

**Michael Moss**

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**From:** Michael Moss  
**Sent:** 21 June 2018 17:11  
**To:** Michael Moss  
**Subject:** Parish Council Representation: Neverworld 18/01654/LAPRE

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**Sent:** 13 June 2018 09:19  
**Subject:** Neverworld application, Wilderness farm, Hever. August 2018

Mr. Moss

Please find below **Hever Parish Council** comments towards the licensing application as above. Could you please record these as a formal public comment on the application. I note the deadline of the 14th June.

Hever Parish Council scrutinise all licensing applications in the parish, and have invested a significant amount of time and efforts on the applications on this site, since the first Leefest festival in 2016. We understand and respect a number of varying views from residents and visitors, our primary concern for this event on this site is the risk of disturbance (noise, light pollution, traffic congestion, crime and disorder to locals in close vicinity and the scale of the event. We note the recent withdrawn applications from 2 other events on this site for Summer 2018.

Since 2016 we have worked closely with Chiddingstone Parish Council, SDC District Cllrs., members of the licensing team and the organisers too. Since the last Leefest, we have met all together in September and recently in June.

We would encourage SDC to set limits to minimise the noise breaches and disturbances that occurred last year. We note the proposed improvements in technology and logistics from the organisers for this years event.

We have also encouraged the organisers to carefully consider the security risks, noting this year's high profile acts, the increased awareness of this event (third year) and the rural and open location.

**Charlotte Cole**

**Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer**  
**Hever Parish Council**

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**Sent:** 08 June 2018 10:15  
**Subject:** 18/01654/LAPRE: Neverworld - Wilderness Farm Hever

Chiddingstone Parish Council recognises that much work has been undertaken by licencing officers and district representatives; we are pleased that Neverworld will be the only festival at Wilderness Farm this year.

We are content that the applicant can run a safe festival that is largely free from trouble; that is enjoyed by many residents of the Parish; and for those living within 1Km of the site is free.

Having said that, last year there were significant breaches of the db level allowed by the licence and insufficient control and enforcement that subjected non-festival-going residents to a significant noise nuisance.

In the context of that we have met the applicant to discuss how Neverworld would prevent the breaches of the noise licencing condition that happened last year. We continue to believe that a reduction from last year's levels is warranted. Neverworld have submitted that they should be allowed

the same db rating as last year, but with a significantly enhanced management and enforcement regime. We accept that there is some merit in their argument that the overnight entertainment is part of the festival experience and we are not expecting them to run a silent disco. It will be down to licencing officers to decide the most appropriate course, but db levels should certainly be no greater than last year and preferably be somewhat reduced.

We were pleased that the applicant recognised that the event last year had breached the limits set on several occasions and indicated they have already put in measures which are likely to make a considerable improvement on last year. These should now be put into the licence conditions.

1. Bespoke technology to limit the base frequency.
2. In the key hours 2am - 6am they should only operate one event stage so they can control it more easily.
3. They should have an event control team that can monitor multiple sites and make adjustments much more rapidly.
4. The event control management should be independent of event production and have authority over it so there are much clearer lines of control of noise and communication with the public.
5. Dynamic response. A condition should be the ability to respond faster to changing situations. Noise propagation is considerably dependent on weather; wind strength and direction as well as humidity. Our ambient noise levels are also dependent on that because of where and when the aircraft fly. The event control team should have sufficient manpower that if a change occurs that changes the noise shadow from the soundcheck then they will be able to keep within limits.

We understand that for some residents, especially on Truggers Lane, there remains the view that it will cause a considerable nuisance in any circumstance, but if these measures are strictly enforced it would reduce and mitigate the impact on the local environment and in the local community to the point where we can support the application this year. We also request that should significant breaches occur this year a licence will only be granted if we can return to 2016 levels in future years and this should be written in as a condition. The applicant has made his intention clear that they wish to run the festival at Wilderness Farm for some years to come and we are happy to support that as long as it does not come with a noise nuisance that persistently (i.e. over four noise measuring periods) breaks licence conditions.

*Richard Streatfeild*

RG Streatfeild MBE  
Chair  
Chiddingstone Parish Council