

BARNET COUNCIL

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

4TH APRIL 2023

COPTHALL PLAYING FIELDS, OFF CHAMPIONS WAY, PAGE STREET, LONDON NW4 1PS

APPLICANT'S WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Summary

1. The applicant seeks a premises licence to operate music events on the above Council land in the years 2023 – 2027.
2. The background to the application is fully set out in the officer's report, and is not repeated here. The Sub-Committee is asked respectfully to note the schedule of conditions (page 41) and covering note (page 46). Amendments have been made to the application at the request of responsible authorities, as the officer notes (pages 13-14).
3. On 16th June 2022, the Licensing Sub-Committee granted a licence for a weekend of events in 2022. In its decision, the Sub-Committee noted "the extensive conditions agreed with the Police and the fact that no responsible authorities had made any representations."
4. The 2022 events proceeded in accordance with the premises licence conditions, in consultation with the Safety Advisory Group and under the eye of the responsible authorities.
5. The applicant has proposed the same conditions in 2023.¹
6. The applicant has assembled an experienced team for delivery of the events (see page 46). The senior team is responsible for development of the event management plan,

¹ It apologises that it has inadvertently included the word "strong" in condition 1, which was excised by the Sub-Committee in 2022.

which is a comprehensive document dealing with all aspects of the safe and efficient operation of the event including, by way of example: crime prevention and security arrangements,² risk assessments, crowd management; noise management; traffic management; bar and alcohol management; medical plan; and production schedule. As is standard in events of this nature, it is an iterative bible of documents to be finalised in consultation with the Safety Advisory Group in advance of the event (see condition 38).

7. The applicant is again grateful to note that, as a result of the experience from 2022, the ongoing working with the Safety Advisory Group and the proposed conditions, there are no representations from any responsible authority.
8. The applicant is pleased to attach a number of supportive letters dealing with the 2022 event, including from local residents.

Representations

9. The applicant replies briefly to concerns raised by objectors as follows.

Dates

10. A concern is expressed of risk to school children if events are held during term time.
11. The events are planned to be held in August.
12. If for any reason, a future event takes place during term time:
 - a. it will not take place during school hours;
 - b. the applicant will notify local schools giving them notice of proposed dates and times.

² These are contained in the crime and security policy, the search policies and procedures and the drugs and welfare policies, together with standard operating procedures dealing with: suspicious persons; unattended items; Stewards and Security deployment; Counter Terrorism; bomb threat; Working with Emergency Services; Search and Screening; Event Day Security; Raised threat Critical Lockdown; crime scene management; Conflict Management.

Number of attendees

13. An “extreme concern” is registered that numbers have not been given.
14. In fact, numbers are given on the application form (see page 20). This year the capacity will be 15,000. In 2024 it will be 17,500. In 2025-2027 it will be 19,999. The reason for this approach is to enable growth to happen in a controlled manner, and so lessons from each year can be applied to the next.

Parking

15. A concern is expressed regarding parking in 2022, particularly around Longfield Avenue and Page Street.
16. The applicant agrees that, on the Saturday in 2022, there was a complaint to the events telephone line from a resident of Longfield Avenue. The organisers’ Community Manager attended and agreed that the complaint was justified. Accordingly, the organisers work with Barnet Council to resolve the issue. On the Sunday, stewards were located in the area of Longfield Avenue to prevent inconsiderate parking. The Community Manager attended Longfield Avenue together with Barnet Council’s Events Manager on the Sunday and spoke with residents, who were satisfied with the action taken.
17. In the light of that experience, the traffic management plan for 2023 will include (i) the allocation of additional parking areas; (ii) further marshals in the area identified, (iii) clearer signage and (iv) an on-site removal truck. The traffic management plan will be developed with Barnet Council’s own highways department to ensure that residents are properly protected.

Noise

18. A general objection has been made regarding noise from the events.
19. The noise limits for the events were set by Barnet Council. The limits are monitored throughout the event by the organisers’ acoustic team, who will also respond to any

complaints logged through the dedicated noise line. The limits set by the Council were complied with.

20. The same process will appertain in 2023.

21. A separate general complaint is made that many residents were disturbed by revellers going home.

22. The Sub-Committee will note that under the application (page 32) the site must close by 10 p.m. The event management plan will specifically deal with egress routes, will seek so far as practical to divert those departing from residential areas and will allocate additional stewarding to patrol surrounding roads to ensure a prompt and quiet departure.

Recreation

23. A complaint is made that children are deprived of green space to play in and dog walkers to walk in. In fact, the field adjacent to the site remains open to use, which comprises a minimum of 45,000 square metres of space, and 50,000 square metres during the build and break phases.

24. A complaint is also made that programmed sports games had to be called off in 2022. In fact, as the Council's Parks and Green Spaces Management Team have confirmed, all games were postponed across the borough in July, August and September due to dry conditions causing cracking of pitches.

25. A complaint is made that the swimming pool had to be closed. This is factually incorrect: it was open as normal.

26. A separate complaint is made regarding damage to ground surface. The organisers invest in preventative measures, including the laying of temporary tracks, and planning plant movements, together with contractual responsibilities to make good any surface damage.

27. Finally, it is said that the Metro Golf car park was reserved for festival goers. This is not true. The car park was marshalled throughout the event and no festival goers were permitted to park there.

Build and break

28. A complaint is made that crews were working to 10 p.m. in 2022 and that the fields will be out of bounds for too long.

29. The build and break phase will take 11 days maximum, unless there is bad weather which necessitates extra time and care to prevent surface damage.

30. No plant movement or loud work occurs beyond 8 p.m. In 2022, cleaners and security will have worked beyond that hour, but that caused no noise or complaint. In fact, there was no complaint at all regarding the build and break in 2022.

31. A separate complaint is made that equipment was left on site. Some equipment was left on site by a supplier in 2022, which the organisers pressed to remove expeditiously. The failure of a traffic management company to remove traffic signage timeously led to the removal of the company for this year's events.

Bats

32. There is a general concern raised regarding bats. However, no concern has been raised by any authority or agency concerning harm to wildlife, and no evidence has been presented on the topic.

51st Festivals

33. An allegation is made that after 2019 Enfield Council refused to licence the festival in Trent Park. This is incorrect. The festival took place in Trent Park until 2021, following which the Council wished to leave the ground fallow to recover following poor weather. Enfield Council have confirmed that they would welcome the return of the festival. Objectors also refer to the Elrow Town Festival in 2019, but this is nothing whatsoever to do with the applicant.

Fintan Daly

34. Mr Daly complains that customers of the golf centre were impeded by a backup of vehicles at the top of Champions Way, that some festival goers spilled into the car park and that the golf centre was awaiting compensation for disruption.

35. The applicant is disappointed to read this objection:

- (1) The golf centre car park was stewarded at the organisers' cost, and the arrangements were checked by the Council to ensure that staff were in place and that only golf club customers could gain access.
- (2) The pick up and drop off point was located off site in the Power League Car Park on Pursley Way to reduce the risk of congestion on Champions Way as requested by Metro Golf prior to the event weekend.
- (3) The present complaints were not brought to the organisers' attention during or after the events.

36. Nevertheless, the following steps will be taken for this year:

- (1) A new traffic management team has been appointed.
- (2) The applicant will be more than pleased to liaise with Metro Golf to minimise any disruption.
- (3) With the advantage of year one data, the applicant has been in talks with Saracens RFC to utilise additional parking sites (and to utilise other sites also used by the rugby club) and speeding up traffic flow on Champions Way.
- (4) Metro Golf will be given a direct telephone number in case of any issue with security at its car park. This will provide direct communication to event control and access to traffic managers and security supervisors.

Conclusion

37. The Sub-Committee is invited to the view that it is appropriate to grant this licence subject to the detailed list of conditions presented, in the knowledge that no responsible authority has made any representation following the experience of 2022. The Sub-Committee may be assured that the applicant's experienced team will continue to liaise with the Safety Advisory Group and also with the objectors, should they wish this to happen.

PHILIP KOLVIN QC
25th March 2023

11 KBW
Temple EC4

Hi Simon and Mike

Following the event in August 2022, I wanted to thank you for your support of Young Barnet Foundation and some of our Youth Work organisations in Barnet.

You very kindly selected us to be a Charity Partner for the Festival which was of huge benefit to us and for Barnet's Young People.

It allows us to:

Raise our Profile: This allowed us to raise our profile though having our charities information on your website and booking portal, as well as having a stand on the day where we were able to engage with members of the public and tell them about the vital work we do with over 200 children's and young people's charities in Barnet. It was a really positive and uplifting day.

Raising funds: You very kindly donated funds to us from your ticket sales and allowed us to run activities on our stand on the day that also generated income. These monies were used as part of our Space2Grow Grant Fund which supports Children and Young Peoples charities in Barnet to provide support services such as Mental Health Provision, Physical activities and youth work and these services will run across 2023 so the impact goes beyond the day of the festival which is fantastic.

Employability Skills: The event provided an amazing opportunity for some of Barnet's young people to gain work experience at the festival, gaining vital skills and experience within the music industry that they would certainly not have had the opportunity to access themselves. We partnered you with a couple of our Youth Organisations, who identified young people who had an interest in the Music Industry, and they were able to shadow in areas such as admin, stage management and more. This was really appreciated.

The opportunity you offered us was unique and beneficial not only to us but also to some of Barnet's other Children & Young Peoples Organisations, who not only benefited from the funds in the Space2Grow Grant, but also from accessing Work experience. The support went beyond the day of the Festival and we hope to continue looking at opportunities to support Barnet's Voluntary Sector.

Thank you for the supporting the community with this initiative.

Kind Regards

Debra Yardley

debray@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk

Young Barnet Foundation

020 3621 6090

youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk

YOUNG BARNET

F O U N D A T I O N

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Old East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill Road, Barnet, EN4 8SG

Find us on: [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Hendon RFC are supportive of your Festival for 2023 and wish to compliment you on the good order and security for the previous event in 2022.

We trust this years event is conducted in a similar fashion and we take this opportunity of assisting you over the Festival weekend similar to last year, and wish the Festival every success.

David Gershlick
Hendon RFC
07860487072

On 25/03/2023 12:42 GMT Mosh <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Hello my name is Mosh and I live in Copthall Cottages which is the closest residential property to the 51st State Festival. We are actually located in Copthall Park. It was a great event and because of the great communication between the organisers and all of us at Copthall Cottages we experienced no problems. There was no impact in regards to noise, traffic or litter, before, during and after the 2 day festival. I welcome the event to be held here again.

Sincerely M Benhamu

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the 51 State Festival - which took place last year at Copthall Playing fields.

The event was a huge success and enjoyed thoroughly by those who attended. The event brought the community together and was received well post covid.

I was pleased the event was managed well and caused no litter issues, security nor nuisance to the local residents.

I am fully in support of the 51 St. Festival taking place this year at Copthall Playing Fields and welcome it along with other residents who share the same views.

Kind regards

Champa Jetha

xx Copthall Cottages

Greenlands Way

London

NW4 xxx

Mobile: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Dear Simon,

I hope you and the team are well?

Just wanted to thank you for organising last year's festival over at Copthall Playing Fields which is a short walk from my home.

Last year's festival was so much fun, well organised and felt very safe with minimal impact on local traffic.

Really looking forward to attending 51st State 2023!

Warm regards,
Mae-Louise Robinson

Brookfield Avenue, NW7

I didn't make it in the end, but I live very close and can give some feedback.

The event's warning signage in the week before was useful and clear. I knew it was happening, could find the website and understood that traffic might be high, which was good as I could make plans.

The offer of cheap/free tickets felt generous and made it clear that the organisers were considerate to residents and had put plans in place to mitigate disruption. I emailed on the first day and got a reply in about 15-minutes, which indicated a good level of organisation and responsiveness.

I'd be happy for the festival to come back! It's nice to have big events running again after covid, allowing people to come together and enjoy themselves. [From where I live, the sound was negligible, so I appreciate that those who have properties closer might have struggled.]

[Annabel Banks](#)<xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> sunny gardens road Nw4xxx

Hello,

The festival was actually good fun and it was very refreshing to have a large scale festival in the local area.

We would definitely go again and a lot of my friends who spoke to also would love to go.

Security was taken very seriously inside, more so than I have ever seen at any festival in London. We felt very secure and really enjoyed everything.

The resident discounted tickets were also a lovely touch, we probably would not have gone if the discount was not there. The lineup was a bit weak though, need a few more headline artists like Roger Sanchez.

Cheers!

Ghazan

[Ghazan Khan](#)<xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> xxx park road, London, nw4xxx

Hi,

No issues with the event, could barely notice there was an event given the location and extensive grounds within Copthall. Didn't notice any disruption and think it is good for area to bring an annual event as such. Would be nice to have the option of 4 tickets rather than 2 for local residents especially those with larger families.

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

[Sachin Mehta](mailto:Sachin.Mehta@xx)<xx> xx Longfield Ave nw7xxx

To the 51st festival team

I had the best time and felt very safe as I went alone and met my friends and favourite DJs and Mc's! The staff were amazing and very caring and helpful. There was no rubbish scattered around like other festivals I've been to for the past 30 years.

Was a very professional set up and wonderful friendly atmosphere.

Thanks again for a wonderful time

Chantelle

Sent from my iPhone

[Chantelle](mailto:Chantelle@xx)<xx>

Hiya,

Many thanks for the opportunity to attend - Receiving the tickets was quick, and efficient.

I thoroughly enjoyed the festival - I thought the layout/organisation was great in comparison to a few others I've been to this year. It ran smoothly with no issues i was aware of. Security was great, polite and in good spirits. I didn't have any issues with ques for both entry or drinks which was a bonus. Overall, i have been attending 51st state for the past 4 years and i was a bit hesitant to attend this year due to the change in location however myself and the group of people i attend with and have spoken to after all very much agreed the festival has got better and the change of location has given it a new look. I will defo be attending next year.

Hope you have a lovely year
All the best!
Kemi

[XX>](#)

resident and member of staff of Barnet Council - 0-19 Early Help Team
Pursley Road.

Hello,

Thank you for the tickets to the festival.

In response to your questions. I enjoyed attending- I thought it was well organised. I would have no objections to having it run next year though I do think residents should be offered tickets for both days as we essentially have all our green space taken over for the weekend :-)

The clean up was really quick but I did notice some few odd 'leftover' bits around last week and items around the bushes were not cleared as thoroughly - along the walking paths.

Thank you once again,

Janice

[janiceXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX>](#) xx longfield ave NW7

Yes it was a great venue, enjoyed every minute of it. Everyone was safe and happy. Would love to attend next year if get discounted tickets again lol
[Francesca Colluci<XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX>](#) Sunny gardens road NW4

Hi there,

Thank you for your email and the tickets for residents. I'm happy to provide feedback; however, I would prefer this to be anonymised if shared.

- I had a lovely afternoon at the 51st festival and thought it was a good use of the space available at that location.
- It appeared to be well organised with considerable thought given to minimising disruption to residents.

- I thought the number of attendees was appropriate and manageable.
- There was ample security, the search when entering the event seemed quite thorough, and security staff were visible throughout the event.
- Keeping the area clean was a priority with lots of bins provided and staff picking up litter.
- The first aid tent was signposted and the medical staff there were friendly and approachable.
- There was a good number of toilets; however, there didn't appear to be a clear queuing system which inevitably caused some confusion for attendees.
- I appreciated that drinking water was easily accessible at water fountains.
- A variety of food stalls were present; I wasn't sure whether these were local businesses. If not, then I would hope that local businesses are encouraged and given priority to set up stalls at the event.
- For some reason, I didn't know about the event until the day before, which is surprising and potentially indicative of gaps in channels of communication with residents, particularly from a target demographic for such an event.
- Thankfully I was able to request tickets the night before and purchase them the following morning. I strongly support the provision of free/discounted tickets to residents.
- As parking at the event was not relevant to me, I didn't really pay much attention to the availability of parking. However, I strongly support robust parking enforcement from the council to minimise any disruption to residents.
- I would attend again if offered free/discounted tickets and would not mind if the event was hosted at the same location again. I found it to be a positive moment for the local community!

longfield ave

Good Evening 51st Team,

Apologies for the long delay, really busy summer if it wasn't for taking to a friend earlier I would have missed this.

As a local resident with two family members also living even closer to Copthall to myself, I enjoyed 51st for the first time returning since year one!

My neighbours and family reported not to have been disturbed by noise or issues (cars parked on greens outside Copthall) and the only issue I was only informed of was pick pocket stealing phones by the end of the event.

One other thing although they appear to have been moved now but signs to the event were left up for weeks!

Pardon the pun but definitely not a good sign! No sign of the event should be left following, other than, that wouldn't sit well with residents weeks after!

I heard no complaints for noise.

What has the feedback from other residents been, did you like the venue and will you return there again?

Kind Regards

Miss Hunte

[XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX](#)

'S ARK



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Barnet, London EN5 4NP
+44 (0) 20 8449 887
info@noahsarkhospice.org.uk
noahsarkhospice.org.uk

To whom it may concern,

My name is Laura Grundy and I am Community Engagement Officer here at Noah's Ark Children's Hospice.

Noah's Ark provides care and support for babies, children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions and their families across North and Central London and Hertsmere.

51st state is a great local festival. Each year they offer residents of the surrounding area free or discounted tickets, which brings the community together and helps to make the event accessible.

In 2022 we had the privilege of being selected by 51st State Music Festival as one of their charity beneficiaries. Over the past 7 years they have raised a significant sum for the charities they work with and their support in 2022 will have a big impact for the children we support.

We very much hope to be able to watch the festival grow and thrive in the coming years.

If you require more information please do get in touch, it would be my pleasure to speak with

you further. Yours sincerely,
Laura

Laura Grundy
Supporter
Engagement Officer
Noah's Ark
Children's Hospice

lgrundy@noahsarkhospice.org.uk

Tel: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx