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31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Mr Jon Bryant  
Senior Licensing Officer  
Mid Sussex District Council  
Oaklands  
Oaklands Road  
Haywards Heath  
West Sussex  
RH16 1SS

Dear Mr Bryant,

**RE: TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICE FOR MS ELODIE NELSON AT POYNINGS GRANGE FARM, HENFIELD ROAD, POYNINGS, BN45 7AW. FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY TO SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023.**

**NOTICE OF OBJECTION UNDER SECTION 104 (2) OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

Notice of objection is hereby given on behalf of the Chief Officer of Police for Sussex for the above Temporary Event Notice (TEN) on the grounds of the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety.

The TENS notice advises the notice givers' intention to:

- The sale of retail of alcohol
- The provision of regulated entertainment

- The provision of late night refreshment

for 499 people.

The proposed event is a three day festival on farm land at Poynings Farm. The event is described in the TEN application as a “small , family-friendly, invite-only music festival”.

We have received a written event management plan for this event. Under security and marshal management there is discussion about hiring two stewards but this is with the proviso that it is to be confirmed. Under the specific question of whether Security Industry Authority security staff will be deployed, the response is again “to be confirmed”.

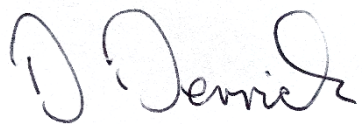
Under the section in the event management plan headed incident management, it is stated that all attendees will be pre registered and the event is not open to the public. The section states “in our previous location, local police and local authority representatives have been invited to visit the event, in order to build relations with the local law enforcement”.

Whilst we appreciate the sentiment expressed, Sussex police have serious concerns about this event. If there is no proper security on site, due to the remote location of the site it may not be possible for police to attend immediately regardless of what relations we have built with the organizer beforehand. From our experience with similar events in Sussex, we fear that the organizer is being somewhat naive in their approach with who may turn up at the event. Our experience is that often, especially with social media being used to rapidly spread news of events which some people may mistakenly believe is a “rave”, people can turn up at events who are not invited but who are insistent on coming in.

There is a further Event Safety Generic Risk Assessment document provided by the applicant, under the heading “public order – staff and the public risk serious injury, if assaulted or if caught up in incidents of disorder”, it is stated that “a code of conduct is discussed at registration”. This is again a nice sentiment, but our fear is this approach is frighteningly naïve in the event that there is disorder at the event and there is no SIA registered door staff in adequate numbers, or uninvited persons or groups arrive at the event who have no interest in a code of conduct or any intention of adhering to such a code and either force their way in, or simply gain access via bypassing the entrance at this open site.

The Chief Officer of Police contends that permitting the premises to be used in accordance with the TENS notice is likely to lead to crime and disorder and a risk to public safety. We therefore ask that a Counter Notice for the TEN is issued by the Licensing Authority Committee. I confirm that a copy of this objection letter has been sent by email to the applicant and every other ‘relevant person’.

Yours sincerely,



**Inspector David Derrick CD295**  
**West Sussex Licensing Inspector**  
**Sussex Police**

cc: Applicant for the TEN: Ms Nelson