

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 March 2015 15:37
To: Licensing
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Ref:15/00535/LAPRE 20/02/15 - 21/03/15

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Innocent Drinks/St Clere Estate Music Festival 23rd-25th May 2015

Despite being in close proximity to the site, I, like all other local residents have not had the courtesy of notice, discussion or advice from St Clere Estate/InnocentDrinks about the proposal. Most of us are in our twilight years - some recovering from major surgery & via our Council Tax etc pay a heavy price to live where we do to ensure a proper night's sleep & a quiet life etc. Is this area of the Downs - the highest point in Kent - not designated a "White Area" thereby preventing such commercial activities?

So without the opportunity to discuss the matter with the parties involved I can only raise concerns through this eMail & thus I hereby raise my objections to the event for the following reasons:

- 1) Access to the site is from Knock Mill Lane - one of the narrowest single lanes in Kent & local traffic will be totally gridlocked for 3 days.**
- 3) There is NO public transport available anywhere near the site - a very limited bus service stops about 2 miles away & 4 miles to the nearest train station. So arrival will be by car & parking & traffic movement will cause havoc in & around the adjacent lanes & verges & probably onto the A20.**
- 4) Noise pollution WILL be a major factor both from the "official" live music until 2am & from the revellers/campers own sound systems from 2am onwards. And the trilogy of a 2.30/3am nightly departure of 100's of cars will create further disturbance for all those unlucky enough to live in one of the local lanes.**
- 5) Historically, these "music festivals" actually become "raves" with hundreds (if not 1000's) of late night partgoers reading about it on the web (or even from seeing it from the M20 motorway) & with unfenced access to the site being freely available from any direction, these people will not need tickets, nor care where they park or how much noise they make. That's the nature of "raves" - the media are always reporting of their disturbances.**
- 6) The lanes around the site are constantly festooned with discarded beer cans, McDonald wrappers & the like with little sign of any of it ever being cleared up by either the Council or St Clere Estate. So after 5000+ revellers have parked, walked or urinated in them for three days & nights just who will**

be responsible for clearing rubbish etc from the verges (or reinstating them after 5000+ cars have fought for a free parking spot)?

7) Finally, in the very woods where this is to take place, is a nesting colony of 8 rare honey buzzards which has finally increased since last year. They WILL be driven off.

8) All but one of the residents of EVERY house close to the site totally objects to this proposal on both the points above & many others. (The one non-objector is a friend of the owner of St Clere). None of us want to STOP a music festival but all consider the area as totally unsuitable - each thinking the lovely grounds of St Clere House would be far better suited for access, noise, movement of traffic & public transport. But we're also realists & having lived with a severely damaged & near-undriveable pot-holed Knock Mill Lane for many years it does seem too much of a coincidence that although the objection date has not yet elapsed, only last week the lane was completely repaired, with ditches & passing points cleared.....

John Morphew

