

Mr P J Pearson  
Timbervard House  
Bedgebury – Pinetum  
Goudhurst  
Kent

Tel

The Licencing Partnership  
PO BOX 182  
Sevenoaks  
Kent  
TN13 1GP

18/4/18

**Representations Concerning Licence Application for Concerts at Bedgebury – Pinetum (BP)**

**Licence Application 18/00766/LAPRE**

**A**

We are a retired couple who have lived close to the venue for concerts in the Bedgebury Pinetum for the past 35 years and we wish to express our dismay at the proposed expansion in concerts within this area of outstanding natural beauty for the following reasons :

1 The concert noise level is unreasonably high and in discussion with the stewards they have agreed informally that the sound in the concerts is above acceptable limits. Children often wear ear defenders and when they don't they are exposed to dangerous levels of noise. The bass noise is particularly penetrating and for example has caused our house to resonate and made it difficult to hold a conversation in our home.

2 Understandably the traffic noise from the adjacent road has increased over recent years in line with; an increase in economic activities, the increase in the numbers of visitors to the forest and the B.P., and the greater use of the road by motorists taking short cuts. The increase in concert numbers to 7,000 will adversely affect traffic flows and traffic noise and inevitably result in more nuisance activities.

3. Inevitably, excessively large numbers of attendees will cause a degradation in the fauna and flora in this part of the AONB, create problems of security for us, and result in even greater litter problems.

4 During the concerts the large amount of controlled traffic in our lane blocks us in our home and makes it almost impossible to exit our property in an emergency. Unfortunately the FC has shown little interest in aiding us to find a solution to our problem.

**B**

We do not understand why the FC is involving itself in activities such as these concerts which are counter-productive to the main aims of the FC for the AONB. In summary these include ;

Protecting , maintaining, and enhancing the tranquil, natural environment for the enjoyment of the general public through outdoor activities such as walking, cycling, horse riding and other recreational activities in a natural and untouched environment.

Mr P J Pearson  
Timberyard House  
Bedgebury – Pinetum  
Goudhurst  
Kent  
TN17 2SJ

Tel.

The Licencing Partnership  
PO BOX 182  
Sevenoaks  
Kent  
TN13 1GP

18/4/18

We appreciate that the FC has financial obligations but its main obligations as laid down in numerous policy documents at national ,county and local levels ( and indeed within the FC's own corporate documents) is to protect and enhance our natural heritage for current and future generations.

It should also be noted that the disturbance and noise caused by the concerts is not confined to the days that they are held but also for a week before and a week afterwards as technicians set up the substantial amount of associated equipment and then dismantle it.

Furthermore there are a series of further minor events in the Pinetum during other summer months which also cause noise but of a lower order and do not cause us any distress.

Although we believe that the Pinetum is an inappropriate location for concerts we tolerate the current situation for holding 2 concerts a year but we do think that any increase would be the thin end of the wedge and would lead to yet further inappropriate demands. We also think that the numbers attending should be constrained to the original 3,500 which has been acceptable for most of the previous 17 years.

We are grateful to the Senior Environmental Health Officer who has already negotiated a reduction of one concert in the original Licence Application.

P J Pearson

P Y Pearson