

Dear Jessica Foley

Comments re Licensing Application 23/01234/LAPRE

Whilst I appreciate the concept of locally orientated 'Boutique Food-Festivals' offering a family orientated experience with musical entertainment, I have some unresolved concerns about the above application.

There was no initial approach to the village, when potential problems could have been raised, prior to the application being submitted.

Knockholt is predominately a ribbon development rural village with the main access via Rushmore Hill from the A21. This leads into Main Road which although adequate for small vehicles, has relatively narrow sections with restricted sightlines and problems arise when larger, or agricultural vehicles, are encountered. There are numerous local horse riders and at weekends, many cyclists enjoy the challenging hilly terrain. All other access is via narrow lanes, many of which are only single track with passing places.

There is potential for severe congestion, not only affecting access/egress for residents' homes, but potentially impeding access for Emergency Service vehicles with resulting risks to residents' wellbeing and property.

The statement that most people will use taxis or public transport suggests a poor appreciation of the services available. Knockholt Station is 4 miles from the venue, the other stations serving the area being considerably further at Orpington and Sevenoaks, and the necessary bus links are infrequent and terminate before the event closure time.

Therefore, the application would seem to contravene the licencing objectives as there is a very high risk that traffic/transportation issues resulting from the current scheme will result in public nuisance and potential public safety issues.

The available documents do not adequately address residents' concerns and hopefully before any approval is given, these issues will be addressed.

Yours sincerely

Rita C Radford

