [21.5] to make music 'inaudible' in residences or

otherwise minimise disturbance. At a public meeting on 9 June the applicants assured us that noise levels are continually monitored and they didn't expect it to be as loud as before but were vague about how that would be achieved; it was explained that people report many instances of intolerable noise level that disturbs sleep and affects well-being and the ability to work at home, impacting their business. Likewise, Policy states there is a duty to ensure 'noise or vibration causes no nuisance [21.18], and also that light pollution causes no nuisance [21.21]. Pounding music and revellers noise was clearly audible and discernible, through double glazing and closed windows, across a wide area, with myself and other residents unable to sleep and able to identify foul language, song lyrics and DJ sets. All of this appears contrary to licensing policy. Many residents chose to leave their homes during Nostocks annual event; we cannot even plan to leave for a weekend if this application succeeds thanks to its ambiguous nature.

The vague and open-ended details of this application are hugely concerning. In a BBC news article 18 July 2024, Ella Nosworthy said future events would not necessarily be musical; they could be 'anything really', an unspecific concept I feel is reflected in the failure of this application to give specifics or clear goals. All applicants are required to adhere to licensing objectives and to show that the details of their application are enforceable, unequivocal, unambiguous [8.13]. This cannot be emphasised enough. Instead, this application asks for a permanent licence without end date to permit 5 events totalling no more than 10 days under the scope of permitted development, Class B. In fact, the 28 day permitted total must include all events PLUS their set up and dismantle times. So, even if we assume five events at say one day each plus associated staging we arrive at 15 in total and not the 10 days specified here. Other permutations are possible but they have not been specified and nor has the calculation included set up and dismantling, as per policy.

In addition, the Hidden Valley, Nostock website offers event space for hire to weddings, parties, corporate events and the like. There was a recent wedding event where music was heard at a number of places. There is no indication on this application of how such additional events might impact residents or if they form part of this submission. So too, what is meant by 'indoor' events and how does this conform to policy, including any planning requirements and change of use?

At a recent meeting on 9 June the applicants kindly offered to clarify the number, nature and duration of events and to allay public concerns over noise and nuisance. Despite lengthy questioning, they seemed unable to offer precise details. The applicants claim they are planning 'less events...for the moment' and suggest that everything is an experimental work in progress. This leaves me and indeed other residents without clarity about how our own lives might be negatively affected by the choices the applicants make, it's all quite a worry.

I note that Licensing Policy rightly supports events of this type for cultural benefits. It also strongly advises this is a balance against a 'duty' to protect and enhance the environment, to avoid 'material impact on a vicinity', and to take special consideration of 'tranquil rural surroundings whose amenity' demands protection [p.3]. I trust my concerns encourage careful consideration of this application. I am also alarmed at a web article, A history of Nozstock (2024), which boasts of how acts have always played late into the night often over their allocated time slots which is presumably why last year's festival played past 4am. I feel this does not bode well for future proposed timings. Nor does the avowed hype that 'we will party on the …hills…the fields…the streets' and onto the moon. I therefore would like to request the rejection of this vague application in its current form and instead, ask that you require the applicant to provide clearer details of their plans for

future events timings. I would also ask that you consider the rights of every person to have peace and respect for their home and private life ahead of commercial interest [Human Rights Act, Article 1 and 8]. Thank you for considering my comments.

Suggest any conditions:
Finish music by 11pm
Finish drink and food service by 11pm
Manage and monitor traffic access impact closely
Reduce volume and bass level of music

#### Protection of children from harm

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest any conditions:

# Supporting evidence

What evidence do you have to support this information:

Please read the above submission - personal evidence is included but repeated here:

Public transport in this vicinity is non-existent: there are no buses or taxi ranks, the B road is unlit, narrow and without pavements or marked verges, and last year as I travelled down to Bromyard and back during the final event weekend, I saw no less than 3 near misses involving Nozstock guests wandering along the side or middle of the B road as if it was a quiet country lane, when it is in fact a really busy route. In the past, fellow residents can also testify to loud revellers attempting to walk along this road at night or even attempting to sleep rough in our local church.

The flow of traffic appeared poorly managed last year; the 3 way lights were not balanced to reflect the amount of traffic flowing up and down the B road being heavier than that leaving the site in the daytime. I saw people overtake me as I sat in the queue to Bromyard, presumably frustrated at the lengthy delays and thinking everyone else in font was waiting to turn into Nozstock site, which wasn't the case. That caused a lot of horn blasting and angry drivers; there was no-one at the gate monitoring the traffic lights at any point when I travelled past the entrance.

I experienced the misery of a weekend of hours of incredibly loud pounding music and shouting festival goers, which ran until 4am at last years "final" event day, resulting in little sleep for anyone in my household. Pounding music and revellers noise was clearly audible and discernible through double glazing and closed windows, across a wide area, with myself and other residents unable to sleep and able to identify foul language, song lyrics and DJ sets. Also see the web article, A history of Nozstock (2024), which boasts of how acts have always played late into the night often over their allocated time slots which is presumably why last year's festival played past 4am.

From: Website <no-reply@herefordshire.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 15 June 2025 08:29

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

Subject: Online form received: Comment on licensing application

# Licensing - Comment on a licensing application FS723116173

Contact details
Name:
Address:
What is your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local resident
Name and address of premises you are making representation about: Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, Bromyard HR7 4LS
Prevention of crime and disorder
Give details of your objection or support for the application: Audiences of up to 500 people are planned. As with the previous Nozstock Festival, excited party-goers are noisy and inconsiderate to the needs and concerns of locals. Shouting and raucous behaviour will be beyond the control of the Licensees; though I believe that Licensees are legally responsible for any behaviour resulting from presence at their event, even after participants have left the immediate premises. This is likely to be worsened by the proposed extreme operating hours, and must be defined as 'disorder'.
Suggest any conditions:
Public safety
Give details of your objection or support for the application:
Suggest any conditions:

#### **Public nuisance**

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

History of events at this site includes several years of the Nozstock Festival. This has taken place during a single weekend annually. People in general are reasonably-minded and tolerant, so it may be argued that local residents have 'tolerated' the consequent disturbance rather than 'approving' it. However, that disturbance has been widespread. Despite the misleading slogan 'The Hidden Valley', the site is on a hill top, and sound cannot be suppressed. Music, including song lyrics, has regularly been clearly audible three or four miles away. To repeat that disturbance on multiple weekends is intolerable.

The current prospect is far different from the former annual event. The answers given on 9th June by the Nosworthys in response to questions and points raised were unconvincing. Concerns based on past experience of events at Rowden Paddocks were brushed aside rather than being satisfactorily answered. Attendees were simply told that they 'need not worry'.

As an example of concerns, the hours stated in the application indicate that catering is to continue until 3am on the nights of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. These suggested times are untenable in this environment. It has been a regular occurrence at the Nozstock Festival that the advertised hours, already late, have been exceeded; a record which is acknowledged on the Festival's own website. The web article A History of Nozstock (2024) actually boasts: "Once the acts had seen the farm for themselves...they would play on late into the night, running over their allotted times". We know: we noticed.

Even then, audience members will take time to leave, causing disturbance even later. The past record does not bear out the applicants' assurances.

This is a tranquil rural setting; a high proportion of people live here because of the peace and quiet, but that peace and quiet would be destroyed by the proposed operating hours. These concerns go beyond simple 'inconvenience'. Farmers with very early starts seven days a week, and even people working 'normal' hours, would be disrupted. People in the wide area affected who either work at home or earn their living by hosting activities there would be unable to continue their livelihoods because of the inevitable recurring noise and disturbance. Children will have their sleep disrupted, affecting their education as well as their general wellbeing; this is further highlighted below as Protection of Children from Harm.

There are also serious health concerns for some residents. The following is extracted from <a href="https://www.ac3filter.net/can-heavy-bass-affect-your-heart/">https://www.ac3filter.net/can-heavy-bass-affect-your-heart/</a> "For some individuals, particularly those with pre-existing heart conditions, attention to the intensity and duration of exposure to heavy bass is warranted. Studies have noted that while the temporary increase in heart rate and blood pressure may be harmless to most, it could present risks for others. Prolonged and repeated exposure to intense sound levels can contribute to negative cardiovascular effects over time. Physiologically, heavy bass can cause your body to experience sympathetic vibrations and may impact your heart rate due to the entrainment effect, where the body's biological rhythms synchronize to external rhythms, such as a thumping bass line. Loud and low-frequency sounds like heavy bass can cause short-term vascular constriction. This response temporarily narrows your blood vessels,

which can alter the normal flow of blood through your circulatory system. When you experience heavy bass, your systolic and diastolic blood pressure may increase. This response is typically your body reacting to the intensity and volume of the music. In individuals with underlying cardiovascular conditions, this could necessitate caution".

For certain professions hours are regulated for the sake of public safety – I know of an airline pilot living nearby, anyone driving professionally must by law have uninterrupted sleep, and there will be other examples. The hours stated in the Application are excessive, especially for several consecutive nights and at unpredictable intervals. By their own admission, the applicants will be seeking to expand their programme of bookings; this is understandable in terms of their commercial enterprise, but ignores any sense of consideration for others. One might expect such hours at a 'club' venue in the centre of a big city, but not at Winslow.

Public nuisance extends to lights as well as sound. For audience safety, it will be essential that the site is floodlit. As with noise factors, such permanent floodlights will affect residents' sleep patterns.

Although not strictly 'public nuisance', I believe the effect on the natural environment must also be considered, especially in these days when numbers of birds and other wild creatures are falling disastrously. The natural environment is also our environment; we damage it at our own peril. An article by Midstream Lighting (<a href="https://info.midstreamlighting.com/blog/floodlighting-and-wildlife">https://info.midstreamlighting.com/blog/floodlighting-and-wildlife</a>) tells us: "Light pollution...can have serious repercussions for migrating birds. // Particularly brightly-lit areas can also cause disorientation in certain bird species... Exhausted, those birds may then collide with buildings, or fall prey to urban predators such as cats and rats". Other species are protected from harm caused by lights and noise; some bat species are endangered, and one can hardly claim to be protecting them if one's behaviour in a rural setting is so clearly damaging.

Suggest any conditions:

#### Protection of children from harm

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

As mentioned above in my comments regarding noise, children will be among those impacted by the very late operation proposed, even more so by sequences of consecutive nights at repeated intervals. Constant disturbance and sleep deprivation have a detrimental effect on children's long-term well-being. I am also aware of a nearby residential care centre for young people, some of whom have conditions such as severe autism. As such, those young people are extra susceptible to be troubled by noise, causing difficulty to themselves and to the care staff.

Suggest any conditions:

# **Supporting evidence**

What evidence do you have to support this information: Long-term first-hand experience

From: Website <no-reply@herefordshire.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 15 June 2025 07:52

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

Subject: Online form received: Comment on licensing application

# Licensing - Comment on a licensing application FS723111071

Contact details
Name:
A deluce on
Address:
What is your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local resident
Name and address of premises you are making representation about: Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, Bromyard HR7 4LS
Prevention of crime and disorder
Give details of your objection or support for the application:
Suggest any conditions:
Public safety
Give details of your objection or support for the application:
Suggest any conditions:

#### **Public nuisance**

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

I am very concerned about the proposed licence application for Rowden Paddocks and wish to object to it. Licence Application of 15th May, headed Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, Bromyard HR7 4LS (no Reference number is apparent).

#### Public nuisance:

The Nozstock festival has been very disruptive to the local community affecting the every-day lives of all in the vicinity and can be heard at least from Collington, over the brow of the hill near the top of the next valley, and possibly further. Whilst the residents have tolerated the that festival we have certainly not welcomed it for the disruption to our lives. If this new licence was allowed it would increase that disruption to a point where it would not be possible to comfortably live in the vicinity without affecting the health, wellbeing and livelihoods of residents in the neighbourhood.

The noise levels are invasive to myself who lives 2 miles away so for those living nearer it is catastrophic. There are a lot of elderly residents who are affected to the point of being extremely worried for their future health and wellfare. This will increase with the events not being classed as festivals and so are not policed. The music from those that have taken place already exceed the time restriction but even after the event has finished there is the dispersal of the attendees. There is no public transport, or transport laid on by the event holders so these participants either drive or walk, both of which further reduce sleep of residents. The noise of many vehicles in a rural area at 2, 3, 4 o'clock in the morning does not allow for sleep. Other party goers walk, which with bars open for long hours ensures it is noisy and leads to disturbances as they pass residents property. Due to it being in a very rural area many of those working in the area work long hours 7 days a week starting early and with disturbed nights and lack of sleep it means their concentration whilst working large machinery is depleted which could result in accidents. Other people in the area work from home and thus noise throughout the day and evening, into the night disrupts their work.

The everyday man-made noise is light but mostly just of wildlife therefore any additional noise levels from such events disturbs greatly a large area of, not just humans, but the wildlife in this area, as well as farm animals and pets. The English countryside is increasingly depleted of its wildlife and so further disruption from noisy events puts that wildlife at even further risk. The very fact that this is a quiet area with dark skies which is needed for wildlife to thrive is an important reason this place is not appropriate to hold such events. The strong lights used at the events also reduce possibility of sleep and is disastrous for wildlife. Therefore I wish to object to this licence, not just for the late hours but whether it is through the day or on into the night it is disruptive to residents lives at all times.

I live in this rural area for my health, needing a quiet environment therefore even this far away the sound of the music, and voices over the loudspeakers disturbs my days and my nights with bedroom windows facing that direction. I work outdoors for long hours every day so cannot reduce it by being indoors.

Some people go away during Nozstock however most of the residents cannot afford to, cannot due to commitments or do not want to.

I would like to raise a serious health issue which may affect our elderly population but does indeed have serious concerns for my own family with hereditary heart issues, with

siblings being told to avoid heavy beat music. The excerpt from the following link explains this:

The following is extracted from <a href="https://www.ac3filter.net/can-heavy-bass-affect-your-heart/">https://www.ac3filter.net/can-heavy-bass-affect-your-heart/</a> "For some individuals, particularly those with pre-existing heart conditions, attention to the intensity and duration of exposure to heavy bass is warranted. Studies have noted that while the temporary increase in heart rate and blood pressure may be harmless to most, it could present risks for others. Prolonged and repeated exposure to intense sound levels can contribute to negative cardiovascular effects over time. Physiologically, heavy bass can cause your body to experience sympathetic vibrations and may impact your heart rate due to the entrainment effect, where the body's biological rhythms synchronize to external rhythms, such as a thumping bass line. Loud and low-frequency sounds like heavy bass can cause short-term vascular constriction. This response temporarily narrows your blood vessels, which can alter the normal flow of blood through your circulatory system. When you experience heavy bass, your systolic and diastolic blood pressure may increase. This response is typically your body reacting to the intensity and volume of the music. In individuals with underlying cardiovascular conditions, this could necessitate caution

# Suggest any conditions:

The only way I would find this acceptable is if the hours were shortened a lot, no later than dusk. The music was accoustic so sound reduced to a minimum. And stopping at dusk lights would not be needed.

# Protection of children from harm

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Protection of children from harm:

The licence should also be refused on the grounds of harm to the health and well-being of children.

The licence includes evenings followed by school day which means any children may have disrupted nights followed by an inability to properly partake in their school day. Rowden Paddocks is very close by is Rowden House School which is a special needs home providing care and education for children and young people between 11 and 19 years, with severe learning difficulties and challenging behaviour. This provides a safe and stable environment however loud noise do upset some of these vulnerable youngsters resulting in incidents causing harm to themselves and to staff.

In summery: the proposed events will have adverse affects on the everyday lives of all the residents in the area and is a wholly unsuitable place for such disruptive events and therefore should be refused.

Suggest any conditions:

# Supporting evidence

What evidence do you have to support this information:

Evidence is based upon long term personal experience and that of the community due to previous events held at Rowden Paddocks of both the Nozstock Festival and other events since.

From: Website <no-reply@herefordshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 14 June 2025 21:43

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

**Subject:** Online form received: Comment on licensing application

Licensing - Comment on a licensing application FS723084130
Contact details
Name:
Address:
What is your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: Local resident
Name and address of premises you are making representation about: Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, HR7 4LS
Prevention of crime and disorder
Give details of your objection or support for the application:
Suggest any conditions:

# **Public safety**

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Concerns over the extra traffic and risk to attendees walking on the B4212 to and from the venue, this has been an issue with Nozstock previously. Please note that B4214 does not have any public footpaths or street lighting.

Concerns over potential alcohol related incidents, as they are proposing to start serving alcohol each day of the week from 10:00 to 00:00 (Mon-Thurs) and 02:00 (Fri-Sun), with an additional request to provide light refreshments on Fri, Sat, Sun until 03:00. This increases the likelihood of public safety risk and public nuisance

# Suggest any conditions:

The dates should be fixed annually and distributed locally for all residence in a 5 mile radius. Hours should be inline with public houses and other local event venues and not withstanding this no later than 1am. Hours should also not runover from Sunday to Monday, unless on a Bank Holiday. Traffic control should be in place due to the location of the venues entrance to the B4214.

Please note that B4214 does not have any public footpaths or street lighting.

#### **Public nuisance**

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

The noise and light pollution from the venue has been an issue in the past. However, local residents have been fully aware of the timings and where needed have prepared themselves in advance. This application is extending the days of operation past the previous 4 day events with only a few dates made clear to the public.

Concerns over potential alcohol related incidents, as they are proposing to start serving alcohol each day of the week from 10:00 to 00:00 (Mon-Thurs) and 02:00 (Fri-Sun), with an additional request to provide light refreshments on Fri, Sat, Sun until 03:00. This increases the likelihood of public safety risk and public nuisance.

#### Suggest any conditions:

The dates should be fixed annually and distributed locally for all residence in a 5 mile radius. Hours should be inline with public houses and other local event venues and not withstanding this no later than 1am. Hours should also not runover from Sunday to Monday, unless on a Bank Holiday.

#### Protection of children from harm

Give details of your objection or support for the application:

Suggest any conditions:

### Supporting evidence

What evidence do you have to support this information:

On each event my right to sleep has been disrupted by the noise of the music and the crowds escaping from the location.

Light shows have disrupted the dark skies and disrupted sleep patterns of residents and domestic animals.

The event has previously publicly declared that Artists run over their set times.



#### Dear Sir/Madam

# Re Grant of a premises licence at Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, HR7 4LS

We are writing to register our opposition regarding the above proposal. Our objection is based on the prevention of public nuisance objective, together with concerns regarding the prevention of crime and disorder.

We live very near to 'Nozstock', so close, in fact, that the noise of the festival causes our windows to rattle, the lights are very bright, and it is impossible to get any sleep until the noise stops. We cannot hold personal social events, enjoy our outdoor space, and I cannot operate any of my weekend or evening classes during this time, as its impossible to work for the noise. In addition, we have had raucous groups of people walking up and down our busy road [Tenbury Road], and dropping litter, as well as challenging us as we go about our daily life. As older people, living in a rural area, we also feel quite vulnerable to the possibility of break in and theft.

However, we recognise the need for others to operate their business, and the fact that the festival did bring business to the area – and so we worked our diary around this particular event.

The prospect of a licence being granted for these events to be offered throughout the year however, is terrible for me, from both a personal and business perspective as we are informed by Mr. Nosworthy that there is the proposal of up to 10 events per year. This equates to almost one per month!

We are told that by Mr Nosworthy, that we will not be able to hear these proposed events. We find it difficult to accept this. It is unimaginable that he will use different amplification equipment for these new events, he would clearly want to continue using the considerable array of professional sound equipment already at his disposal. We find it equally difficult to imagine that he will reduce the amplification on existing equipment. Indeed, the proposal allows for outside amplification at any of his events should he so choose.

I am a teacher of holistic therapy, meditation, spiritual practice, and self-development. I have worked hard over 25 years of living here to build a small but thriving business, that offers highly regarded, accredited courses and retreats, and relies on the peaceful tranquillity of the countryside. It's why we moved here. The USP [unique selling point] of my business hinges on my location – a rural sanctuary in the beautiful Herefordshire countryside where people can come and learn in a small group. People come from all over the country and stay in local accommodation to attend my peaceful events.

My events are sought after, and so I prepare my calendar up to one year in advance. If this licence were granted and I only had 3 months prior notice, then my calendar would be in disarray, as I would have to reschedule events that clashed with a Nozstock event – it is impossible to run my events when Nozstock is operating. This would cause me to appear unreliable, and unprofessional – and lead to cancelled bookings. It is unreasonable for me to only publish events 3 months in advance, as it takes time for people to respond to marketing.

In reality this could be happening very regularly throughout the year. I only run classes in the evening and at weekends- its not an option for me to offer them on weekdays as people are not available to attend. The reality is that I would be unable to work on virtually one weekend per month. This would significantly impact my income.

This of course, pre-supposes that the events would be spaced regularly throughout the year – although Mr. Nosworthy has already said that in all likelihood, events will cluster around the Summer months – which is when I too am most busy. This would mean that an even worse scenario would be present – the prospect of entire months when I could not work, and we would be dogged by loud music, unwelcome traffic noise, and intrusive lighting, ruining our peaceful Summertime.

Our daily lives will be significantly impacted, with noise and light pollution and the addition of traffic nuisance – delays are caused by the temporary traffic lights that are installed during his events.

The risk of theft and burglary is heightened, and the danger to the significant number of people walking in the lane late at night is also a health and safety risk.

This whole issue is impacting on my mental health, as someone who lives with a very low tolerance to stress and anxiety.

We object to the proposal completely in its current form.

Yours Faithfully

Comments on premises licence application at Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, HR7 4LS.

I live in in Edwyn Ralph and wish to object to the above application and will focus on the prevention of public nuisance objective and add remarks with regard to the prevention of crime and disorder. I reference HCC Statement of Licensing Policy 2020/25 throughout to evidence comments and also refer to the submission form provided by the applicants. As far as I am aware, that form cannot now be altered, only withdrawn, so my evidence is based on what I can see within it. As per the Licensing Policy [21.13], my comments will take note of the following: 'Regard will be had to any history or likelihood of nuisance' and the need to 'avoid unreasonable disturbance to residents of the neighbourhood.' In this response I offer my own experience of previous Nostock festivals whilst also addressing the many changes demanded by the new application which are also open ended.

I believe there are breaches of regulation regarding licensing policy. This is not about the principle of such events and is therefore neither an endorsement or otherwise of Nostock. Popular support is irrelevant if this application form has not adhered to policy. Likewise, there is an overriding duty to address and act upon the very real and serious effect such events have upon many residents, myself included. An annual event, as in the past, may be tolerated. However, the open ended and more frequent nature of this proposal has a substantial and detrimental affect on the amenity and privacy of many people.

Applicants must 'take reasonable steps to prevent' any behaviour which might have a negative impact on the surrounding area. This is described as 'the dispersal of customers',

obstruction of highways, or noise from the arrival and exit of attendees, all of which 'may extend beyond the immediate vicinity of the premises' [Licensing Policy 19.3 and 21.1./ also 21.12]. Prevention of public nuisance is a major concern. I am concerned that, as this application stands, that proposal to increase the number of events makes my home increasingly vulnerable to such nuisance. Past experiences have resulted in intolerable levels of noise and vibration being heard/felt through closed double glazed windows. Even with windows closed songs, are easily recognised through actual lyrics as can DJs whipping up the crowd. At other times, the distorted noise and thumping bass is virtually continual and disturbs my sleep with adverse effects on health and well being – especially as I suffer from migraines which I have prescribed medication for. Light pollution from the site likewise which I observed in the early hours of the morning last year despite thick curtains. Last year music overran licensing and continued till 4.30 a.m. I can see no firm guarantees that future events will not do the same.

There is also a lack of required facility for dispersal of customers which affects even those of us further away. Transport in this vicinity is inadequate with no taxi ranks, no public transport, an unlit narrow and potentially dangerous B road without pavements or marked verges. The Hidden Valley website suggests there is a taxi firm travelling between Hereford and the site, or else charged parking on their site but this is inadequate in my view. Rowden Abbey wedding venue evidences this with advice on its website that there is only a 'restricted number [of taxis] available in such a rural location.'

Traffic management (lights) for previous single event festivals, and their set up and dismantling days, blocks the road which is the main thoroughfare to Bromyard. It causes unacceptable delay people like me needing to travel, while lights on all night and/or car movement, whether 200 or 1,00 extra vehicles in such an underpopulated area disturbs many residents like me. I travel from Edwyn Ralph to Bromyard 7 days a week. Traffic from the site, especially night movement when sound and lights travel far, disrupts sleep and the general peace and quiet and even wildlife, all of I have also heard loud revellers presumably walking along this road at night in the past or even attempting to sleep rough in our local church.

The current application will have a clear and unreasonable impact on residents. I do not consider that this current application shows steps have been taken to prevent any of this in accordance with Section 13.3: the applicants' responsibility to show that nothing is 'detrimental to the licensing objectives.' This application requests that extended food and drink serving hours can go well into the small hours and so do not suggest that customers will be leaving as events end, despite Licensing Policy, Section 21 indicating that whether outside or in temporary open structures this ought not to take place AFTER an event is over. Likewise, Section 21.11 advises that permitted open air activities – including tents and marquees – should finish by 11pm, and that earlier hours may be imposed in 'sensitive' or residential areas such as ours.

Along with my family members, I chose to live here for the fabulous dark skies, abundant wildlife and tranquil location. I keep pets, live right next to farmyard animals, horses, livestock, hearing enjoy owls and watching protected species like bats in my garden. All of these things are affected by a proposal that calls for events to end at 2 am on Fridays and Saturdays and Sunday through till one am. According to this submission, we can expect live and recorded music, or any other event, throughout most of the day, both IN and OUT of doors until the early hours of the morning. Weekends may be disrupted, as will our Sunday

evenings ahead of a working week. We cannot enjoy our gardens or have friends and family over on any number of occasions during the summer months when we assume most largely outdoor activities will take place. Last year but one, past experience of the noise and nuisance which appears to have gradually increased over the years, led us to decide to vacate our home for the weekend during the Nozstock festival. Last year when, once again my birthday fell during the Nozstock Festival period, I had to deliberately arrange my birthday celebration, when family would be staying at our home for the weekend after. According to the application, Food and alcohol will be served BEYOND event closure times: Monday to Thursday until midnight, 2 hours after event finish, and 2 and 3 am Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays. That is both indoors and outdoors, with customers not dispersed until those times, or potentially later. This unreasonable disturbance benefits only the applicant and not the wider community while the timing and nature of activities, out of doors in particular, is entirely unrealistic in a setting such as ours where sound carries far and wide and the Hidden Valley in fact sits high up over the surrounding countryside. Such activities have far less impact in urban or densely populated residential areas. They matter a great deal in a sensitive location like ours. Yet on a trip to central Hereford today I noticed two signs advertising events finishing much earlier than this application would allow: Jamfest on 28th June at Hereford Leisure Centre finishes at 11.30pm according to the notice and a 90s Rave Festival at Hereford Racecourse on 26th July finishes at midnight. If, by any chance this application can be altered, then a similar compromise would at least alleviate some of the

Licensing policy, including that outlined on the government website, demands that special care is needed [21.5]to make music 'inaudible' in residences or otherwise minimise disturbance. Yet we are asked to tolerate live and recorded music, inside and out, amplified and unamplified. At a public meeting on 9 June the applicants assured us that noise levels are continually monitored; nevertheless, people like myself report many instances of intolerable noise level that disturbs sleep and affects well being. Likewise, Policy states there is a duty to ensure 'noise or vibration causes no nuisance' [21.18], and also that light pollution causes no nuisance [21.21]. I have already outlined how past festivals have impacted my household so that music and noise are clearly audible and discernible, contrary to licensing policy.

issues.

The vague and open-ended details of this application are hugely concerning. In a BBC news article 18 July 2024, Ella Nosworthy said future events would not necessarily be musical; they could be 'anything really', an unspecific concept I feel is reflected in the failure of this application to give specifics or clear goals. All applicants are required to adhere to all 4 licensing objectives together and to show that the details of their application are 'enforceable, unequivocal, unambiguous' [8.13]. I cannot emphasise this enough. Instead, this application asks for a permanent licence without end date to permit 5 events totalling no more than 10 days under the scope of permitted development, Class B. In fact, the 28 day permitted total policy must include all events PLUS their set up and dismantle times. So, even if we assume five events at say one day each, plus associated staging, we arrive at 15 in total and not the 10 days specified here. Other permutations are possible but they have not been specified and nor has the calculation included set up and dismantling, as per policy. Equally, dates of events are not listed on this application.

In addition, the Hidden Valley/Nostock website offers event space for hire to weddings, parties, corporate events and the like. There was a recent wedding event where music was

heard at a number of places There is no indication on this application of how such additional events might impact residents or if they form part of this submission. Do they form part of the up to 5 events/up to 10 days on the application? What too is meant by 'indoor' events and how does this conform to policy, including any applicable planning requirements? At a recent meeting on 9 June the applicants kindly offered to clarify the number, nature and duration of events and to allay public concerns over noise and nuisance. Despite questioning, they seemed unable to offer precise details. An advertised event for the 19 July has already sold tickets. The applicants assured those present that this satisfies the 3 month advance notice requirement and yet the start date of their application is signed 6 May, not the April 19 necessary for the 3 month notice period. Regardless of the 3 month period, a letter on the gate of Rowden Paddocks gives the date of the application of submission as 20th May. This surely is an anomaly and reason for this application to be rejected?

At this meeting a two day event on 3 and 4 August was mentioned They did not mention a currently advertised one day food and music BBQ on Saturday 16 August. How are they permitted to advertise such events PRIOR to licence being granted? If they do not specify the events on the application how are we to plan our lives or keep track of the number and type of events? I regard such matters as important, if only to demonstrate a courtesy and willingness to work with and not against the community. Guidances note 10 of the licensing form requires applicants to list steps being taken to promote the 4 licensing objectives. Here the applicant merely notes 'no noise shall emanate from the premises.' Where are the concrete steps telling us exactly how this will be prevented to the satisfaction of those of us who have expressed concerns?

The applicants claim they are planning 'less events...for the moment' and suggest that everything is an experimental work in progress. This may well be an acceptable commercial business model. But it leaves residents without clarity about how their own lives might be affected by the choices the applicants make.

This application process has already begun. The form submitted must now be considered as it stands in accordance with licensing authority regulations. I note that Licensing Policy rightly supports events of this type for cultural benefits. It also strongly advises this is a balance against a 'duty' to protect and enhance the environment, to avoid 'material impact on a vicinity', and to take special consideration of 'tranquil rural surroundings whose amenity' demands protection [p.3]. I trust our concerns encourage careful consideration of this application. The web article, A history of Nozstock (2024), boasts of how acts have always played late into the night often over their allocated time slots which is presumably why last year's festival played past 4.30 am. It does not bode well for future proposed timings. Nor does the avowed hype that 'we will party on the …hills…the fields…the streets …you ain't seen nothing yet.'

In conclusion, this is not about the popularity or benefits these planned events may or may not bring but I feel that the right outcome is one that rejects this application in its current form and which instead puts the rights of every person to have peace and respect for their home and private life ahead of commercial interest [Human Rights Act, Article 1 and 8]. Thank you for considering my comments.

Grant of a premises licence at Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, HR7 4LS. My objections to the above application relate to both the prevention of public nuisance objective and the prevention of crime and disorder. Throughout I reference Herefordshire Council Statement of Licensing Policy 2020/25 to support my objections to this application as well as referring directly to the submission form provided by the applicants. My understanding is the application cannot now be altered, only withdrawn. My objection and evidence are based solely on what has been submitted and my experiences as a resident of Edwyn Ralph.

As per the Licensing Policy [21.13], my comments will bear in mind the following: 'Regard will be had to any history or likelihood of nuisance' and the need to 'avoid unreasonable disturbance to residents of the neighbourhood.' As such, I provide instances from previous, one -off annual Nostock festivals whilst also addressing the substantive and open-ended changes to this pattern demanded by the new application.

Licensing Policy 19.3, 21.1, and 21.12 refer to applicants' responsibility to take reasonable steps to prevent any behaviour which might have a negative impact on the surrounding area. This is described as 'the dispersal of customers', obstruction of highways, or noise from the arrival and exit of attendees, all of which 'may extend beyond the immediate vicinity' of the premises. I object to this license being granted on these grounds. Previous Nostock festivals and events have created significant public nuisance. The proposal to increase the number of such events will create further public nuisance due to the lack of facility for dispersal of customers. The Hidden Valley website suggests there is a taxi firm travelling to and fro, or else charged parking on their site but this is wholly inadequate. Transport in this vicinity does not exist to facilitate the dispersal of customers from the Rowden Paddocks site. There are no taxi ranks, no public transport, an unlit narrow and potentially dangerous B road without pavements or marked verges upon which previous festival goers have wandered along creating not only a danger to themselves but also to residents going about their daily lives whilst such events take place. Rowden Abbey wedding venue evidences this with advice on its website that states there is only a 'restricted number [of taxis] available in such a rural location.'

Traffic management (lights) for previous single event festivals and their set up and dismantling days have blocked the road which is the main thoroughfare to Bromyard and from Bromyard to Tenbury. This causes unacceptable delay when I need to travel for work, complete my shopping or go about my daily life in an area in which I live.

Lights and/or car movement in the early hours disturbs sleep and impacts my ability to work the next day as well as the significant evidence that disturbed sleep contributes to both physical and mental health difficulties. This disturbance not only relates to cars but also loud revellers attempting to walk along the B road at night or even attempting to sleep rough in our local church.

There is nothing in this application to show steps have been taken to prevent any of this in accordance with Section 13.3: the applicants' responsibility to show that nothing is 'detrimental to the licensing objectives.'

The proposal is for extended food and drink serving hours into the small hours of the morning. By implication customers will not be leaving as events end in contravention of Licensing Policy, Section 21. Likewise, Section 21.11 is also contravened as permitted open air activities – including tents and marquees – should finish by 11pm, and that earlier hours may be imposed in 'sensitive' or residential areas such as ours.

Our county is hugely attractive to visitors wishing to enjoy our dark skies, our abundant wildlife, our tranquil location. I moved to this beautiful Herefordshire County for my mental health and well-being. The impact of this proposal is wholly unreasonable. According to this submission, I can expect live and recorded music, or any other event, throughout most of the day, both IN and OUT of doors until the early hours of the morning. Weekends will be disrupted, as will my Sunday evenings ahead of work. I will not be able to enjoy my garden in peace nor have friends and family over on any number of occasions during the summer months when it is likely most largely outdoor activities will take place. Food and alcohol will be served BEYOND event closure times: Monday to Thursday until midnight, 2 hours after event finish, and 2 and 3 am Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays. That is both indoors and outdoors, with customers not dispersed until those times, or potentially later. This is unreasonable disturbance. The timings and nature of activities out of doors are not realistic in this setting where sound carries far and wide and the Hidden Valley in fact sits high up over the surrounding countryside.

I am asked in this application to tolerate live and recorded music, inside and out, amplified and unamplified. My understanding of licensing policy is that special care is needed [21.5] to make music 'inaudible' in residences or otherwise minimise disturbance. At a public meeting on 9 June the applicants assured us that noise levels are continually monitored; nevertheless, I have experienced intolerable noise levels that have disturbed my sleep and affected my well-being. Likewise, Policy states there is a duty to ensure 'noise or vibration causes no nuisance' [21.18], and that light pollution causes no nuisance [21.21]. At last year's 'final' Nostock festival lights flashed across the night sky until 4 a.m. disturbing my sleep. Since living here, I have been subjected to music and noise clearly audible and discernible, through double glazing and closed windows. Across miles and a wide area, I have been able to identify song lyrics and DJ sets. All of this is contrary to licensing policy. Whilst not acceptable I have, and I know other residents have, previously vacated my home during Nostock. Should this application succeed, I cannot plan to do this even if I wanted to due to the ambiguous and somewhat disingenuous nature of what these events are, when they will be, and how long they will go on for. The vague and open-ended details of this application are a distinct worry. In a BBC news article 18 July 2024, Ella Nosworthy said future events would not necessarily be musical; they could be 'anything really'. Such an unspecific concept is reflected in the failure of this application to give specifics or clear goals.

I object to this application as all applicants are required to adhere to licensing objectives and to show that the details of their application are enforceable, unequivocal, unambiguous [8.13]. Instead, this application asks for a permanent licence without end date to permit 5 events totalling no more than 10 days under the scope of permitted development, Class B. In fact, the 28-day permitted total policy must include all events PLUS their set up and dismantle times. So, even if, by way of example, five events at say one day each plus associated staging arrive this is 15 in total and not the 10 days specified. Other permutations are also possible, but they have not been specified and nor has the calculation included set up and dismantling, as per policy.

In addition, the Hidden Valley/Nostock website offers event space for hire to weddings, parties, corporate events and the like. There was a recent wedding event where again music could be heard. There is no indication on this application of how such additional events might impact me or if indeed they form part of this submission. So too, a lack of clarity as to

what is meant by 'indoor' events and how does this conform to policy, including any planning requirements and change of use?

At a recent meeting on 9 June the applicants kindly offered to clarify the number, nature and duration of events and to allay public concerns over noise and nuisance. Despite questioning, they seemed unable to offer precise details. I understand an advertised event for the 19 July has already sold tickets. The applicants assured those present that this satisfies the 3-month advance notice requirement and yet the start date of this application is May, not April. The applicants claim they are planning 'less events...for the moment' and suggest that everything is an experimental work in progress. This may well be an acceptable commercial business model. But it leaves me without clarity about how my own life might be affected by the choices the applicants make.

This application process has already begun. The form submitted must now be considered as it stands in accordance with licensing authority regulations. I note that Licensing Policy rightly supports events of this type for cultural benefits. It also strongly advises this is a balance against a 'duty' to protect and enhance the environment, to avoid 'material impact on a vicinity', and to take special consideration of 'tranquil rural surroundings whose amenity' demands protection [p.3]. I trust my concerns and objections encourage careful consideration of this application. The web article, A History of Nozstock (2024), boasts of how acts have always played late into the night often over their allocated time slots which is presumably why last year's festival played past four am. It does not bode well for future proposed timings. Nor does the avowed hype that 'we will party on the …hills…the fields…the streets' and onto the moon.

The right outcome is one that rejects this application in its current form, and which instead puts the rights of every person to have peace and respect for their home and private life ahead of commercial interest [Human Rights Act, Article 1 and 8]. Thank you for considering my comments.

Grant of a premises licence at Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, HR7 4LS.

My objections to this application primarily address the prevention of public nuisance objective with additional remarks about the prevention of crime and disorder. I reference HCC Statement of Licensing Policy 2020/25 throughout to evidence comments and also refer directly to the submission form provided by the applicants. That form cannot now be altered, as far as I am aware, only withdrawn, so my evidence is based on what I can see within it. I live in the scattered rural hamlet of Edwyn Ralph. As per the Licensing Policy [21.13], my comments will bear in mind the following: 'Regard will be had to any history or likelihood of nuisance' and the need to 'avoid unreasonable disturbance to residents of the neighbourhood.' As such, I offer my own experience of previous annual Nostock festivals whilst also addressing the substantive and open-ended changes to this pattern demanded by the new application.

I begin by stating that my comments are also focused directly on what I believe are breaches of regulation regarding licensing policy. This is not about the principle of such events and hence it is not about any endorsement, or otherwise, of Nostock. Any popular support is

irrelevant to the material fact that this application form has not, in my view, fully adhered to policy. Likewise, there is an overriding duty to address and act upon the very real and serious effect such events have upon many residents, myself included. An annual event, as in the past, may be tolerated. The open ended and more frequent nature of this proposal substantially and detrimentally affects the amenity and privacy of many people. Applicants must 'take reasonable steps to prevent' any behaviour which might have a negative impact on the surrounding area. This is described as 'the dispersal of customers', obstruction of highways, or noise from the arrival and exit of attendees, all of which 'may extend beyond the immediate vicinity of the premises' [Licensing Policy 19.3 and 21.1. See also 21.12].

Prevention of public nuisance is a major concern. I am concerned that proposals to increase the number of events make my home increasingly vulnerable to such nuisance. In the past, our home has been subjected to intolerable levels of noise and vibration through closed double glazed windows. I can discern songs and DJ chants, hear some lyrics when the prevailing wind blows in our direction. The thumping bass disturbs my sleep with adverse effects on health and well being. Light pollution from the site likewise. Last year this overran licensing and continued till 4 am. I can see no firm guarantees that future events will not do the same (see later).

There is also a lack of required facility for dispersal of customers which affects even those of us further away. Transport in this vicinity is wholly inadequate with no taxi ranks, no public transport, an unlit narrow and potentially dangerous B road without pavements or marked verges. The Hidden Valley website suggests there is a taxi firm travelling to and fro, or else charged parking on their site but this is inadequate in our view. Rowden Abbey wedding venue evidences this with advice on its website that there is only a 'restricted number [of taxis] available in such a rural location.'

Traffic management (lights) for previous single event festivals, and their set up and dismantling days, blocks the road which is the main thoroughfare to Bromyard. It causes unacceptable delay people like me needing to travel, while lights on all night and/or car movement, whether 200 or 1,00 extra vehicles in such an underpopulated area disturbs many residents like me. I travel the Tenbury Road 7 days a week. Any traffic management impacts my daily life. Traffic from the site, especially night movement when sound and lights travel far, disrupts sleep and the general peace and quiet and even wildlife, all of which I enjoy here. I can also testify to loud revellers attempting to walk along this road at night in the past or even attempting to sleep rough in our local church.

I can see nothing in this current application to show steps have been taken to prevent any of this in accordance with Section 13.3: the applicants' responsibility to show that nothing is 'detrimental to the licensing objectives.' Indeed, extended food and drink serving hours go well into the small hours and so do not suggest that customers will be leaving as events end, despite Licensing Policy, Section 21 indicating that whether outside or in temporary open structures this ought not to take place AFTER an event is over. Likewise, Section 21.11 advises that permitted open air activities – including tents and marquees – should finish by 11pm, and that earlier hours may be imposed in 'sensitive' or residential areas such as ours. With this in mind, the wholly unreasonable impact on residents is clear from the current application. My partner works from home or else often has early starts. My sister and I are both retirement age, one of us with a long term health condition. We all moved here for the fabulous dark skies, abundant wildlife, our tranquil location. We keep pets, live right next to

farmyard animals, horses, livestock. We enjoy owls and protected species like bats. All of these things are adversely affected by a proposal that calls for events to end at 2 am on Fridays and Saturdays and Sunday through till one am.

According to this submission, we can expect live and recorded music, or any other event, throughout most of the day, both IN and OUT of doors until the early hours of the morning. Weekends may be disrupted, as will our Sunday evenings ahead of a working week. We cannot enjoy our gardens or have friends and family over on any number of occasions during the summer months when we assume most largely outdoor activities will take place. Food and alcohol will be served BEYOND event closure times: Monday to Thursday until midnight, 2 hours after event finish, and 2 and 3 am Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays. That is both indoors and outdoors, with customers not dispersed until those times, or potentially later. This unreasonable disturbance benefits only the applicant and not the wider community while the timing and nature of activities, out of doors in particular, is entirely unrealistic in a setting such as ours where sound carries far and wide and the Hidden Valley in fact sits high up over the surrounding countryside.

Such activities have far less impact in urban or densely populated residential areas. They matter a great deal in a sensitive location like ours. I cite, as instance, the Jamfest 28 June in Hereford ending at 11pm. A forthcoming 90s Rave Festival on 26 July at Hereford racecourse ends at midnight. How then is it acceptable for timings on this application to extend beyond what is reasonable and applicable even in less rural settings?

I also have another major concern regarding timings. The times I cite above are those on the application form. They do NOT correspond with timings cited and displayed on the application notice. Most notably, according to that, residents might expect to tolerate anything between 9 am and midnight, during the main working week, 9 till 2 am on Sunday as we prepare for a working week, and 9am till 3am Fridays and Saturdays! This is entirely unreasonable but equally does not satisfy a licensing requirement to be clear and unequivocal. Why are there 2 different notices in circulation?

Licensing policy, including that outlined on the government website, demands that special care is needed [21.5] to make music 'inaudible' in residences or otherwise minimise disturbance. Yet we are asked to tolerate live and recorded music, inside and out, amplified and unamplified. At a public meeting on 9 June the applicants assured us that noise levels are continually monitored; nevertheless, people like myself report many instances of intolerable noise level that disturbs sleep and affects well being. Likewise, Policy states there is a duty to ensure 'noise or vibration causes no nuisance' [21.18], and also that light pollution causes no nuisance [21.21]. I have already outlined how past festivals have impacted my household so that music and noise are clearly audible and discernible, contrary to licensing policy.

The vague and open-ended details of this application are hugely concerning. In a BBC news article 18 July 2024, Ella Nosworthy said future events would not necessarily be musical; they could be 'anything really', an unspecific concept I feel is reflected in the failure of this application to give specifics or clear goals. All applicants are required to adhere to all 4 licensing objectives together and to show that the details of their application are 'enforceable, unequivocal, unambiguous' [8.13]. I cannot emphasise this enough. Instead, this application asks for a permanent licence without end date to permit 5 events totalling no more than 10 days under the scope of permitted development, Class B. In fact, the 28 day permitted total policy must include all events PLUS their set up ands dismantle times. So,

even if we assume five events at say one day each, plus associated staging, we arrive at 15 in total and not the 10 days specified here. Other permutations are possible but they have not been specified and nor has the calculation included set up and dismantling, as per policy. Equally, dates of events are not listed on this application.

In addition, the Hidden Valley/Nostock website offers event space for hire to weddings, parties, corporate events and the like. There was a recent wedding event where music was heard at a number of places There is no indication on this application of how such additional events might impact residents or if they form part of this submission. So too, what is meant by 'indoor' events and how does this conform to policy, including any applicable planning requirements?

At a recent meeting on 9 June the applicants kindly offered to clarify the number, nature and duration of events and to allay public concerns over noise and nuisance. Despite questioning, they seemed unable to offer precise details. I have referred already to the anomalies on timings. An advertised event for the 19 July has already sold tickets. The applicants assured those present that this satisfies the 3 month advance notice requirement and yet the start date of their application is signed 6 May, not the April 19 necessary for the 3 month notice period. The form was submitted on 20 May. None of this seems consistent or clear. They mentioned a two day event on 3 and 4 August. They did not mention a currently advertised one day food and music BBQ on Saturday 16 August. How are they permitted to advertise such events PRIOR to licence being granted? If they do not specify the events on the application how are we to plan our lives or keep track of the number and type of events? I regard such matters as important, if only to demonstrate a courtesy and willingness to work with and not against the community. Guidance note 10 of the licensing form requires applicants to list steps being taken to promote the 4 licensing objectives. Here the applicant merely notes 'no noise shall emanate from the premises.' Where are the concrete steps telling us exactly how this will be prevented to the satisfaction of those of us who have expressed concerns?

The applicants claim they are planning 'less events...for the moment' and suggest that everything is an experimental work in progress. This may well be an acceptable commercial business model. But it leaves residents without clarity about how their own lives might be affected by the choices the applicants make.

This application process has already begun. The form submitted must now be considered as it stands in accordance with licensing authority regulations. I note that Licensing Policy rightly supports events of this type for cultural benefits. It also strongly advises this is a balance against a 'duty' to protect and enhance the environment, to avoid 'material impact on a vicinity', and to take special consideration of 'tranquil rural surroundings whose amenity' demands protection [p.3]. If 11 or just after as an end to an event is acceptable in urban Hereford, how is 3am in a rural location acceptable?

I trust my concerns encourage especially careful consideration of this application. The web article, A history of Nozstock (2024), boasts of how acts have always played late into the night often over their allocated time slots which is presumably why last year's festival played past four am. It does not bode well for future proposed timings. Nor does the avowed hype that 'we will party on the ...hills...the fields...the streets' and onto the moon.

I feel that the right outcome is one that rejects this application in its current form and which instead puts the rights of every person to have peace and respect for their home and private

life ahead of commercial interest [Human Rights Act, Article 1 and 8]. Thank you for considering my comments.



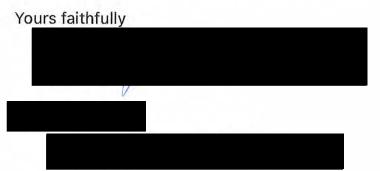


1st June, 2025

Dear sirs,

I've tried to send this form off a couple of times through the Herefordshire County Council but have struggled. I haven't received an acknowledgment so I thought it best to send a paper copy to ensure that you have received the information.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.



## Herefòrdshire.gov.uk

### Licensing - Comment on a licensing application

Use this service to make a representation about a licensing application. Anyone can make a representation, but to be considered it must relate to at least one of the four licensing objectives.

See guidance on making objections or respresentations (opens in new tab)

# Your details Title \* First name \* Last name \* Phone number Email \* Postcode search \*

Select your address. If you are out of county or cannot see the address, fill in your address below

What is your interest in the premises you are ma	aking a representation about *
For example, local resident, local business	aning a representation about
of example, recall recident, recall and an example	
Local resident	and the second s
	representation about *
Name and address of premises you are making	representation about *
Local resident  Name and address of premises you are making  Nozstock  Rowden Paddocks	representation about *
Name and address of premises you are making	representation about *
Name and address of premises you are making  Nozstock  Rowden Paddocks  Winslow	representation about *
Name and address of premises you are making  Nozstock  Rowden Paddocks	representation about *

### Disclosure of information

Your details will be disclosed to the applicant for the premises licence or their agent in accordance with the Secretary of States Guidance to Local Authorities and Section 182 Guidance of the Licensing Act 2003.

In exceptional circumstances, we may agree to withhold your name and full address but only if we consider that you have a genuine and well-founded fear of intimidation or violence. This will need documenting, and you should provide evidence to support this.

There are other ways that you could make your representation heard. For example, by passing your fears or concerns on to the responsible authorities or asking a ward councillor or parish councillor to represent you.

Which of the licensing objectives	does your representation relate to?	*
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Select all that apply

Prevention of crime and disorder

Public safety

Public nuisance

Protection of children from harm

### Prevention of crime and disorder

City details of jour enjoyment or eapport for the appropriate in tendencia to the enjoyment.

Increased availability of alcohol and extended opening hours will result in an increase in antisocial behaviour. This was all too evident during the Nozstock Festival when individuals who were clearly intoxicated would wander along the main road presenting a hazard to traffic. This was a recurrent problem. There was also a significant increase in litter and a number of attendees would sleep "rough" in our church. I object in these grounds.

Do you wish to suggest conditions under which you would be happy for the premises operate? *	to
Yes No	
Public safety	

Give details of your objection or support for the application in relation to this objective. \*

There will be a significant increase in traffic when the venue closes. Not only will this cause an increase in noise levels but will also lead to congestion on the B4214 which runs between Tenbury and Bromyard. The road is unlit and windy. Moreover there is no footway and the access to Rowden Paddocks is not clearly visible from the Tenbury direction. Dangerous situations may well arise. I object on these grounds.

Do you wish to suggest conditions under which you would be happy for the premises to operate? \*

Yes
No

### Public nuisance

Give details of your objection or support for the application in relation to this objective. \*

Extension of the live and recorded music license both on weekdays and weekends will result in a significant nuisance to the local residents. The topography of the area means that sound is transmitted long distances. Our property, which is on the far side of Edwyn Ralph, is affected by noise at Rowden Paddocks. This was an issue during the Nozstock Festival weekends when the noise was so bad it prevented us from sleeping. Clearly if this license is granted the potential for noise nuisance will increase dramatically resulting in sleep deprivation with its associated health implications. Furthermore it will have an effect on the peace and quiet of the countryside. Much of Edwyn Wood is ancient woodland and there are projects underway to rewild the area, notably at Edwyn Wylde. There is no doubt that the inevitable increase in noise pollution will adversely affect local wildlife.

I am particularly worried about the impact on our elderly community. We have a very high proportion of retirees living in our village, many of whom are in their 80s and 90s. All the concerns I have out lined above will have a disproportionate effect on their well-being. I object on these grounds.

operate? *	
◯ Yes ■ No	
Supporting evidence	
supporting evidence	
What evidence do you have to support the information	given?
	t agreement agreement and a second agreement a
Ipload evidence to support your representation	
Drop files here to upload -	Browse
Diop mes nere to upload -	
loc, .docx, .jpeg, .jpg, .jpe, .pdf	Uploaded: 0 of 3
you have any queries about this form or are unsur	
nds, contact Licensing on licensing@herefordshire.	.gov.uk
lead our privacy notice to see how we use your info	rmation.
Cancel	Submit
Carlott	Subilit

Grant of a premises licence at Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Winslow, HR7 4LS.



Our objections to this application primarily address the prevention of public nuisance objective. In addition, we have comments about the prevention of crime and disorder. We will be referencing HCC Statement of Licensing Policy 2020/25 throughout in support of our comments and will also refer directly to the submission form provided by the applicants. That form cannot now be altered, as far as we are aware, only withdrawn, so our evidence is based solely on what we can all see therein. By residents, our locality is within, but not limited to, the scattered rural hamlets of Edwyn Ralph and Thornbury and up to Moors Meadow Gardens. As per the Licensing Policy [21.13], our comments will bear in mind the following: 'Regard will be had to any history or likelihood of nuisance' and the need to 'avoid unreasonable disturbance to residents of the neighbourhood.' As such, we offer instances from previous, one -off annual Nostock festivals whilst also addressing the substantive and open-ended changes to this pattern demanded by the new application.

Applicants must 'take reasonable steps to prevent' any behaviour which might have a negative impact on the surrounding area. This is described as 'the dispersal of customers', obstruction of highways, or noise from the arrival and exit of attendees, all of which 'may extend beyond the immediate vicinity of the premises' [Licensing Policy 19.3 and 21.1. See also 21.12]. Prevention of public nuisance is a major concern for many residents. Whilst some residents are in favour of the application, others in immediate proximity to the Hidden Valley site have been adversely affected during previous Nostock festivals and other events such as weddings and will be increasingly vulnerable to such nuisance under the proposal to increase the number of such events. In the same way, residents up to 5 miles away in any direction report disturbance. For instance, the lack of facility for dispersal of customers affects even those of us further away. Transport in this vicinity is wholly inadequate with no taxi ranks, no public transport, an unlit narrow and potentially dangerous B road without pavements or marked verges. The Hidden Valley website suggests there is a taxi firm travelling to and fro, or else charged parking on their site but this is inadequate in our view. Rowden Abbey wedding venue evidences this with

advice on its website that there is only a 'restricted number [of taxis] available in such a rural location.'

Traffic management (lights) for previous single event festivals and their set up and dismantling days, blocks the road which is the main thoroughfare to Bromyard. It causes unacceptable delay to those needing to travel, while lights on all night and/or car movement, whether 200 extra vehicles in an underpopulated area or 1,00, disturbs nearby residents. In the past, many of us can testify to loud revellers attempting to walk along this road at night or even attempting to sleep rough in our local church.

We can see nothing in this current application to show steps have been taken to prevent any of this in accordance with Section 13.3: the applicants' responsibility to show that nothing is 'detrimental to the licensing objectives.' Indeed, extended food and drink serving hours go well into the small hours and so do not suggest that customers will be leaving as events end, despite Licensing Policy, Section 21 indicating that whether outside or in temporary open structures this ought not to take place AFTER an event is over. Likewise, Section 21.11 advises that permitted open air activities — including tents and marquees — should finish by 11pm, and that earlier hours may be imposed in 'sensitive' or residential areas such as ours.

With this in mind, the wholly unreasonable impact on residents is clear from the current application. Many of us are work from home or have early starts. Some of us are elderly or just enjoy peace and quiet. We like our Dark skies, our abundant wildlife, our tranquil location. We keep pets, farmyard animals, horses, livestock. We enjoy owls and protected species like bats. All of these things are adversely affected by a proposal that calls for events to end at 2 am on Fridays and Saturdays and Sunday through till one am. According to this submission, we can expect live and recorded music, or any other event, throughout most of the day, both IN and OUT of doors until the early hours of the morning. Weekends may be disrupted, as will our Sunday evenings ahead of work. We cannot enjoy our gardens or have friends and family over on any number of occasions during the summer months when we assume most largely outdoor activities will take place. Food and alcohol will be served BEYOND event closure times: Monday to Thursday until midnight, 2 hours after event finish, and 2 and 3 am Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays. That is both indoors and outdoors, with customers not dispersed until those times, or potentially later. This is unreasonable disturbance while the timings and nature of activities out of doors in particular are not realistic in a

setting such as ours where sound carries far and wide and the Hidden Valley in fact sits high up over the surrounding countryside.

We are asked to tolerate live and recorded music, inside and out, amplified and unamplified. Special care is needed [21.5] to make music 'inaudible' in residences or otherwise minimise disturbance. At a public meeting on 9 June the applicants assured us that noise levels are continually monitored; nevertheless, people report many instances of intolerable noise level that disturbs sleep and affects well being. Likewise, Policy states there is a duty to ensure 'noise or vibration causes no nuisance [21.18], and also that light pollution causes no nuisance [21.21]. Residents testify to last year's 'final' Nostock festival. Lights across the night sky until 4 am. disturbing residents and affecting animals. Music and noise clearly audible and discernible, through double glazing and closed windows, across miles and a wide area, with residents able to identify song lyrics and DJ sets. All of this is contrary to licensing policy. Many residents choose to leave their homes during Nostock; we cannot plan for that if this application succeeds thanks to its ambiguous and somewhat disingenuous nature.

The vague and open-ended details of this application are hugely concerning. In a BBC news article 18 July 2024, Ella Nosworthy said future events would not necessarily be musical; they could be 'anything really', an unspecific concept we feel is reflected in the failure of this application to give specifics or clear goals. All applicants are required to adhere to licensing objectives and to show that the details of their application are enforceable, unequivocal, unambiguous [8.13]. We cannot emphasise this enough. Instead, this application asks for a permanent licence without end date to permit 5 events totalling no more than 10 days under the scope of permitted development, Class B. In fact, the 28 day permitted total policy must include all events PLUS their set up ands dismantle times. So, even if we assume five events at say one day each plus associated staging we arrive at 15 in total and not the 10 days specified here. Other permutations are possible but they have not been specified and nor has the calculation included set up and dismantling, as per policy.

In addition, the Hidden Valley, Nostock website offers event space for hire to weddings, parties, corporate events and the like. There was a recent wedding event where music was heard at a number of places There is no indication on this application of how such additional events might impact residents or if they form part of this submission. So too, what

is meant by 'indoor' events and how does this conform to policy, including any planning requirements and change of use?

At a recent meeting on 9 June the applicants kindly offered to clarify the number, nature and duration of events and to allay public concerns over noise and nuisance. Despite questioning, they seemed unable to offer precise details. An advertised event for the 19 July has already sold tickets. The applicants assured those present that this satisfies the 3 month advance notice requirement and yet the start date of this application is May, not April. The applicants claim they are planning 'less events... for the moment' and suggest that everything is an experimental work in progress. This may well be an acceptable commercial business model. But it leaves residents without clarity about how their own lives might be affected by the choices the applicants make.

This application process has already begun. The form submitted must now be considered as it stands in accordance with licensing authority regulations. We note that Licensing Policy rightly supports events of this type for cultural benefits. It also strongly advises this is a balance against a 'duty' to protect and enhance the environment, to avoid 'material impact on a vicinity', and to take special consideration of 'tranquil rural surroundings whose amenity' demands protection [p.3]. We trust our concerns encourage careful consideration of this application. The web article, A history of Nozstock (2024), boasts of how acts have always played late into the night often over their allocated time slots which is presumably why last year's festival played past four am. It does not bode well for future proposed timings. Nor does the avowed hype that 'we will party on the ... hills... the fields... the streets' and onto the moon.

We feel that the right outcome is one that rejects this application in its current form and which instead puts the rights of every person to have peace and respect for their home and private life ahead of commercial interest [Human Rights Act, Article 1 and 8]. Thank you for considering our comments.





### Thornbury Group Parish Council Response to the Licence Application for Rowden Paddocks

Thornbury Group Parish Council is grateful for the opportunity to respond to the above licensing application. The main licensing objective relevant to this representation is the 'Prevention of Public Nuisance'.

The Parish Council wishes to begin by making the licensing team aware that the application site falls just outside the Group Parish boundary. However, due to the proximity of nearby settlements—particularly Edwyn Ralph village—environmental factors such as noise and light do impact the local community. It is therefore appropriate and necessary that the Parish Council considers these factors in its response, having listened carefully to the community it serves.

Although this is a new licensing application, the venue concerned is well established as a location for events. Since 1998, the Nozstock Folk Music Festival has been held annually, usually during the third week of July, over three days and nights. The final occurrence of this festival took place in July 2024 and, to our understanding, has now ceased. Since the end of the Covid pandemic, the venue has also hosted private events, including music concerts and several weddings. The Parish Council understands that these events have operated under temporary licence regulations.

The fact that this venue has been operating for 26 years is significant, as the local community's experience of events at Rowden Paddocks is empirical rather than speculative.

Since the consultation period for this application began, two community awareness meetings have been held at Edwyn Ralph Village Hall, attended by local residents from the three parishes (Collington, Edwyn Ralph and Thornbury). One meeting was held on 6th June and the other on 9th June. A representative of the Parish Council was present at both meetings to provide factual information on the licensing application and consultation procedure, and to listen to residents' views. The applicant and their family also attended the second meeting to hear community concerns and respond to questions.

At both meetings, residents raised a number of concerns, primarily relating to environmental factors, though some benefits were also acknowledged. A summary follows:

Noise levels from recent music events, particularly vocals from club DJs, have been intrusive on several occasions, notably during the CEX event on 11th August 2024.

There is concern that the number of music/festival events may increase in future years to the point that noise will be heard late into the night on most summer weekends.

From certain points in the village, stage lighting at the venue is clearly visible. This contributes to light pollution, which can interfere with wildlife (e.g. bats' ability to forage, navigate, and reproduce), disrupt ecosystems by drawing insects away from natural habitats, and reduce the enjoyment of dark skies—a valued feature for visitors and tourism in the county.

Concerns were also raised that extended alcohol serving hours may lead to anti-social behaviour in the village.

Several residents acknowledged the broader economic benefit to the town of Bromyard, as events at the venue attract visitors to the area.

Another resident made the economic case for small farms needing the opportunity to diversify to remain financially viable.

In response to the above representations, the Parish Council will focus on noise and lighting. As the site sits just outside the Group Parish boundary, we feel unable to comment on matters such as crowd management within the event itself, and traffic control is the responsibility of the appropriate authority. Aside from one report of loud voices in the early hours in Edwyn Ralph village, the Parish Council has not been made aware of any anti-social behaviour within its area.

While each individual has different tolerance levels for noise or nuisance, the number of representations from parishioners regarding elevated noise levels indicates that the threshold of what may be considered reasonable and acceptable has been exceeded on several occasions.

We note that the application seeks permission for five categories of licensable activity: Live Music, Recorded Music, Comedy Performances/Performance Art, Late Night Refreshment, and the Supply of Alcohol. For the purpose of this response, these can be distilled into two main areas: the proposed hours of operation (start and finish times), and the frequency/number of event days likely to take place.

Both the applicant and Herefordshire Licensing Team have stated that the number of event days will not exceed 10 per year. Considering the original Nozstock event ran over 3 days out of 365, an increase to 10 days spread across no more than 5 events may not initially appear excessive. However, concerns persist within the community that the actual number of days may exceed this. Some ambiguity regarding how many days events will operate remains, and further clarification is needed. The applicant has suggested circulating a list of event dates to the community. This proposal is welcomed by both community members and the Parish Council.

The Parish Council met to discuss this application on 27th May. Members present also heard the views of parishioners in attendance. Following a lengthy discussion, the Parish Council RESOLVED to object to the application in its current form, due to ongoing ambiguity regarding the number of event days proposed. Further clarification from both the Licensing Authority and the applicant would be helpful in providing reassurance to residents.

The proposed hours are less straightforward. The extension of live and recorded music beyond midnight is of particular concern to residents, especially those in Edwyn Ralph. While regulations require event organisers to reduce sound levels at midnight and again at 2am, atmospheric conditions vary and, on occasion, the celebratory nature of events may lead to extended noise levels—something also referenced on the Nozstock website. The Parish Council acknowledges that the applicant is exploring new methods to reduce noise (using technology) and introducing silent discos after midnight. We welcome this constructive approach. However, the Parish Council must also be realistic about the limitations of noise abatement for live/recorded outdoor music events in a rural setting. For outdoor events in a rural area, we would consider that a cut-off time of midnight be more appropriate for those days where the finish time is later than 22:00 hrs. We also like to request that Sunday hours (which include the early hours of Monday morning) be aligned with Monday to Thursday hours, i.e. 12:00–22:00 hrs.

Regarding lighting, we would be grateful to and encourage the applicant to consider how the impact of stage lighting (e.g. floodlights) on the wider landscape can be reduced, whether by screening, careful positioning, or downward direction of lights.

Finally, the Parish Council wishes to emphasise that where events have no—or minimal—environmental impact on our residents, we raise no objection to their taking place at this venue.

Yours faithfully,

Clerk

Thornbury Group Parish Council

Licensing Authority Herefordshire County Council

Dear Sirs
Re: Nozstock application FS719129983



June 13th 2025

I am writing this letter in response to a village meeting at Edwyn Ralph village hall on June 9<sup>th</sup> at which local residents and representatives of the Nozworthy family attended. This meeting followed a similar one held on June 6<sup>th</sup> that had been organised by residents of Edwyn Ralph to discuss the application for future Nozstock events.

Whilst I realise that Edwyn Ralph lies outside the Bromyard and Winslow parish boundary, residents of the village had not been made aware by the Council of the application. We, and a small number of other villagers, had only been informed after a resident had seen information about future Nozstock events on social media. The rest of us were merely informed by word of mouth.

This is both alarming and disappointing. Edwyn Ralph is blighted by noise disturbance and disorderly behaviour each year when the Nozstock music festival takes place, but this was completely overlooked by your department. There was sufficient concern and dismay amongst the residents who had been made aware, however, to hastily arrange a public meeting. Many of us who attended believe the majority of those living in Edwyn Ralph are still unaware of the application and, as a result, are unable to make their feelings known. We are now faced with the dilemma of trying to disseminate the news of this application to all members of the village so that they feel they are equally represented and are allowed to make their own comments. We have been left with little time to achieve this and have been forced to apply for an extension, a reply to which, we are still waiting.

The Council have failed to consider the strength of feeling in our community about the application proposal and have overlooked the detrimental effect that the festival has each time on our lives, our sleep quality and our overall wellbeing. The majority of people who live in the village chose to do so for the peace, tranquillity, wildlife and beautiful natural surroundings it offers. Surely, the council members appreciate that Edwyn Ralph is, as the licensing rules state, a 'sensitive area'.

Unfortunately, we all came away from the meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup> with the impression that the feelings and concerns of the villagers will not be considered going forwards. If permitted, I will give you some examples:

- The Nozworthy family said they are "working on the noise levels" but failed to go into any specific details of how this was to be achieved. When asked what the outcome would be should these 'experiments' fail to reduce the noise sufficiently so that residents are not forced to endure the booming sound and the shouting of voices throughout the day and into the early hours, we were told to phone the family, and they would notify an individual, who they employ, to monitor the noise. If this was required, we would feel more assured of an objective assessment if an environmental health officer was to carry out testing. Unfortunately, a lot of disturbance is during the late evening and early morning so it is unlikely that an EHO would attend.
- Past behaviour at Nozstock events confirms that it is not properly regulated and that the organisers do not adhere to the rules on both noise levels and the time at which the festivities are meant to stop. Many of the villagers admit to being kept awake last year until after four o'clock in the morning by the DJ sets and the live music, when the event should have finished hours before. It is no wonder that we have no faith that the regulations will be honoured during any future event.
- We were given verbal assurance by the family that the noise levels generated from their powerful loudspeakers are within the permitted range. This was hard to believe judging by the significant disturbance we have been forced to tolerate during past events and the fact that the noise is sufficiently loud to affect others in villages up to 5 miles away. If the response given is correct how is it that we can actually make out the words of songs and are unable to sleep even with our windows shut? Many villagers choose to leave their homes during the Nozstock weekend due to the detrimental effect the festival has on their lives. We should not be made to make decisions like this. Those of us who remain are forced to stay indoors during the hot weather and endure three successive sleepless nights. You can imagine our disappointment on learning that the new application is for events not only over a weekend but also during the working week. I, and several other residents, work from home, and this will have a significant impact on our work, not only from

noise disturbance but from lack of sleep. I am a doctor and must maintain a clear head at all times in order to concentrate and teach others.

- Questions were asked at the meeting about when the application was submitted. The licensing rules state quite clearly that a minimum of three months' notice is required. Again, the family were unable to tell us the date, which is surprising in itself, and after briefly browsing some notes replied, "it will be three months to the day". This was met with collective incredulity I'm afraid, especially when it was subsequently discovered that the application had been submitted in May, much less than the stated three months.
- This begs the question of how this has been allowed by the licensing authority. The family have already gone ahead, before any hearing or consideration of their application, and organised events, publicised them on their website and social media and sold a large number of tickets. The first all day music event is scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup> with another, called 'Beef Stock' booked on August 16<sup>th</sup>. When asked about what would happen should the licence not be granted we were simply told that the tickets would be refunded. Unfortunately, this failed to satisfy any of us in attendance. It feels to us all that the decision has already been made and that the family feel sufficiently confident that their application will be granted in its present form.
- Questions were also asked why the application had been made for a permanent and open-ended licence. In
  past years the application for Nozstock events has been submitted on a temporary licence basis. Once more,
  we were not given a definite answer other than being told they were advised to. Who advised them and
  why? This bodes ill for us again and suggests that we can expect much more disturbance in the future.
- The present application is to hold five events for no more than ten days. When asked if there is any intention to expand upon this the response was quite vague. Certainly, there was no guarantee from the family that it wouldn't be expanded. I have no doubt that should this proposal be successful and lead to a good revenue income then, as a business, the organisers will want to increase the number of festivals, weddings and other events. We already find the one-off festival each year held at Rowden Paddocks intolerable as far as noise and public nuisance is concerned and so the prospect of more of the same, particularly during the week, is of great concern.

I can only ask the licensing committee to please take our concerns into account when considering their decision. The application, as it stands, is extremely vague and we have been given no guarantees that we will not be affected by noise, traffic congestion and restriction of our amenity. There is a groundswell of concern in and around Edwyn Ralph about this application and we would urge you to reject it, until we can be properly reassured by the event organisers and yourselves that our desire to live in a peaceful and quiet environment will be supported and that we will not have to endure the disturbance that we have been subjected to in previous years.

Yours faithfully,

