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Contact: Mr Adam Dracott

Our Ref: SR/23/1074

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Mr J Bryant
Senior Licensing Officer
Mid Sussex District Council
Oaklands
Haywards Heath
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RH16 1SS

Dear Jon

Temporary Event Notice for event at Poynings Grange Farm between 21-24 July 2023 Notice of Objection under Section 104 of the Licensing Act 2003

Notice of objection is hereby given by the Environmental Protection Team at Mid Sussex District Council for the above Temporary Event Notice on the grounds of the prevention of public nuisance, the protection of children from harm and public safety.

The Temporary Event Notice by the applicant is giving notice that the music festival event will take place on Friday 21 July 2023 from 1000 to 0300 the following morning; continuing on Saturday 22 July 2023 from 1000 to 0300 the following morning. It is not clear from the application what the activities will be onsite on Sunday and Monday, 23 and 24 July 2023.

To allow this would give permission for nearby residents to be exposed to 34 hours of music over one weekend not only during the day but also extending deep into the night period. Not only would the evening period be hugely impacted but a total of 8 hours of music in the night-time period is being requested. Sleep disturbance is likely and for prolonged periods over consecutive nights on one weekend.

Noise and disturbance from recorded and/or live amplified music; people talking, shouting and singing; vehicles and attendees arriving and leaving the site, particularly late at night; and clearing up, bottling out and preparing the area for the next day; are all likely to have an impact on nearby residents. The drinking time proposed amounts to 12 hours on the Friday and 12 hours on Saturday. Controlling noise emissions from music and people becomes increasingly difficult with increased alcohol consumption.

The applicant has not provided any details as to the layout of the site in relation to the proposed entertainment, the location of the stage(s), the orientation of the speaker stacks, the type of music and the event management procedures. There are no details of the proposed mitigation measures to reduce the deleterious effects on nearby residents especially given that the background noise levels in the area are extremely low and any noise emissions will be highly noticeable.

The event as proposed would extend late into the evening and night and there has been no details provided how the site and the activities will be operated to manage the safety risks. For example, there is no lighting plan to ensure attendees can safely traverse the site; there is no fire safety plan; there are no risk assessments etc.

The applicant is stating that this is a family-friendly event and there is therefore the expectation that children will be present throughout the event. Given that the proposal is to have regulated entertainment up to 0300, I am concerned for the welfare of children. Their sleep is likely to be severely affected and their safety could be compromised if the adults (parents/carers), while enjoying the entertainment, are not able to watch over them.

It is my opinion that if this event was to take place as proposed by this Temporary Event Notice then this is likely to cause public nuisance, compromise public safety and it risks exposing children to harm. The Environmental Protection Team therefore ask that a Counter Notice for this TEN is issued by the Licensing Authority.

Yours sincerely

Adam Dracott, Team leader Environmental Protection

c.c. West Sussex Licensing Inspector, Sussex Police, Centenary House, Durrington Lane Elodie Nelson, 6 Felbridge Close, Streatham, London SW16 2RH