

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]

Representation: Firstly, I should say that we attended the Ibiza events both years and thought they were a great success. However, after the first event (where there were police in attendance for an assault (sic) on a local resident that attended the event), I sent some suggestions to the organisers specified email address and failed to even get a response. Mostly around the dangerous exit of people and cars at the same time through one narrow space! Although I didn't get a reply, I was thankful to see that in 2024 there were no cars. However, the organisers did not enforce taxi drop off at the rugby club, which meant that for about 3 hours it was impossible to drive in or out of Grantchester road. This isn't really fair when it would have been entirely possible to steward the road and enforce taxis and cars to drop off on site. At pick up time people hanging around on the road with cars is dangerous. Not to mention the antisocial behaviour we witnessed the first year (violence, encroaching in our property, and public urination). And will undoubtedly happen if another 2500 people are added to the queue! The idea of doubling the capacity is not only inconvenient but will end up dangerous with a single road entry. We wish the rugby club and event organisers all the best, but please do not double the capacity and ruin it.

[REDACTED]  
Telephone: [REDACTED]  
Email:

3. The prevention of Public Nuisance. The Cambridge Rugby Union Club's current commercial entertainment events already cause considerable and protracted noise disturbance to surrounding residents (both from the events themselves and as a result of attendees leaving these events late at night), result in significant traffic disruptions (including blocked roads at the end of events, parking on residential roads surrounding the venue), and general disruption and distress (especially to elderly residents). Increasing the length, frequency or capacity of events with live music or other high-volume noise would cause serious and intolerable disturbance to surrounding residents.

Lorraine Cunningham, 27 Fulbrooke Road, Cambridge, CB3 9EE

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email:

First I'd like to say that I support CRUFC in its need to raise funds. I also appreciated Ashley, organiser of last year's music events in June, making time to meet with local residents and responding to our concerns. I felt that the weekend events were well organised and I know lots of people enjoyed them. However, two events on consecutive days was stressful for some local residents and the thought of another weekend of loud music just three weeks later is going to be unpleasant for some. I am also concerned about the specific nature of this new event and the impact it will have on local residents. Recorded Club music from the 80s and 90s includes electronic, repetitive beats and heavy bass, which tends to vibrate and can be very unsettling. The DJ will play the tracks back to back, which will be relentless in terms of noise and distressing for local residents, especially those of us in Fulbrooke Road who back onto the Rugby Ground. In 2026, we could be facing three days consecutive days in mid June and two more in July. This is going to have a negative effect on the well being of many local residents. I am also concerned about the impact of so many cars entering and leaving the ground. I am unaware of any prior event at CRUFC where up to 4999 people (projected 2026 numbers) are invited to park in the Rugby Club grounds; previous music events have not allowed parking on site. Even the club matches have an average of only 800 spectators, less than one sixth of projected numbers for this event. Whilst I appreciate that CRUFC has to find ways to fund itself - and I support this in principle - I would ask that they find alternative funding sources that don't impact so unpleasantly on local residents.

[REDACTED]

Email:

Protection of Children from Harm: Our house/street borders the premises. My two children, aged 6 and 8, usually go to bed at 8pm. With the noise to be expected beyond 8pm, they will not be able to sleep, which is detrimental to their wellbeing. Such detrimental effects have already happend (sic) in the past with similar events. I request not to publish my representation.

[REDACTED]

Telephone:

Email:

As a resident of Grantchester Road I object to the licence application for an event on the Rugby Club for 2500 people on 5th July 2025 for the following reasons based on my experience of past such events: 1.Noise nuisance from amplified music at high volume: this impacts the entire neighbourhood but particularly the residents of Fulbrooke Road and the western end of Grantchester Road throughout the whole time of the event. 2.Traffic congestion and disruption result from the sheer volume of private vehicles and taxis trying to access the venue via Grantchester Road, a residential road and the only access to the site. 3.Anti-social behaviour and lack of respect shown to residents and private property (which I accept cannot be attributed to the organisers): it was reported that a resident was assaulted in 2023 and that some attendees at the 2024 event were relieving themselves in local gardens. I myself observed this happening at the entrance to a neighbour's garden across the road from my home. Allowing this application is likely to set a precedent for more frequent events of this kind in the future with a larger attendance – the application already mentions attendance of 5000 in 2026. For these reasons I oppose the grant of a licence.

[REDACTED]  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email:

I object to this application on the grounds of Public Nuisance and potential Public Safety (including to children). As a local resident living close to, but still a few streets away from the Rugby Club, I have found previous events to be extremely disturbing to the point where, if given enough notice, I have chosen to leave my home and Cambridge to avoid them. To increase the duration and numbers of attendees as proposed would only increase the Public Nuisance. The - - all-day - - noise is considerable, and, while the Rugby Club might be able to cope with a large number of attendees, the influx obviously affects nearby streets with a corresponding influx of pedestrian and vehicular traffic (on the latter, it's worth noting that Residents' Parking now applies : what provision will be made for those travelling to the event by car/motorbike?) Is consideration given to this application in the context of the wider picture of events affecting this part of Cambridge during the summer? I have lived here since 1997 and noted a marked increase in recent years. We are fortunate enough to have green space close by, and while delighted to see these being used for the wider population of Cambridge and its visitors over the years, and especially the summer months (you will be aware of the good use made of the River Cam and its banks from Newnham to Grantchester), these are generally quiet-ish private affairs and limits do need to be places on the impact of major events like those proposed by the Rugby Club when it comes to Public Nuisance, potential Public Safety and the well-being of the local community. I strongly object to the application submitted by CRFC and the events promoter in question.

[REDACTED]  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Representation relating to Prevention of public nuisance. The premises is within a residential area, even with noise limits being set the loud music is disruptive during the evening particularly for children trying to sleep. Additionally, with such a high number of attendees noise from people leaving at the end of the event is unavoidable.

[REDACTED]  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Relating to No 3 licensing objective: Prevention of Public Nuisance The Rugby Union Club on Grantchester Road is in a built-up area of houses and gardens. This is not a suitable area to hold a large scale outdoor festival with loud amplified music. This kind of event is suitable for a more isolated venue, eg, Haggis Farm not far from Grantchester Road. An additional big public nuisance, apart from the sound, is the number of people and cars entering the site past gardens and likewise the disturbance post 11pm of the public leaving the site. If this increases annually in terms of days and numbers of people, it will become more than a Public Nuisance for the residents around. We have already experienced a similar festival the last 2 years for 2 consecutive days so are aware of the unwelcome disturbance caused by such events.

[REDACTED]  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

My wife and I are close neighbours and want to object on the grounds of 'prevention of public nuisance.' Our garden backs onto the rugby club and we have been very supportive of the club. We want it to succeed. And we understand that occasional summer events can help with funding. But the noise during an event is very intrusive and makes our home and garden very unpleasant. The sound comes in both from the back (directly) and the front (bouncing off the houses opposite). There is no escape. My wife suffers from migraines and this is very likely to bring on a migraine. To have loud and often rhythmic noise like this with a pulsating bass beat for prolonged hours on two consecutive days will make our home very hard to live in over that weekend. And if this is further extended in 2026 it will have an even greater damaging effect. We do therefore strongly object to this extension of the licence.

Ratna Beresford, 41 Selwyn Road, Cambridge, CB3 9EA

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I would like to make a representation for "3. The prevention of Public Nuisance". We, as a family of 4, found the music event in 2024 very loud and disruptive. It was difficult for the children to do revision for end of year exams and go to sleep. So we wouldn't like the music event to grow from 2 to 3 or more days. We don't find the rugby events disruptive at all.

Beverly Chapman, 4 Selwyn Road, Cambridge, CB3 9EB

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email:

Object on the basis of 2. and 3. The CRFC is situated in a residential area that has limited access roads. During the festival in July 2024, we were inundated by event patrons walking to/from the event and after the event. They were loud and left litter behind them - I personally cleaned up several bottles and cans along with fast food bag litter around and in the front garden. In addition, traversing the pavements was hazardous as most of these patrons were in large groups and forced solitary walkers into the road. Access to my residence was restricted by the huge amount of cars trying to get into the venue which backed up travel along Barton Rd, King's Rd and Grantchester Rd. Residential parking was non-existent as some patrons preferred to pay a parking fine rather than walking to the venue. There was absolutely no where for me, a resident to park. The plan provided does not show parking plans nor traffic control. Noise levels were just barely tolerable and would have warranted a complaint if this wasn't an approved event. I do not support the event for this year, nor do I support the increase in attendance for 2026, this is insane!

Richard Mountford, 35 Selwyn Road, Cambridge, CB3 9EA

Email: [REDACTED]

I am writing to raise my objections to the new Alcohol and Entertainment license applied for by

London Road Event Hire Services Limited at the Cambridge Rugby Club (Elgia Fields).

I am a resident in the neighbouring field on Selwyn Road. I accept that I have a house in the city and therefore some noise and disruption is unavoidable, but I do not believe that Elgia is suitable as a music venue and if an event is to be allowed, it should only be a one-off, within the current license restrictions.

As a supporter of the club and its team, I wish the club every success, but holding these kind of events at this location is not appropriate in my opinion. I can accept that flexibility and a degree of good-neighbourly-ness is required from residents and therefore accept that we should put up with the disruption and inconvenience of the current license. However, extending it to further events is taking it too far for the following reasons.

1. When an event is in progress the noise is extensive and unpleasant. It is simply not possible to relax, read or socialise in the garden and any activity in the house requires background noise to block out the disturbance. When an event is upcoming the only sensible option is to make plans to go out for the full day/evening.

2. The noise from the event is not restricted to the planned times of the event and it becomes a very long day for residents.

- Before the music starts there is excessive noise from the set up and sound testing (which inevitably gets the volume levels wrong at some point). Sudden bursts of feedback are not insignificant as a disturbance to residents during the day and are in some ways worse than the monotonous thud of the base and the crowd singalongs.
- After the music ends, there is the excessive noise of the crowd leaving. Many disperse along Selwyn Road heading back to town. It is a narrow street where noise echos and amplifies.
- I would like to emphasise that the dispersal of the crowd takes up to an hour after the event officially ends. In 2024 the music did stop on time but many in the crowd remained to drink and avoid a charge to the exit. Many came by taxi and waited (with much shouting and chatter) at the edge of the fields for the taxi arrival. Inevitably, as taxis are not always forthcoming or not plentiful enough to arrive on time, many in the crowd gave up and decided to walk home (via Selwyn Road). So for residents the event disturbance lasts much longer than the event itself.

3. The nature of the houses in Selwyn Road makes noise avoidance impossible. The terraced houses backing on to the field are small and there is nowhere to find noise-free space when the event is in progress. Even at the front, facing away from the field the noise bounces off the houses opposite and disturbs. Few houses if any have air-conditioning. The events take place in the summer when windows need to be kept open, especially in the evenings when the houses need cooling. It is not possible to avoid the noise.

4. The field is on flat land with nothing to block out the noise of the music and crowds. The thin hedge line does not act as a noise barrier. As the rugby place-kickers will tell you, the wind direction is almost always from the south, behind the field, sending the noise unobstructed towards the city. In 2023 the noise levels for the cider & sausage event were too high and it felt as if they were uncontrolled. In 2024, the noise levels had improved and there was a feeling that the event organisers were trying to control the levels. But it cannot be overstated just how much the noise travels at this location. No controls will ever be enough to avoid the event being a public nuisance to the local residents. Therefore, this site will always be unsuitable for events such as those proposed in the new application.

5. Please bear in mind that as residents we already have to deal with disturbances on the Downing College playing fields directly behind us, from occasional university events which are held, especially us at the end of term. There are also the fireworks from the May Balls in early June to disturb the peace. There is a danger that the garden will become a no-go area for relaxation at a time when residents most want to enjoy them.

In summary: the Ellgia Fields music events are too close to residences and in an unsuitable location. For the sake of neighbourly-ness, I accept that one-off events can take place, as long as they are well advertised and we can make alternative plans for the day. Beyond that though, I believe that the quality of life for the local residents should take priority and no extensions to the licence should be permitted.

Wesley Dignan

4 Selwyn Road, Newnham, Cambridge, CB3 9EB

Telephone [REDACTED]

Email:

I live approximately 1 minutes walk from the Rugby Club. Last years event brought nothing but noise and mayhem. The noise was not just from the event but also from people coming and going, including past my home. The traffic was mayhem and the organisation and marshalling of the event traffic was a total shambles. I myself experienced this first hand. I came home in my vehicle from Trumpington via Grantchester and was met with traffic and Marshalling chaos. One of the Marshalls tried to make me turn my car around and go back through Grantchester even though I could clearly see the street where I live from my car. This is a quiet residential area and this event could be held at a much more appropriate area. I totally object to this event being held here. I also note that the organisers have made the application at a time just before Christmas when a lot of residents would be making plans for the festive period or already have left for their holidays.

Nick Warburton, 37 Fulbrooke Road, Cambridge, CB3 9EE

Telephone [REDACTED]

Email:

I object on the grounds of disruptive noise and public nuisance

Jennifer Warburton, 37 Fulbrooke Road, Cambridge, CB3 9EE

Telephone

Email: [REDACTED]

1. Related to prevention of crime and disorder: When this event was held last time, on leaving the premises, people who had been at the event trespassed into gardens, damaged areas and used the gardens as urinals. When this event was held last time the noise level was intolerable to such an extent that we were unable to hear a radio and television in our own house. In fact, we are so anxious about the general disruption and noise level this time that we are considering booking in to a local hotel for the duration of the event.

[REDACTED]  
Telephone:

Email: [REDACTED]

We object to this licence application on the grounds that the event will cause a public nuisance especially through excessive noise. The scale of the event is entirely inappropriate to a quiet residential area and could establish a precedence for larger and more frequent events in future.

[REDACTED]  
Email:

Such extremely noisy musical events should not be allowed in a quiet academic part of Cambridge, not only is it very detrimental to my health and work, and make it impossible for my family to come and visit.

[REDACTED]  
Telephone: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

No consideration has been made in this application to prevent public nuisance to residents living on Selwyn Road. Previous similar events have caused significant late night disturbance to us and our neighbours, with hundreds of very loud, often drunk, attendees from the event slowly leaving the Rugby Club and making their way into town down our road over several hours. Some attendees seemed to find the corner of Selwyn Road and King's Road a convenient place to stop and urinate. The houses of Selwyn Road are small & narrow, many with no or very small front gardens, and the disturbance caused by people talking loudly and singing on our road, particularly in summer when windows are often left open, is considerable. We object in principle to any additional events being held where there is the potential for the number of attendees to double to 5,000 on the grounds that the public nuisance caused will be considerable. However, if this license is granted, then we request, as a minimum, that a requirement of the license is that marshalls must be situated at the top of Selwyn Road where it meets Grantchester Street, to prevent event attendees using Selwyn road and to direct them towards Barton Road. Barton Road is a more suitable route into town for

pedestrians as there are fewer residential properties, particularly on the north side, and they are significantly set back from the road compared to those on Selwyn Road.

[REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email:

My main concerns are about Public safety of the participants of the event. It is understandable that CRUFC needs to raise much needed money for their club and hosting events with as many participants as possible seems the easiest way to achieve that. Whilst the rugby field can certainly host 2499 people and probably 4999 people too, the venue is an 'open green space' on the inside but has essentially one access point which is a service road off Grantchester road which is not a through road and ends at the CRUFC itself. When people are leaving the event along this road which is dual pedestrian/car use they have little choice but to turn left and walk down Grantchester road towards Barton road. They are unlikely to turn right to hike towards Grantchester village along the narrow unlit road with no pedestrian provision. Last year I watched as the crowds dispersed at the end of Sausage and Cider festival. There was a sea of people walking down Grantchester Road. It took them a good 1.5 hours to disperse after the event finished at 11pm. For most of the stretch of Grantchester Road the crowd is locked between two rows of houses with cars parked either side of the road narrowing it down further. Given a certain amount of illegal parking on that particular night there were a lot more cars than usual. I'm fairly certain that if there was incident that triggers a panic it would have been a stampede and given how drunk most people were, there probably would have been injuries. As the people have left CRUFC by then, the responsibility for casualties will be shared by the City Council. The probability of such occurrence is between Remote and Probable and the hazard is Severe. I'm really surprised the City Council granted Sausage and Cider festival a license given that this risk exists. The proposal to host up to 4999 people in 2026 means the number of people exiting CRUFC at the end of the event would be significantly higher than after Sausage and Cider festival. Several exit points from the venue would mitigate this risk substantially but alternative exits don't exist. Even if CRUFC opened up an alternative exit from CRUFC people will still all move along Grantchester Road towards Barton Road because this is the only direction towards city centre and taxis. A risk of serious malicious incidents causing multiple casualties is unlikely given this is a very local event on the edge of town. However, the whole area consists of narrow residential streets with high density parking and multiple use (vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians). If a critical incident occurred, access for emergency vehicles in any emergency involving multiple casualties will be severely hindered. I know this because taxis could not reach people leaving the event last year as the roads were completely blocked by people. Taxis had to wait in Barton Road for a good 20-30 minutes before getting access to Selwyn and Grantchester Roads. There were no CRUFC staff visible anywhere who could have been making any attempts to manage leaving patrons. The more such events are hosted, the higher the probability of any adverse events occurring and therefore the overall risk of severe consequences goes up. The current application is for 'one day on 5 July' however CRUFC already hosts multiple events such as Ibiza Orchestra (sic) on 13 June, Sausage and Cider on 14 June, and as yet to be licensed event on 15 June plus multiple smaller events such as student end of year parties, Volleyball association weekend, etc. These are held throughout summer on most weekends. With the addition of 5 July event which will presumably become annual plus 2



more events in 2026 this looks like CRUFC is trying to turn itself into a full-time entertainment venue. However the infrastructure around CRUFC is just not fit or safe for such ambitions. No amount of major incident plans promised to be submitted by CRUFC will mitigate this. Given the above I think it's misguided and irresponsible that the City Council already allowed events with 2000+ people attending to be hosted at CRUFC and it will certainly be criminally irresponsible to allow any events hosting 4999 people.

Carol Patton, 43 Fulbrooke Road, Cambridge, CB3 9EE

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email:

Licence application : 285771 We fully respect that Cambridge Rugby Union Club needs to do their best to keep their club running, and we do understand that they wish to make better use of their land during the off-season summer months. However, as two of the residents directly overlooking the playing fields, we do have concerns about this application for an event to be held on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th July 2025, and to be held annually thereafter. The event description sounds like it is intended to be some sort of music festival. There doesn't seem to be any other purpose. Firstly, mindful that the licensing applicant must prevent the occurrence of public nuisance, and based on our experience of similar events held on this exact site over the past 25 years, it seems to have been extremely difficult for organisers not to cause a noise nuisance to those living nearby. This is a quiet, residential, semi-rural environment. We know that we are very lucky. However, the landscape is completely flat around here, there are few trees or hedges and any sound travels very clearly (eg we are regularly disturbed during the summer months by informal raves on Grantchester Meadows and the festivals held at Haggis Farm next to the M11). There is nothing to insulate it. Events held on an open stage or in tents sound like they are in our back gardens. Bass sounds in particular can reverberate very strongly. Sound checks start early in the day and the music then plays continuously at volume throughout. We feel particularly sorry for our elderly neighbours, the unwell, and families with young children who need to sleep. There is no escape. Liaison with the person taking responsibility last year was a significant improvement. However, we have found that whilst we contact them and request a sound check, which leads to a dulling of the volume, it often drifts up again within the hour. Sometimes that may be attributed to the 'type' of music, but that seems unlikely as it's always possible to turn the volume down, whatever the 'type'! The Council's own webpage headed "What is noise" states "everyone's perception of noise, or unwanted sound, is different. It's not just a question of sound levels in decibels, but of what is acceptable to the average person – and what one person considers acceptable may not seem unreasonable to somebody else." Given the context of the local environment and on the balance of probabilities, it is more likely than not that a reasonable person would find the level of music played continuously for 6 hours on the Friday immediately followed by another 11 hours on the Saturday to be unacceptable. Further, as the Council no longer operates a noise monitoring service, there is no means of independent verification on the day. Residents cannot seek help and advice from anyone else. The Council's own webpage states: "Follow these steps if there is a noise issue you wish to resolve. 1. Try to resolve the problem informally 2. Consider using the neighbourhood resolution panel scheme 3. Check what noises you can and can't report to us 4. Report the noise using our online form 5. As a last resort you could take legal action through the courts" The Council will respond to a form submitted online within three working days. In other words, there is no effective means of enforcement if agreed

sound levels are exceeded and cause a public nuisance. Taking all the above into consideration we urge you to modify the number of night time hours allowed in the interests of preventing the occurrence of public nuisance. Secondly, there is a serious risk to public safety with regard to the management of the car traffic attracted by these events. There is only one, single width, access/egress point into the site, directly onto a narrow country road. It is dangerous and irresponsible to attract so much traffic to the location. Stewards have no legal powers to enforce suggestions that drivers should leave in the direction of Grantchester. Taxi drivers caused considerable chaos (ie road blocks) in the area in 2024 by dropping off and collecting people, and doing U turns back up to the Barton Road. Stewards have absolutely no control over that sort of situation which should not have arisen in a properly managed event. Furthermore, also in 2024 and due to the poor access to the site, it took almost an hour for customers to leave, contributing significantly to public nuisance beyond the permitted licensing hours. There is no easy way for significant numbers of people (the application is projecting 1000s?) to disperse safely and quickly. Any increase above the numbers currently allowed will further exacerbate disruption, and is likely to continue beyond midnight. The organisers need to find better ways to bring their customers to and from their event and without relying on private transport.

[REDACTED]  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email:

I hereby strongly object to awarding the licence application 285771 for a music festival on the 5th July 2025; - and for this to be extended to a 2-day event in 2026. As residents on Selwyn Road we already have to tolerate noise from various smaller events held at the CRUFC. The rugby club currently hosts a number of weekend events starting mid June until well into August including various 'smaller' parties such as volleyball weekend etc. These all involve disco into the night and noisy crowds. This licence will substantially add to noise and public nuisance and increase the risk for crime and disorder in an area that is residential and set in a village community. Moreover, this application is in addition to the Cider and Sausage festival which will take place in mid June 2025 (from same event organiser) which last year was held in summer 2024 and was extremely noisy and disruptive. The rugby club site is highly unsuitable for music festivals as it is located next to a residential area. As such we are concerned about the extensive noise and amount of disorder (such as urinating and vomiting in neighbouring gardens which occurred during the Sausage and Cider festival last year) and to some extent due to lack of sufficient toilet facilities. During the festival we had to endure numerous incidences of drunken behaviour outside our front door with streams of people walking down Selwyn Road en route to the rugby club. We have no doubt that this licence for an additional event will cause extensive public nuisance such as drunken behaviour which is in addition to the extremely loud music similar to the public nuisance and noise during last years event . As residents on Selwyn Road we have a right to enjoy our gardens in summer which is impossible during these events with music being excessively load. The extremely load music risks damage to hearing of all residents that dare venture outdoors especially that of children. The timing of this event is also a problem as the noise and nuisance from such a large amount of visitors into a residential area is hugely disruptive to school children that are writing exams over that time. As always with such a large influx of people into the residential area this event raises an increased risk for crime and disorder and potential harm to children. This stems both from increased car traffic in the area and anti-social behaviour. Since this application is in addition of an existing music festival at the same venue in mid June residents will have no weekends where they can enjoy peace and quiet in their own gardens and this we find unacceptable. The venue is a rugby club that should serve the local community - as such it is highly unsuitable as a venue for music festivals. Furthermore doubling the amount of visitors from 2500 to 5000 and a two-day event in 2026 will set the wrong president that risk escalating public nuisance over much of the summer. Therefore, this licence infringes our rights as residents to the peace and quiet in our own gardens during summer and expose us to risk of crime and disorder, harm to children and public nuisance.

Jane Langley, 77 Selwyn Road, Newnham, Cambridge, CB3 9EA

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email:

As the owner of 77 Selwyn Road since 1981, may I object forcefully to the granting of this licence: last year the noise was intense; visitors urinated and vomited into local gardens. June is the month when the young are examined at crucial stages of their lives. and deserve uninterrupted quiet.

Councillor Clough, 13 Fulbrooke Road, Cambridge, CB3 9EE

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email:

We live on the south side of Fulbrooke Road, next to the Rugby field. So I am writing to object to this licence application both as residents and also as a City Councillor for Newnham Ward having received a significant number of emails from residents who are also concerned and objecting to this application.

**All licence applications must comply with 4 licensing objectives including:**

- the prevention of crime and disorder.
- public safety.
- the prevention of public nuisance.
- the protection of children from harm.

I believe that the application **will not comply with aspects of all 4** of the licensing objectives.

Firstly it is necessary to make clear that there are already two licences in operation at the Rugby Club:

- Club Premises Licence Wk/201412247 - licence holder Cambridge Rugby Union Club
- Premises Licence PRECAM 000926 – licence holder – Live Tour Promotions Ltd

The cumulative impact of a further licence to run large scale music events is a particular concern.

**Live Tour Promotions Ltd – Ibiza Orchestra plus Sausage & Cider – history**

This events company has run their combined Ibiza Orchestra and Sausage & Cider weekend event twice: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August and Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2024.

**July 2023** There was a leaflet drop before the first occasion but only during day on 7<sup>th</sup> July. This was clearly late and should have been done a month before. Residents had no idea that any licence had been applied for because no information had been circulated out to them at the time. And a small A4 blue notice on the Rugby Club gate would not have noticed. In 2023 the level of music on the first night was quite loud in our garden but acceptable (to us) inside the house. However **the following night 8<sup>th</sup> – the level was totally unacceptable.** Even inside our house through the double glazed

doors, it was very loud and disturbing. I called the contact number provided on the letter but heard nothing back. I also made complaint to Environment health and was given the reference number 381065 and wrote with my concerns to the Rugby on 9<sup>th</sup> July. We were promised copies of the noise records by Ashley (Ash) Ramian but they never arrived.

There was also chaos and acute traffic congestion on Grantchester Road around 11pm 7<sup>th</sup> July when I took my mother home from a visit to see relatives we staying with us for that week.

**August 2024** this was after I had been elected to the Council in May 2024 so when we received the letter notifying that there was to be another event weekend, I followed up the email trail with Environmental Health as a “councillor concern” and also re-emailed the Rugby Club. Environmental health were in contact with Ash to discuss residents concerns.

My email to the Rugby Club resulted in a zoom call on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July during which it was agreed that we would attend the sound test on the Friday afternoon. Ash had told us that the sound had to be limited to **65 decibels** which is the permitted limit.

The sound test took place at a number of place but more relevantly for us at two places along the fence boundary next our house (no.13) and near to no.27 where Lori Cunningham lives who was the other principal street contact with the Rugby Club.

We had previously downloaded the “Decibel Meter” app onto our phones. The sound engineer from F1 Acoustic came to those locations and watching the display on his professional grade unit against the readings on our mobile apps showed very similar results.

During the first evening, Ibiza Orchestra we monitored the noise volume in our gardens and when the level started to go above 65bd after 10pm, a recording started. I managed to down a segment of data for 17 minutes in CSV format which I was able to pivot table into a layout which showed how the Average peak volume exceeded the 65db maximum in 8 of 17 minutes. This was emailed to Ash the following day but there was no response and also the promised copy of the sound recording has not been supplied.

We continued to monitor the sound on the following evening with the decibel app and they kept to within (just below) the 65db limit during the event so far as we were able to determine.

### **No relief / summer windows open**

The problem with music at 65 decibels at the house boundary is that it is totally dominating of our garden spaces. This is happening in the summer so windows need to be open for cooling so there is little relief other than to move to the rooms in the house on the far side of the house. But even then the music can gain access by travelling over and being bounced back from the houses on the north side of the road.

### **Type of music / Length**

Also it depends whether you actually enjoy listening the type of music being played. Being subjected to music one doesn't enjoy for two days at 65 decibel volume is simply unacceptable.

### **Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts**

We had discovered on the web and also the Environmental Health team sent us the Code of Practice for noise control at concert events produced by the Noise Council which is attached. Table 1 on Page 6 makes it clear that noise should not exceed 65 decibel and that there should only be 1 to 3 concerts at this level of noise during the year.

### **Live Tour Promotions undertaking**

During the zoom meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> July Ash confirmed to both Lori Cunningham and myself that Live Tour Promotions had no intention of running more than one weekend event. This understanding was confirmed in my email to him and the Rugby Club on 1<sup>st</sup> Aug which is attached. As they were working to the 65 decibel limit and this would be within the 1-3 concerts per year limit, we concluded that this was probably something that we would have to accept. And the assurance was passed on to residents as being given in good faith.

### **Other noise impacts during this last year 2024**

- Earlier in the summer, the Rugby Club rented out the middle of the field to a student organisation. Marquees were erected and there was some music and evening disturbances. But the main problem was dispersal. Some students clearly remained on site making noise into the early hours. I do not know under which licence this was run. The Rugby Club have advised us that this type of event will not be repeated going forward
- The Club has erected some permanent marquee spaces on the north side of the main built club house. At the end of the summer possibly on match days, there has been a small combo playing and a number of people "jigging" about. This music travel across the space to the gardens and disrupts the peace of a late summer weekend afternoon in the garden.
- The Club also hires out its hard standing to film production companies. There have been problems with noise and fumes from the generators reported by some residents.

### **Misuse of our back lane**

During the dispersal phase on the last LTP weekend in 2024, we found people using our back access lane as a toilet.

## **London Road Event Hire Services Limited**

When we discovered just before Christmas from an email to councillors from the Licensing team that a separate new licence application had been submitted for the Rugby Club site by a new separate event company, London Road Event Hire Services, we arranged an urgent residents meeting with the Rugby on 23<sup>rd</sup> December and it emerged that initially one (2025) and then two new day events (2026) were being applied for. We were also advised an additional day was being sold by Live Tour Promotions (LTP) for the Sunday of the next Ibiza Orchestra/Sausage and Cider weekend (13/14/15 June 25). Though this would require a further application to amend the existing licence in due course. If that was not successful then the ticket moneys would be refunded.

## **Assurance of no expansion – not recalled**

When Ash was asked about the assurance about not expanding the number of days he had provided last year, he wasn't able to recall the conversation.

In subsequent email exchanges we discovered Ash Ramian has now set up a Event consultancy separate from either LTP or London Road Event Hire Services which is providing health safety and crowd management services to these two event companies.

So in total the number of full heavy music events on the Rugby could increase from **two** in 2024 to **five** in 2026.

## **Cumulative impact / outside Code of Practice**

It is clear that this number of events will exceed the 1-3 events stated in the Code of Practice. Moreover there other lower key outdoor music event happening at the club which need to be considered as part of the cumulative impact on residents. In terms of the film crew generators, we have not yet attempted to measure or diarise this impact – but it is there and needs to be included in the process.

## **Neighbouring roads - notified**

We have provided briefing emails on our Fulbrooke Road email group and these have been forwarded to Grantchester Road. Selwyn Road – which does not an email / whatsapp group has received a summary letter.

## **Copies of residents' emails with concerns**

I have received a substantial number of emails expressing concern and also been copied into objections to this latest application. People have mostly set out their concerns with the previous

events are deeply worried that the new licence will increase their discomfort.

**Complaints have included:**

1. Blocked traffic and disruption along Selwyn Road and Grantchester Road.
2. Taxi drivers and other drivers refusing to go into the one-way drop off and collect system on the club grounds. Dropping off early and doing three point turns in the middle of Grantchester Road
3. Loud, drunken behaviour along Selwyn and Grantchester Road, urinating in front gardens and alleyways.
4. Damage to cars on Selwyn Road and bottles/broken glass left for residents to clear up.
5. Unacceptable levels of music and disruption.
6. Concerns about the type of music which will be played at the DJ set 80s 90s – which may be heavy beat electronic dance/rave music.
7. Impact on young children with parents not being able to settle down their children down for sleep at the normal 7-8pm slot. It is not practical to move children to other bedroom – or indeed why should they have to?
8. Impact on elderly neighbours who are not able to rearrange their schedules and go away on a music event weekend.

In terms of the licencing objectives ... complaints 1 to 8 above apply as follows:

- the prevention of crime and disorder: 3, 4
- public safety: 1,2,3,4
- the prevention of public nuisance: 3,5,6,8
- the protection of children from harm: 7

**Support for the Rugby Club**

We, as a household, understand the need for the Rugby Club to run events which help them balance their books. We were prepared to accept a single two day music event as for 2023 and 2024. But the planned expansion from 2 to 5 events is unacceptable. The ad hoc music making in the late summer



afternoon is also unreasonable given the handful of people involved. It is fine for the club events within the clubhouse ... but everything done on the field has to be balanced against the impact on residents.

We are keen to support the Club and appreciate the neighbourly help they have given to us in past – such as allowing us to access our back garden during extension works and rent car parking space for our daughter's wedding.

### **Support for residents – Environmental health team**

Having exchanged some detailed emails with the Environmental Health team, it has become clear to me that a number of enhancements to the existing system should be made to help support residents facing this type of situation. These could be addressed on the City Council's website and after discussion and agreement – and also added into the **standard conditions** for this type of event.

- invite ward councillors and RA / street representation to attend the Safety Advisor Group **(SAG) meetings** at which the event organisers present their plans ... and also have sets of the plans circulated beforehand
- provide a copy of the **Code of Practice** on the website along with a notice that council subscribes to this industry standard document. [This already happens on the websites of a number of other councils – which is how we found it originally.]
- require event organisers to employ a professional **sound monitoring** consultant and provide copies of their post event **reports** to Ward councillors and RA / street representatives. And also require them to invite RA / Street reps to attend the pre-event **sound tests**.
- confirm the **65 decibel or lower limits** in the licence conditions
- provide details of the recommended decibel monitoring **phone app** that residents can use for monitoring an event.

### **Conclusion**

We personally are opposed to the granting of the licence to London Road Event Services Limited due cumulative impact and on the prevention of public nuisance grounds.

There is considerable objection to this application among residents as summarised above and I will be happy to go through my emails and provide extracts at the next stage ... though I expect a good number of these will already have been provided in the other response and will appear in the officer's report.

[REDACTED]  
Email:

We would like to register the following concerns:

Whilst we support and wish to continue supporting our neighbours, The Cambridge Rugby Football Club, and wish to entertain a good relationship with them, we are concerned that the licence application states "The licence would be limited to one consecutive Friday and Saturday per annum". Please advise whether this is in addition to the already planned one consecutive Friday and Saturday events namely the Ibiza Orchestra Experience and the Sausage and Cider Festival that are due to be held on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd August 2025.

We are further concerned that the current licence applied for (see details above) is open ended in terms of the number of single days of licensable activities that may take place on the Cambridge Rugby Football Club premises.

The licensable activities for single day activities as well as one consecutive Friday and Saturday per annum specifically applied for are described as "live music", "recorded music" and "performance for dance" and by their noise causing nature fall under the prevention of public nuisance licence objectives.

As neighbours, we would view more favourably a licence application with such licensable activities with a set maximum limit of specific number of single day events rather than being left open ended/unlimited as suggested in the current licence application.

As regards to the stated 2 consecutive day events on a Friday and a Saturday in the licence application, we await clarification from yourselves as this, in addition to the openendedness/unrestricted numbers of single day events, gives rise to most alarming concerns.