

Melanie Steadman

From: Michael Covell [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 July 2022 10:35
To: licensing
Subject: License Application No 21250 Betley Court farm
Attachments: Letter objecting to the Premises License Application No 21250.docx

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FAO Melanie Steadman.

Dear Melanie,

Attached is my revised letter objecting to the above application.

Thank you for your help and advice.

Kind regards

Michael

Premises License Application No 21250, Betley Court Farm

Dear Sir or Madam,

We wish to lodge an objection to the above license application. We have lived in Betley for over 30 years and our home is very close to the area where the farm has previously staged music events.

The owners of Betley Court Farm are asking permission to hold large scale events for up to 4,999 people. The license would allow them to hold as many events as they wish on every day of the year from 11.00am until 10.30pm and on 10 days each year from 11.00am until 1.00am the next day! This would result in an intolerable nuisance from noise and traffic disruption to us and to many other residents of Betley who live within the near vicinity of the site.

The events that were held in 2021 (Annie Get Your Gun) and 2020 (Songs under the Stars) were popular and well supported by ourselves and other local residents. Events of this nature did not result in any complaints about excessive noise or cause any major traffic problems. However the owners of the farm have said that these events did not generate the amount of income they need to make this sort of event a long-term viable proposition. It is a sad fact of life that live or recorded music, mainly aimed at a younger audience, will attract a much larger number of people. If this application is approved in its entirety it is highly likely that music events of this type will be held and this will result in a significant noise nuisance from the performance itself and from traffic congestion from visitors going to and from the farm to attend the event.

When large scale music events were last held a few years ago, the position of the stage had to be changed, noise limiting and monitoring equipment installed and sound deadening barriers used. While these measures did help to reduce the noise to some degree, the music events still resulted in a significant nuisance to residents. If music events were to be held at the farm in the future we ask that the previous limits and restrictions regarding noise levels and the position of the stage be applied and strictly enforced.

Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill are 3 small villages connected to each other. These three villages are situated on either side of a long narrow main road, the A531 from Crewe to Newcastle. In the past when music events were held at Betley Court Farm, major road congestion has resulted in residents being delayed when arriving or leaving their homes and emergency response vehicles have also been delayed by the number of vehicles attempting to get to and from the venue.

How does this licence application compare with the approvals previously given to Buddleigh Farm near to Betley, to hold wedding celebrations on a set number of days in a year?

We do not have any objections to Betley Show or Betley Bonfire as these are long established traditional events and for many years we have actively supported both of them. We also understand why the owners of Betley Court Farm wish to diversify and increase their revenue potential from the farm. There is a lot of goodwill in the village towards the family but their diversification plans should not be at the expense of the quality of life of residents, particularly those residents who live in close proximity to the farm. We have no objection to granting a premises licence to the Tea Room and the holiday lets, so that the owners can sell alcohol to customers there, but we do object to the whole farm area being included with up to 4,999 people being allowed to attend such all encompassing days and hours of operation. We consider that if this license application is approved in its current form a serious nuisance will result.

Michael & Sylvia Covell

2 Court Walk

Betley

CW3 9DP