



To: The Licensing Authority
Tandridge District Council

Temporary Event – Objection Notice

Licensing Act 2003 – s104 (as amended)

Premises:	Sandhills Farm, Outwood Lane, Bletchingley. RH1 4NL
Premises user:	Christopher Baldwin
Date of Event:	11/09/2021
Date Temporary Event Notice received by police e mail:	16/06/2021 @11:11hrs
Nature of event as described on TEN application	A small 1 day over 18s private event for friends and associates of the organisers. Entertainment will consist of amplified, pre-recorded music, there will also be a paid bar.
Standard or Late TEN:	Standard

Sir / Madam

Please note that the Chief of Police is satisfied that by allowing the above premises to be used in accordance with the relevant Temporary Event Notice it would undermine the following licensing objectives:

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Public Safety

Please note the similarity in the 'nature of this event', described by the applicant as '**A small 1 day over 18s private event for friends and associates of the organisers. Entertainment will consist of amplified, pre-recorded music, there will also be a paid bar**' and the 'nature of the events', as described in the previous two TENs,' submitted by Mr Christopher Baldwin as below, in 2018.

Please also note the template and information supplied for the '**The Godstone Private Music Festival**', risk assessment, which was submitted by Mr. Christopher Baldwin in 2018 and its similarity to the risk assessment submitted by Mr. Baldwin for this 2021 TEN event, titled **Sandhills Farm – Additional information**, with the event being called the '**Tropical Garden Party**'.

As referenced above, the applicant, Mr Christopher Baldwin submitted two previous TEN applications in 2018. These applications were for a single outdoor music event to take place at Whyte Gate Farm, South Godstone. The first TEN application made in March 2018 described this event as:

A SMALL 2-DAY PRIVATE EVENT FOR FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES OF THE ORGANISERS. IT WILL NOT BE PUBLICLY ADVERTISED. ENTERTAINMENT WILL CONSIST PRIMARILY OF PRE-RECORDED MUSIC. FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT THERE WILL BE NO LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCES.

The risk assessment accompanying the above TEN event (attached) titled the event as '**The Godstone Private Music Festival**'.

This TEN application was subsequently withdrawn with the applicant having described the event as an event that was *not to be publicly advertised*, when in fact it was being actively promoted on Facebook, where tickets could be purchased on line by the general public and at a music event at The Cage Public House in Reigate.

A second (revised) TEN was submitted in June 2018 and the description of this same event was now amended to read:

A SMALL 2-DAY PRIVATE EVENT FOR FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES OF THE ORGANISERS. ENTERTAINMENT WILL CONSIST PRIMARILY OF PRE-RECORDED MUSIC. FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT THERE WILL BE NO LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCES.

Surrey Police objected to this application as the Chief of Police was satisfied that by allowing Whyte Gate Farm to be used in accordance with the relevant Temporary Event Notice it would undermine the licensing objectives.

Attached is a copy of the two TEN applications submitted in 2018.

A hearing was held for the Licensing Sub-Committee to consider whether to grant or reject the application.

The Sub-Committee determined to serve a counter notice in respect of the TEN.

Surrey Police informed the licensing committee that whilst the applicant stated it was to be a private event, it was being promoted to the general public and the event was being called '**The Tribal Rhythm Festival**' and was described on Facebook pages, accessible to any member of the public as follows:

1. This is going to be the **biggest, baddest production we have ever delivered**, so hold on to your seats, buckle up your comfiest raving kicks and get ready for the party of the year.
2. **The tribes** shall unite upon an **unwitting countryside** in Surrey.

Surrey Police believe that in promoting the licensing objectives , all parties must enter into the TEN process in good faith and Surrey Police believe this was not the case in these circumstances and that Mr Christopher Baldwin had failed to provide genuine intention which leaves Surrey Police to question the suitability of Mr Baldwin to provide licensable activity of this nature under a TEN.

In light of the above history, Surrey Police cannot have confidence that the details regarding this TEN event on 11th Sept 2021 can be relied upon .Surrey Police take the position that the applicants stated intention to have a capacity of 350 persons may be exceeded and if the history as set out above was to be repeated the mandatory capacity limit of 499 could well be exceeded on the unwitting countryside in Surrey and such increased numbers will most likely result in incidents of crime and disorder, in a rural locality which would normally have very few incidents of crime and disorder.

The event is to be held in a rural setting and whilst the applicant makes reference to 4 SIA security officers, a single access point and Heras fencing , it is very likely the control measures referenced in the risk assessment for this planned event would not prevent gate-crashers gaining access to the licensable areas and the car park. It is not feasible for four SIA security to provide the necessary level of security at the entrance, at the bar, at the stage and in the car parks to ensure the licensing objectives are being promoted, above everything else and intoxication levels are being managed .

At a ratio of 1 SIA per 87.5 guests (350 attendance), in an open rural landscape, when licensable activity is taking place, it raises concerns that any incursion, crime or disorder incident may not be appropriately dealt with, recorded, and reported.

Surrey Police note the risk assessment does not include any policy or guidance on searching of persons and their belongings as a condition of entry and how to manage a drug seizure, or seizure of prohibited articles. There is no reference to how they would deal with a safeguarding incident, or a missing person.

As set out in the history, the applicant previously sought to arrange a music event under a TEN, where in the words of the promotional material, the tribes shall unite. Surrey Police believe there is a risk that substance misuse would be a real concern at this event.

When darkness falls, there will be areas at this rural venue and surrounding the licensable areas which cannot be illuminated, which will inevitably heighten risk to individuals who may be on their own at the time and intoxicated or otherwise incapacitated.

With the venue being in a rural setting, the country roads serving this location are narrow and unlit and as can be seen from the applicant's supplementary information, parking is provided and it can be assumed that many people are likely to attend in vehicles. When the drivers leave at the end of the event and use the unlit country lanes, there will be a heightened risk of incident, with the potential for any persons leaving the venue on foot, especially if they are intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, to be at risk from motor vehicles on the road.

Surrey Police consider an application for this type of event would be more suited to a Premises Licence application, that gives the Responsible Authorities 28 days consultation period to comment, and the ability to agree appropriate conditions with the applicant to meet the Licensing Objectives for this type of event.

If this event is allowed to go ahead Surrey Police firmly believe it will result in a risk to the safety of the public and could result in crime and disorder incidents taking place.

When considering the above points, Surrey Police would ask the Licensing Authority to issue a counter notice to this TEN.

Yours faithfully,

Ian Sandwell 16079, Licensing Enforcement Officer

For and on behalf of Inspector & Borough Commander of Tandridge for Surrey Police