

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to offer my support to our local festival, Nozstock.

This festival brings a lot to our town, Bromyard, it's lively, well run & brings in a lot of business for local businesses, especially Co-Op.

I barely hear it & I live quite close, the festival goers themselves are very well behaved from what I've seen.

Transport to & from the festival is very well organised, ferrying people from the town to the site, there is no need for the festival goers to walk on the main road, the bus is laid on for free.

It seems to me that the majority of the people complaining aren't "locals" and think that the countryside should be completely silent when we all know that is not the case!

Yours sincerely,

Nozstock supporter!



23 June 2025

Herefordshire Council Licensing Department

**Dear Sirs** 

## **NOZSTOCK - LICENSING APPLICATION**

We live locally to the Nozstock site and have attended events there for many years.

In our opinion it is well managed and we have never been aware of any issues, such as excessive noise nor disorder.

Our children and now grandchildren have always felt safe and have enjoyed attending the festivals.

We fully support the licence application and we thank the owners for providing wonderful entertainment for us over many years.

Yours faithfully



**Sent:** 17 June 2025 19:32

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

Subject: Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks, Bromyard Herefordshire

Dear Licensing Officer,

, immediate neighbour to Rowden Paddocks, to confirm our strong support for the Nosworthy family's application for a permanent events licence at the site. Having collaborated closely with Nozstock for over the last 5 years—providing accommodation during the festival and sustaining local hospitality employment—we are well placed to comment on how their revised event programme will uphold Herefordshire's four licensing objectives.

#### **Prevention of Crime and Disorder**

- Professional, licensed security stewards patrol the site, entrances and egress routes.
- A strict code of conduct is enforced; we have witnessed no violence or disorder in the locality during past festivals.

## **Public Safety**

- A dedicated shuttle-bus service runs continuously between Bromyard town centre and Rowden Paddocks, removing the need for private cars on narrow lanes.
- On-site first-aid points and clearly marked emergency exits meet or exceed Safety Advisory Group standards.

## **Public Nuisance**

- The former three-day festival is to be replaced by around a dozen one-day events spread across the year. All events will finish by midnight, with music run through a smaller, directional sound system and monitored for decibel levels.
- The Nosworthys have held public meetings to explain their noise-management plan and to address neighbours' concerns.

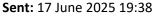
#### **Protection of Children from Harm**

- Nozstock has always been a family-focused event, with dedicated children's zones, wristbands for minors, and child-safe facilities.
- Their recognition—shortlisted for Best Family Festival and winner of Attitude is Everything's "Outstanding Attitude Award"—attests to their robust safeguarding.

Over the years, has hosted many Nozstock visitors, offering quality accommodation that employs local staff on a seasonal basis. Although the scale of events is changing from one long weekend to several single-day gatherings, the positive economic impact for B&Bs, shops and service providers in Bromyard will remain significant.

For these reasons, we urge Herefordshire Council to grant the permanent events licence. The proposed format demonstrates the Nosworthy family's ongoing commitment to safe, well-managed, neighbourly events that benefit the wider community.

Yours faithfully



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

Subject: Licensing Application, Nozstock, Rowden Paddocks Bromyard

# Re: Application for a Permanent Events Licence – Rowden Paddocks, Bromyard (Nozstock: The Hidden Valley)

Dear Sir/Madam,

to express our full support for the Nosworthy family's application for a permanent events licence at Rowden Paddocks, Bromyard.

## **Promotion of the Licensing Objectives**

In accordance with Herefordshire's four licensing objectives, we note that this application will actively **promote** each of them:

#### 1. Prevention of Crime and Disorder

 Nozstock has always employed professional security on site, and to date there has never been any recorded incidence of drunken or disorderly behaviour in Bromyard during festival periods.

## 2. Public Safety

 A dedicated shuttle-bus service runs continuously between Bromyard town centre and Rowden Paddocks, ensuring that attendees can travel safely without using private cars on local roads. This not only reduces risk but also brings increased footfall—and thus trade to town businesses.

#### 3. Public Nuisance

 Upcoming events will be limited in number, daytime-focused and will conclude by midnight. Amplified music will be delivered through a much smaller sound system than the former three-day festival, significantly reducing any risk of disturbance to neighbours.

## 4. Protection of Children from Harm

 Nozstock has long been celebrated as a **family-friendly** environment (shortlisted for Best Family Festival at the UK Festival Awards and winner of Attitude is Everything's "Outstanding Attitude Award" for accessibility), with dedicated family zones, clear child-safety protocols and zero-tolerance on inappropriate behaviour.

#### **Background and Community Benefit**

For the past 28 years, **Nozstock: The Hidden Valley Festival** has been a cornerstone of the local cultural calendar, attracting around 5,000 visitors annually for a long weekend of family-friendly entertainment. The festival has consistently enjoyed the backing of Bromyard Town Council, Bromyard Chamber and local residents, providing significant economic uplift to local businesses—from hospitality and retail to accommodation—while fostering community spirit.

#### Awards and Recognition

Over its history, Nozstock has earned national acclaim, being shortlisted for the UK Festival Awards in categories including Best Small Festival, Grassroots Festival, Best Dance Event and Best Family Festival. The festival also received the Improvers Award for green initiatives and, through its dedication to accessibility, won in the inaugural "Outstanding Attitude Awards" from Attitude is Everything. Proceeds have regularly supported local charities, and the festival has championed emerging musicians from Herefordshire and beyond.

#### **Necessity for Change**

The dual pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis rendered last year's three-day festival financially unsustainable. In response, the Nosworthy family have chosen to diversify their farming business and event portfolio. Their new vision involves hosting a limited number (fewer than a dozen per year) of day-time weddings, corporate functions, food festivals and a one-day music event.

## **Reduced Impact and Ongoing Community Engagement**

These events will have markedly lower noise and traffic impacts. The Nosworthys have proactively held public consultations to address neighbours' concerns, demonstrating their commitment to being good custodians of the countryside and considerate neighbours.

## **Economic and Social Advantages**

Rowden Paddocks will continue to drive tourism, support local suppliers, and create both direct and indirect employment opportunities throughout the year. The Chamber is confident that this diversification will safeguard the Nosworthys' business, preserve local jobs, and maintain Bromyard's reputation for high-quality, community-focused events.

## Conclusion

Bromyard & District Chamber of Commerce wholeheartedly supports the application for a permanent licence at Rowden Paddocks. We believe these proposed changes strike the right balance between economic viability, community benefit, environmental stewardship and strict adherence to the licensing objectives. We respectfully request that Herefordshire Council grant this licence, so the Nosworthy family can continue to enrich our local area in a sustainable and neighbourly manner.

Yours faithfully,



Sent: 18 June 2025 13:28

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

**Subject:** License for Nozstock

Dear Licensing team,

Please accept my apology for this late letter of support but I have been away.

I wish to put forward my support for

The Nozstock license.

In my experience events at Nozstock have never knowingly caused any issues with noise or disorder for the town and have only ever seen the benefits for the area.

The owners have always put safety at the forefront of all events with initiatives such as running free buses from the site into the town to help with public safety. It is a festival well known for being a safe place to take children. The very strong connection with children and families has led to it being nominated for many Family awards. Having attended many events I have always been very impressed with how professionally it is run and how seriously the safety of all participants is taken into consideration with families at the forefront.

Knowing Mr Nozworthy I am absolutely confident that he would strive to meet any recommendations put forward by yourselves.

I strongly support the application for a new license.

Regards