



## Licensing Sub-Committee

**Date:** Wednesday, 5 June 2024  
**Time:** 10.00 am  
**Venue:** Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

**Members (Quorum: 3)**  
Derek Beer, Emma Parker and Claudia Webb

**Chief Executive:** Matt Prosser, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic Services  
Meeting Contact 01305 224877 [john.miles@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:john.miles@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting, apart from any items listed in the exempt part of this agenda.

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### Agenda

Item	Pages
<b>1. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND STATEMENT FOR THE PROCEDURE OF THE MEETING</b>	
To elect a Chair for the meeting and the Chair to present and explain the procedure for the meeting.	
<b>2. APOLOGIES</b>	
To receive any apologies for absence.	
<b>3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
To disclose any pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interests as set out in the adopted Code of Conduct. In making their disclosure councillors are asked to state the agenda item, the nature of the interest and any action they propose to take as part of their declaration. If required, further advice should be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.	

**4. URGENT ITEMS**

To consider any items of business which the Chairman has had prior notification and considers to be urgent pursuant to section 100B (4) b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The reason for the urgency shall be recorded in the minutes.

**5. NEW PREMISES LICENCE APPLICATION FOR MOORS VALLEY COUNTRY PARK, ASHLEY HEATH**

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An application has been made for a new premises licence at Moors Valley Country Park and Forest, Ashley Heath. The application has been advertised in accordance with regulations and has attracted relevant representations. A Licensing Sub Committee must consider the application and representations at a public hearing.

**6. EXEMPT BUSINESS**

To move the exclusion of the press and the public for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). The public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting whilst the item of business is considered.

**There are no exempt items scheduled for this meeting.**



## **THE LICENSING ACT 2003 (HEARINGS) REGULATIONS 2005**

### Rights of a Party

1. A party has the right to attend the hearing and may be represented by any person.
2. A party is entitled to give further information where the authority has asked for clarification.
3. A party can question another party, and/or address the authority, with consent of the authority.

### Failure to Attend

4. If the authority is informed a party does not wish to attend, the hearing may proceed in their absence.
5. If a party has not indicated their attendance and fails to attend the hearing may be adjourned if considered in the public interest, or hold the hearing ensuring the party's representation is considered.
6. Where the authority adjourns the hearing it shall notify the parties of the date, time and place.

### Procedural Information

7. At the start of the hearing, the authority shall explain the procedure which it proposes to follow and shall consider any request for permission for another person to appear at the hearing.
8. A hearing shall take the form of a discussion led by the authority and cross-examination shall not be permitted unless the authority considers that it is required.
9. The authority will allow the parties an equal maximum period of time in which to speak.
10. The authority may require any person behaving disruptively to leave, and may refuse that person to return, but such a person may, before the end of the hearing, submit in writing information they would have been entitled to give orally had they not been required to leave.

### **FOOTNOTE:**

In relation to all other matters governed by the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 any party or their representative may contact the Licensing Services at Dorset Council and they will be provided with a full copy of the regulations on request.

## LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE PROCEDURE

1. At the start of the meeting the Chairman will introduce:
  - the members of the sub-committee
  - the council officers present
  - the parties and their representatives
2. The Chairman will then deal with any appropriate agenda items.
3. The Licensing Officer will be asked to outline the details of the application, including details of any withdrawn representations.
4. The applicant or their representative is then invited to present their case.
5. Committee members will be invited to ask questions.
6. Where appropriate the Responsible Bodies e.g. representatives of Police, Fire Services, Environmental Services or Trading Standards will be invited to address the sub-committee on any relevant representations they may have.
7. The Chairman may then allow an opportunity for questions.
8. The Chairman will ask any person who has made representations, who have already expressed a wish to do so, to address the sub-committee. The sub-committee will have read all the papers before them, including any letters of representation. Members of the public are asked to keep their comments concise and to the point.
9. All parties will be given the opportunity to “sum up” their case.
10. The Chairman will ask the Legal Advisor if all relevant points have been addressed before advising all parties present that the sub-committee will withdraw from the meeting to consider its decision in private. The sub-committee will be accompanied by the Democratic Services Officer and the Legal Advisor can be called upon to offer legal guidance.
11. The Chairman will:
  - advise when the sub-committee’s decision will be confirmed in writing.
  - Inform those present of their right to appeal to the Magistrates’ Court.

## **NOTE**

The Chairman may vary this procedure, as circumstances require but will have regard to the rules of natural justice and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

The meeting will take place in public. However, the public can be excluded from all or part of the meeting where the sub-committee considers that the public interest in so doing outweighs the public interest in the meeting or that part of the meeting, taking place in public.

Under no circumstances must the parties or their witnesses offer the sub-committee information in the absence of the other parties.

The Chairman and the Sub-Committee have discretion whether to allow new information or documents to be submitted and read at the meeting.

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## LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

5 June 2024

### New Premises Licence Application for Moors Valley Country Park, Ashley Heath

#### For Decision

**Portfolio Holder:**

Cllr G Taylor, Public Health, Environmental Health, Housing, Community Safety and Regulatory Service

**Local Councillor(s):**

Cllrs R Bryan and B Gorringe

**Executive Director:**

Jan Britton, Executive Lead for Place

Report Author: Aileen Powell

Job Title: Licensing Team Leader

Tel: 01258 484022

Email: aileen.powell@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

**Report Status:** Public

**Brief Summary:** An application has been made for a new premises licence at Moors Valley Country Park and Forest, Ashley Heath. The application has been advertised in accordance with regulations and has attracted relevant representations. A Licensing Sub Committee must consider the application and representations at a public hearing.

**Recommendation:** The Sub-Committee determines the application in the light of written and oral evidence and resolves to take such steps as it considers appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives of; -

- a) The prevention of crime and disorder
- b) The prevention of public nuisance
- c) Public safety
- d) The protection of children from harm

**Reason for Recommendation:** The Sub-Committee must consider both the written representations received and any oral representations given at the hearing before reaching a decision.

## 1. Background

1.1 Section 4 of the Licensing Act 2003 sets out the duties of the Licensing Authority, it sets out that a Council's licensing functions must be carried out with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives of:

- (a) the prevention of crime and disorder;
- (b) public safety;
- (c) the prevention of public nuisance; and
- (d) the protection of children from harm.

1.2 All applications and decisions are made with due regard to the [Licensing Act 2003](#) (the Act), the [Revised Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003](#) (the Guidance) and the [Dorset Council Statement of Licensing Policy](#) (the Policy).

## 2. Details of the Application

2.1 Forestry England have applied for a premises licence under section 17 of the Licensing Act 2023 for Moors Valley Country Park and Forest, Horton Road, Ashley Heath, BH24 2ET. The application form is attached at Appendix 1.

2.2 The description of the premises given by the applicant is: -

Moors Valley Country Park and Forest is a joint owned venture between Dorset Council and Forestry England. Established in 1994, the park covers approximately 800 acres of recreational woodland space. This popular visitor attraction provides a variety of outdoor and seasonal activities throughout the year.

On arrival there is a large car parking facility from where you can access the Visitor Centre. There are a number of facilities once inside the premises including a Licensed Restaurant, Shop, Medical point, Toilet and Baby changing facilities. Wheelchairs and mobility scooters are also available to hire for those visitors requiring accessible assistance.

Moors Valley has an experienced Visitor and Event Management team based on site, who deliver a range of seasonal and family friendly activities across the site. A popular local destination the park attracts Forestry England members, and non members from further afield to enjoy this rural location.

Moors Valley is open all year round with the exception of Christmas Day. The application is for on-sales only.

2.3 After being amended by the applicant (see paragraph 4.3) The application is for; -

### **Sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises**

Everyday 10:00 to 22:55

### **Films (indoors and outdoors)**

Every day between 10:00 and 23:00.

- 2.4 There will be no adult entertainment.
- 2.5 The operating schedule contains a number of steps to promote the Licensing Objectives that the applicant is proposing as conditions to attach to a licence if it were to be granted.

### **3. Responsible Authorities Representations**

- 3.1 Section 13 of the Licensing Act contains the list of Responsible Authorities who must be consulted on each application. Dorset Police, Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Service, Public Health Dorset, the Immigration Authority, Dorset Council Trading Standards, Dorset Council Children's Services, Dorset Council Planning, Dorset Council Licensing, Dorset Council Environmental Protection and Dorset Council Health and Safety have all been consulted.
- 3.2 Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Service have no adverse comments to make but have requested that a Fire Risk Assessment be carried out under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. The Representation is attached at Appendix 2
- 3.3 Dorset Council Environmental Protection have requested that a Noise Management Plan (NMP) is completed and agreed with them. The representation is attached at Appendix 3.
- 3.4 Dorset Council Licensing requested that the hearing be delayed until the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) could meet with the applicants to discuss the application and types of events that were being planned. They have submitted a set of proposed conditions for consideration by the Sub-Committee. The representation and their suggested conditions are attached at Appendix 4.
- 3.5 Dorset Council Children's Services and Dorset Council Planning have responded saying they have no comments.
- 3.6 Dorset Police, Public Health Dorset, the Immigration Authority, Dorset Council Trading Standards and Dorset Council Health and Safety have not made any representations.

### **4. Representations from Other Persons**

- 4.1 The Licensing Act 2003 Section 182 Guidance (the Guidance) sets out at 8.13 the role of "other persons":

As well as responsible authorities, any other person can play a role in a number of licensing processes under the 2003 Act. This includes any individual, body or business entitled to make representations to licensing authorities in relation to applications for the grant, variation, minor variation or review of premises licences and club premises certificates, regardless of their geographic proximity to the premises. In addition, these persons may themselves seek a review of a premises licence. Any representations

made by these persons must be ‘relevant’, in that the representation relates to one or more of the licensing objectives. It must also not be considered by the licensing authority to be frivolous or vexatious. In the case of applications for reviews, there is an additional requirement that the grounds for the review should not be considered by the licensing authority to be repetitious. Chapter 9 of this guidance (paragraphs 9.4 to 9.10) provides more detail on the definition of relevant, frivolous and vexatious representations.

4.2 The Guidance states at paragraph 9.4 what a “relevant” representation is;

A representation is “relevant” if it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives. For example, a representation from a local businessperson about the commercial damage caused by competition from new licensed premises would not be relevant. On the other hand, a representation by a businessperson that nuisance caused by new premises would deter customers from entering the local area, and the steps proposed by the applicant to prevent that nuisance were inadequate, would be relevant. In other words, representations should relate to the impact of licensable activities carried on from premises on the objectives.”

4.3 There have been 17 representations from other persons, this includes one from the Town Council. The representation from the Town Council is in support of the application the remainder of the representations are not. The representations against the application cite increased traffic, the highway not being fit for purpose, drink driving and accidents along the road, car parking facilities, increased noise from events, the effects on the wildlife, light pollution, the potential number of events, one person asking for a limit of 4 events per year, not enough toilets, potential public disorder, the incompatibility of children with events with alcohol, the risk of fires and rubbish. The full representations can be found at Appendix 5.

4.4 Not all the specific points raised relate to the four licensing objectives, and the Sub-Committee will need to differentiate between those matters that do relate to one of the licensing objectives and are relevant and those which do not relate to one of the licensing objectives and therefore cannot be taken into account. Matters that relate to the Prevention of Crime objective would include public disorder, light pollution and noise from events would fall within the Prevention of Public Nuisance objective. Matters relating to traffic and the highways are usually a matter for the planning authority and are not normally a consideration for a licence application. Drink driving is the responsibility of the individual and not a matter any licence holder could reasonably be expected to prevent, and whilst the Authority is under a general duty to consider the environment, matters relating to the wildlife cannot be considered as they do not relate to one of the four licensing objectives. Chapter 2 of the Guidance sets out in detail what can be related to the Licensing Objectives and has been attached at Appendix 7.

4.3 A response was sent out to all of the people and bodies making representations, The response included removing the recorded music from the application. The response did not result in any representations being withdrawn. The response is attached at Appendix 6.

## 5. **Relevant Sections of the Licensing Act 2003**

### 5.1 Section 4 sets out the general duties of the Licensing Authority; -

- (1) A licensing authority must carry out its functions under this Act (“licensing functions”) with a view to promoting the licensing objectives.
- (2) The licensing objectives are—
  - (a) the prevention of crime and disorder;
  - (b) public safety;
  - (c) the prevention of public nuisance; and
  - (d) the protection of children from harm.
- (3) In carrying out its licensing functions, a licensing authority must also have regard to—
  - (a) its licensing statement published under section 5, and
  - (b) any guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182.

## 6. **Relevant Sections of the Statutory Guidance issued under Section 182**

### 6.1 Paragraphs 1.2, 1.4 and 1.5 of the Revised Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 issued in December 2023 (The Guidance) sets out the Licensing Objectives and aims; -

The legislation provides a clear focus on the promotion of four statutory objectives which must be addressed when licensing functions are undertaken.

Each objective is of equal importance. There are no other statutory licensing objectives, so that the promotion of the four objectives is a paramount consideration at all times.

However, the legislation also supports a number of other key aims and purposes. These are vitally important and should be principal aims for everyone involved in licensing work. They include:

- protecting the public and local residents from crime, anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance caused by irresponsible licensed premises;
- giving the police and licensing authorities the powers they need to effectively manage and police the night-time economy and take action against those premises that are causing problems;
- recognising the important role which pubs and other licensed premises play in our local communities by minimising the regulatory burden on business, encouraging innovation and supporting responsible premises;
- providing a regulatory framework for alcohol which reflects the needs of local communities and empowers local authorities to make and enforce decisions about the most appropriate licensing strategies for their local area; and

- encouraging greater community involvement in licensing decisions and giving local residents the opportunity to have their say regarding licensing decisions that may affect them.

6.2 Paragraph 1.16 of the Guidance sets out how conditions should be formulated; -

Conditions on a premises licence or club premises certificate are important in setting the parameters within which premises can lawfully operate. The use of wording such as “must”, “shall” and “will” is encouraged. Licence conditions:

- must be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives;
- must be precise and enforceable;
- must be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve;
- should not duplicate other statutory requirements or other duties or responsibilities placed on the employer by other legislation;
- must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned;
- should not be standardised and may be unlawful when it cannot be demonstrated that they are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in an individual case;
- should not replicate offences set out in the 2003 Act or other legislation;
- should be proportionate, justifiable and be capable of being met;
- cannot seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder and their staff, but may impact on the behaviour of customers in the immediate vicinity of the premises or as they enter or leave; and
- should be written in a prescriptive format.

6.3 Paragraph 1.19 states; -

While licence conditions should not duplicate other statutory provisions, licensing authorities and licensees should be mindful of requirements and responsibilities placed on them by other legislation.

6.4 Chapter 2 of the Guidance sets out what the Licensing Objectives are and is included in full at Appendix 7.

6.4 Paragraphs 9.42 – 9.44 of the Guidance set out how the Licensing Authority will determine an application; -

Licensing authorities are best placed to determine what actions are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in their areas. All licensing determinations should be considered on a case by-case basis. They should take into account any representations or objections that have been received from responsible authorities or other persons, and representations made by the applicant or premises user as the case may be.

The authority’s determination should be evidence-based, justified as being appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and proportionate to what it is intended to achieve.

Determination of whether an action or step is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives requires an assessment of what action or step would be suitable to achieve that end. While this does not therefore require

a licensing authority to decide that no lesser step will achieve the aim, the authority should aim to consider the potential burden that the condition would impose on the premises licence holder (such as the financial burden due to restrictions on licensable activities) as well as the potential benefit in terms of the promotion of the licensing objectives. However, it is imperative that the authority ensures that the factors which form the basis of its determination are limited to consideration of the promotion of the objectives and nothing outside those parameters. As with the consideration of licence variations, the licensing authority should consider wider issues such as other conditions already in place to mitigate potential negative impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives and the track record of the business. Further advice on determining what is appropriate when imposing conditions on a licence or certificate is provided in Chapter 10. The licensing authority is expected to come to its determination based on an assessment of the evidence on both the risks and benefits either for or against making the determination.”

6.5 Paragraph 10.18 of the Guidance states that; -

Licensing authorities should publicise the need for the organisers of major festivals and carnivals to approach them at the earliest opportunity to discuss arrangements for licensing activities falling under the 2003 Act. For some events, the organisers may seek a single premises licence to cover a wide range of activities at varied locations within the premises. This would involve the preparation of a substantial operating schedule, and licensing authorities should offer advice and assistance about its preparation.

## 7. Options

7.1 The Sub-Committee will determine the application in the light of all of the written representations and any oral evidence from the hearing. They will take such steps as it considers appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives of; -

- a. The prevention of crime and disorder
- b. The prevention of public nuisance
- c. Public safety
- d. The protection of children from harm

The steps that the Sub-Committee may take are:-

- a. to grant the licence subject to such conditions as the authority considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives, and the mandatory conditions;
- b. to exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates;
- c. to refuse to specify a person in the licence as the designated premises supervisor;
- d. to reject the application.

8. **Financial Implications**

Any decision of the Sub Committee could lead to an appeal by any of the parties involved that could incur costs.

9. **Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Implications**

The Council is under a general duty to consider the impact any decision will have on the Natural Environment, Climate and local ecology.

10. **Well-being and Health Implications**

None

11. **Other Implications**

None

12. **Risk Assessment**

12.1 **HAVING CONSIDERED:** the risks associated with this decision; the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low

Residual Risk: Low

13. **Equalities Impact Assessment**

Not applicable

14. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Application and Plan

Appendix 2 – Representations from DWFRS and EP

Appendix 3 – Representations from Licensing Authority

Appendix 4 – Representations from Interested Parties

Appendix 5 – Response from Applicant

Appendix 6 – Guidance on Licensing Objectives

15. **Background Papers**

[Licensing Act 2003](#)

[Home Office Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003](#)

[Dorset Council Statement of Licensing Policy 2021](#)

## Application for a premises licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003

### PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing this form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary.

You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

I/We [Forestry England](#)

*(Insert name(s) of applicant)*

apply for a premises licence under section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below (the premises) and I/we are making this application to you as the relevant licensing authority in accordance with section 12 of the Licensing Act 2003

#### Part 1 – Premises details

Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description			
<a href="#">Moors Valley Country Park and Forest</a> <a href="#">Horton Road</a> <a href="#">Ashley Heath</a> <a href="#">Nr. Ringwood</a> <a href="#">Dorset</a>			
Post town		Postcode	<a href="#">BH24 2ET</a>
Telephone number at premises (if any)		<a href="#">0300 0674 601</a>	
Non-domestic rateable value of premises		<a href="#">£125,001.00</a>	

#### Part 2 - Applicant details

Please state whether you are applying for a premises licence as appropriate

Please tick as

- |    |  |                                     |                             |
|----|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a) | an individual or individuals *                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | please complete section (A) |
| b) | a person other than an individual *                  |                                     |                             |
|    | i as a limited company/limited liability partnership | <input type="checkbox"/>            | please complete section (B) |
|    | ii as a partnership (other than limited liability)   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | please complete section (B) |
|    | iii as an unincorporated association or              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | please complete section (B) |
|    | iv other (for example a statutory corporation)       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | please complete section (B) |
| c) | a recognised club                                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | please complete section (B) |

- d) a charity  please complete section (B)
- e) the proprietor of an educational establishment  please complete section (B)
- f) a health service body  please complete section (B)
- g) a person who is registered under Part 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000 (c14) in respect of an independent hospital in Wales  please complete section (B)
- ga) a person who is registered under Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (within the meaning of that Part) in an independent hospital in England  please complete section (B)
- h) the chief officer of police of a police force in England and Wales  please complete section (B)

\* If you are applying as a person described in (a) or (b) please confirm (by ticking yes to one box below):

- I am carrying on or proposing to carry on a business which involves the use of the premises for licensable activities; or
- I am making the application pursuant to a  
 statutory function or   
 a function discharged by virtue of Her Majesty's prerogative

**(A) INDIVIDUAL APPLICANTS** (fill in as applicable)

Mr <input type="checkbox"/>	Mrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Miss <input type="checkbox"/>	Ms <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Title (for example, Rev)	
<b>Surname</b>			<b>First names</b>		
<b>Date of birth</b>		I am 18 years old or over <input type="checkbox"/>		Please tick yes	
<b>Nationality</b>					
Current residential address if different from premises address					
Post town				Postcode	
<b>Daytime contact telephone number</b>					
<b>E-mail address (optional)</b>					
Where applicable (if demonstrating a right to work via the Home Office online right to work checking service), the 9-digit 'share code' provided to the applicant by that service (please see note 15 for information)					

**SECOND INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT** (if applicable)

Mr <input type="checkbox"/>	Mrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Miss <input type="checkbox"/>	Ms <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Title (for example, Rev)	
<b>Surname</b>			<b>First names</b>		
<b>Date of birth</b> over		I am 18 years old or		<input type="checkbox"/>	Please tick yes
<b>Nationality</b>					
Where applicable (if demonstrating a right to work via the Home Office online right to work checking service), the 9-digit 'share code' provided to the applicant by that service: (please see note 15 for information)					
Current residential address if different from premises address					
Post town				Postcode	
<b>Daytime contact telephone number</b>					
<b>E-mail address (optional)</b>					

**(B) OTHER APPLICANTS**

Please provide name and registered address of applicant in full. Where appropriate please give any registered number. In the case of a partnership or other joint venture (other than a body corporate), please give the name and address of each party concerned.

Name Forestry England
Address Moors Valley Country Park and Forest Horton Road Ashley Heath Nr. Ringwood Dorset BH24 2ET
Registered number (where applicable) Not applicable

Description of applicant (for example, partnership, company, unincorporated association etc.) Forestry England is a Government owned and operated public body.
Telephone number (if any) 0300 0674 601
E-mail address (optional) sarah.taylor@forestryengland.uk

**Part 3 Operating Schedule**

When do you want the premises licence to start?

DD	MM	YYYY
22	04	2024

If you wish the licence to be valid only for a limited period, when do you want it to end?

DD	MM	YYYY

<p>Please give a general description of the premises (please read guidance note 1)</p> <p>Moors Valley Country Park and Forest is a joint owned venture between Dorset Council and Forestry England. Established in 1994, the park covers approximately 800 acres of recreational woodland space. This popular visitor attraction provides a variety of outdoor and seasonal activities throughout the year.</p> <p>On arrival there is a large car parking facility from where you can access the Visitor Centre. There are a number of facilities once inside the premises including a Licensed Restaurant, Shop, Medical point, Toilet and Baby changing facilities. Wheelchairs and mobility scooters are also available to hire for those visitors requiring accessible assistance.</p> <p>Moors Valley has an experienced Visitor and Event Management team based on site, who deliver a range of seasonal and family friendly activities across the site. A popular local destination the park attracts Forestry England members, and non members from further afield to enjoy this rural location.</p> <p>Moors Valley is open all year round with the exception of Christmas Day.</p> <p>The application is for on-sales only.</p>
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If 5,000 or more people are expected to attend the premises at any one time, please state the number expected to attend.

What licensable activities do you intend to carry on from the premises?

(please see sections 1 and 14 and Schedules 1 and 2 to the Licensing Act 2003)

Provision of regulated entertainment (please read guidance note 2)

Please tick all that apply

a) plays (if ticking yes, fill in box A)

- b) films (if ticking yes, fill in box B)
- c) indoor sporting events (if ticking yes, fill in box C)
- d) boxing or wrestling entertainment (if ticking yes, fill in box D)
- e) live music (if ticking yes, fill in box E)
- f) recorded music (if ticking yes, fill in box F)
- g) performances of dance (if ticking yes, fill in box G)
- h) anything of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g)  
(if ticking yes, fill in box H)
- Provision of late night refreshment** (if ticking yes, fill in box I)
- Supply of alcohol** (if ticking yes, fill in box J)

**In all cases complete boxes K, L and M**

A

Plays Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the performance of a play take place <b>indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish		Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mon			<b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Tue					
Wed			<b>State any seasonal variations for performing plays</b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Thur					
Fri			<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the performance of plays at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 6)		
Sat					
Sun					

## B

Films Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the exhibition of films take place <b>indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish		Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mon	10:00	23:00	<p><b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 4)</p> <p>A programme of outdoor film screenings may be held throughout the year. All screenings will be ticketed events with age restrictions in place as per the British Board of Film age rating. Music and sound from the screening will be amplified for the benefit of the audience. However sound levels will be set so as not to impede on the nearest noise sensitive premises.</p> <p><b>State any seasonal variations for the exhibition of films</b> (please read guidance note 5)</p> <p>No screenings will be shown on Christmas Day.</p> <p><b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the exhibition of films at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 6)</p> <p>No screenings will be held outside the standard timings.</p>		
Tue	10:00	23:00			
Wed	10:00	23:00			
Thur	10:00	23:00			
Fri	10:00	23:00			
Sat	10:00	23:00			
Sun	10:00	23:00			

C

<b>Indoor sporting events</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			<b><u>Please give further details</u></b> (please read guidance note 4)
Day	Start	Finish	
Mon			
Tue			<b><u>State any seasonal variations for indoor sporting events</u></b> (please read guidance note 5)
Wed			
Thur			<b><u>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for indoor sporting events at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</u></b> (please read guidance note 6)
Fri			
Sat			
Sun			

## D

<b>Boxing or wrestling entertainments</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			<b>Will the boxing or wrestling entertainment take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish		Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mon				<b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 4)	
Tue			<b>State any seasonal variations for boxing or wrestling entertainment</b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Wed			<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for boxing or wrestling entertainment at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 6)		
Thur					
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					

E

Live music Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the performance of live music take <b>place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish			
Mon			<b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Tue					
Wed			<b>State any seasonal variations for the performance of live music</b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Thur					
Fri			<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the performance of live music at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 6)		
Sat					
Sun					

F

Recorded music Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the playing of recorded music take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish	<p><b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 4)</p> <p>Amplified recorded music will be played during events for background and atmospheric purposes. For example, walk in music for film screenings or appropriate seasonal songs throughout walking trails.</p> <p>Recorded music will be set at pre-determined levels and identified in the Noise Management Plan.</p> <p><b>State any seasonal variations for the playing of recorded music</b> (please read guidance note 5)</p> <p>No recorded music will be played on Christmas Day.</p> <p><b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the playing of recorded music at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 6)</p> <p>No recorded music will be played outside the standard timings.</p>		
Mon	10:00	23:00			
Tue	10:00	23:00			
Wed	10:00	23:00			
Thur	10:00	23:00			
Fri	10:00	23:00			
Sat	10:00	23:00			
Sun	10:00	23:00			

## G

Performances of dance Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the performance of dance take place <b>indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish		Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mon				<b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 4)	
Tue			<b>State any seasonal variations for the performance of dance</b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Wed			<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the performance of dance at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 6)		
Thur					
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					

H

<b>Anything of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g)</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Please give a description of the type of entertainment you will be providing		
Day	Start	Finish	<b><u>Will this entertainment take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</u></b> (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mon				Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tue			<b><u>Please give further details here</u></b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Wed			<b><u>State any seasonal variations for entertainment of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g)</u></b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Thur			<b><u>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the entertainment of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g) at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</u></b> (please read guidance note 6)		
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					

I

<b>Late night refreshment</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			<b>Will the provision of late night refreshment take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish		Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mon				<b><u>Please give further details here</u></b> (please read guidance note 4)	
Tue					
Wed			<b><u>State any seasonal variations for the provision of late night refreshment</u></b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Thur					
Fri			<b><u>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the provision of late night refreshment at different times, to those listed in the column on the left, please list</u></b> (please read guidance note 6)		
Sat					
Sun					

J

<b>Supply of alcohol</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			<b>Will the supply of alcohol be for consumption – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 8)	On the premises	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
				Off the premises	<input type="checkbox"/>			
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Day	Start	Finish	<b>State any seasonal variations for the supply of alcohol</b> (please read guidance note 5) No alcohol sales will take place on Christmas Day.					
Mon	10:00	22:55						
Tue	10:00	22:55						
Wed	10:00	22:55						
Thur	10:00	22:55				<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the supply of alcohol at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 6) No alcohol sales will take place outside standard timings.		
Fri	10:00	22:55						
Sat	10:00	22:55						
Sun	10:00	22:55						

State the name and details of the individual whom you wish to specify on the licence as designated premises supervisor (Please see declaration about the entitlement to work in the checklist at the end of the form):

Name Sarah Taylor	
Date of birth [REDACTED]	
Address [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Personal licence number (if known) 175669	
Issuing licensing authority (if known) Birmingham City Council	



**M**

Describe the steps you intend to take to promote the four licensing objectives:

**a) General – all four licensing objectives (b, c, d and e) (please read guidance note 10)**

- The Forestry England event programme at Moors Valley will focus on family oriented, seasonal events which will not exceed a capacity of 4999.
- Events will be ticketed with the option to purchase tickets in advance.
- Where required ticketed time-slots will be applied to manage on-site capacity figures and to minimize wait times at the on-site public facilities e.g. toilets, car parking, food and drink units.
- An Event Management Plan will be produced for submission to Dorset Council in advance of the event. This will include operational planning information e.g. Event Timings, Site layout, Traffic Management Plan, Stewarding Plan and any other relevant information with regards to the Licensing Objectives and safe operation of the event.
- Local Residents and Authorities will be notified in advance of any licensable events taking place on the premises and provided with an appropriate on-site contact number.
- The Event layout will take into consideration the existing facilities on site and ensure that where necessary additional toilet and drinking water facilities are incorporated into the design.
- Challenge 25 will be in operation at all alcohol points of sale and enforced by trained staff.
- All temporary food and drink units will be identified on the event layout and submitted to Dorset District Council 14 days in advance of the event start date.

**b) The prevention of crime and disorder**

- Moors Valley events are designed to attract a low risk audience profile.
- Car Park Management teams will be in place to oversee the car park operation and monitor for any vehicle crime.
- The event will have fixed entry and exit points from the premises manned by Trained Stewards/SIA staff.
- Where required, ticket and ID verification checks will be in place at the point of entry.
- Forestry England retains the right to refuse entry to the premises as part of the Terms and Conditions of entry.
- Where required by the event, Trained Stewards/SIA staff will be deployed to monitor visitor activity throughout the premises.
- Working staff available to assist visitors will wear easily identifiable uniform.
- The named DPS or their nominated personal licence holder will be on site for each event day to oversee alcohol sales from all units.
- The event design will ensure there are appropriate light levels in place throughout the premises.

**c) Public safety**

- The Event Management team will agree the event capacity in advance of tickets going on sale for the event. In all instances this will not exceed 4999.
- On occasions of high visitor demand, ticketed time slots will be applied to the event to manage capacity figures on site.
- The Event layout will include sufficient entry/exit points to allow for safe ingress and egress in the event of an emergency.
- Safety Information signage will be placed for visitors throughout the premises where required e.g. uneven surfaces, non permitted items, emergency exit routes.
- Any special effects will be advised to visitors in advance e.g. strobes, laser or smoke machines.
- A suitably trained First Aider or Medical staff will be on site throughout the event open period.
- Key management and visitor facing staff will be radio holders for communication purposes and in the event of an emergency.
- In the event of a power failure Emergency lighting will be installed throughout the event site.

**d) The prevention of public nuisance**

- Sound levels will be set at pre-determined levels as identified in the Noise Management Plan, and monitored throughout the event.
- Ticket holders and/or staff will be requested to leave the premises quietly at the end of the event and/or shift.
- The event design will take into consideration neighbouring noise sensitive premises.
- Litter picking will take place throughout the event site.
- Where required, the event design will include additional temporary Toilet facilities in appropriate locations.
- Local residents and businesses will be advised of the event programme in advance and provided with an appropriate on-site contact number for the duration of the event.
- History of previous complaints and local feedback will be considered as part of the event planning process.

**e) The protection of children from harm**

- All screening events will be ticketed and have age restrictions in place as per the British Board of Film age rating.
- For events with an age restriction in place, age ID verification checks will take place at the point of entry to the premises by trained SIA and/or Forestry England staff.
- No child under the age of 16 will be permitted access to the premises without a parent/guardian.
- The Forestry England Lost/Found Child & Vulnerable Adults policy will be in operation throughout the event period.
- The Challenge 25 policy will be in operation at all points of sale of alcohol.
- No alcohol will be served to anyone attempting to purchase alcohol for Under 18's.
- Key Management and visitor facing staff will be radio holders for communication purposes and in the event of an emergency.

**Checklist:****Please tick to indicate agreement**

- I have made or enclosed payment of the fee.
- I have enclosed the plan of the premises.
- I have sent copies of this application and the plan to responsible authorities and others where applicable.
- I have enclosed the consent form completed by the individual I wish to be designated premises supervisor, if applicable.
- I understand that I must now advertise my application.
- I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected.
- [Applicable to all individual applicants, including those in a partnership which is not a limited liability partnership, but not companies or limited liability partnerships] I have included documents demonstrating my entitlement to work in the United Kingdom or my share code issued by the Home Office online right to work checking service (please read note 15).

**IT IS AN OFFENCE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. THOSE WHO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT MAY BE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF ANY AMOUNT.**

**IT IS AN OFFENCE UNDER SECTION 24B OF THE IMMIGRATION ACT 1971 FOR A PERSON TO WORK WHEN THEY KNOW, OR HAVE REASONABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE, THAT THEY ARE DISQUALIFIED FROM DOING SO BY REASON OF THEIR IMMIGRATION STATUS. THOSE WHO EMPLOY AN ADULT WITHOUT LEAVE OR WHO IS SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS AS TO EMPLOYMENT WILL BE LIABLE TO A CIVIL PENALTY UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE IMMIGRATION, ASYLUM AND NATIONALITY ACT 2006 AND PURSUANT TO SECTION 21 OF THE SAME ACT, WILL BE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE WHERE THEY DO SO IN THE KNOWLEDGE, OR WITH REASONABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE, THAT THE EMPLOYEE IS DISQUALIFIED.**

**Part 4 – Signatures** (please read guidance note 11)

**Signature of applicant or applicant’s solicitor or other duly authorised agent** (see guidance note 12). **If signing on behalf of the applicant, please state in what capacity.**

<b>Declaration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● [Applicable to individual applicants only, including those in a partnership which is not a limited liability partnership] I understand I am not entitled to be issued with a licence if I do not have the entitlement to live and work in the UK (or if I am subject to a condition preventing me from doing work relating to the carrying on of a licensable activity) and that my licence will become invalid if I cease to be entitled to live and work in the UK (please read guidance note 15).</li> <li>● The DPS named in this application form is entitled to work in the UK (and is not subject to conditions preventing him or her from doing work relating to a licensable activity) and I have seen a copy of his or her proof of entitlement to work, or have conducted an online right to work check using the Home Office online right to work checking service which confirmed their right to work (please see note 15)</li> </ul>
--------------------	---

Signature	S R Taylor
Date	01/03/2024
Capacity	Event Manager – Forestry England (DPS)

**For joint applications, signature of 2<sup>nd</sup> applicant or 2<sup>nd</sup> applicant's solicitor or other authorised agent (please read guidance note 13). If signing on behalf of the applicant, please state in what capacity.**

Signature	
Date	
Capacity	

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 14)			
Sarah Taylor [REDACTED]			
Post town	[REDACTED]	Postcode	[REDACTED]
Telephone number (if any)	[REDACTED]		
If you would prefer us to correspond with you by e-mail, your e-mail address (optional) sarah.taylor@forestryengland.uk			

#### Notes for Guidance

1. Describe the premises, for example the type of premises, its general situation and layout and any other information which could be relevant to the licensing objectives. Where your application includes off-supplies of alcohol and you intend to provide a



Title: MVCPF Premise Licence Plan  
Date: 23 February 2024  
Author: Sarah Taylor  
Scale @ A3: 1:5,000

Legend

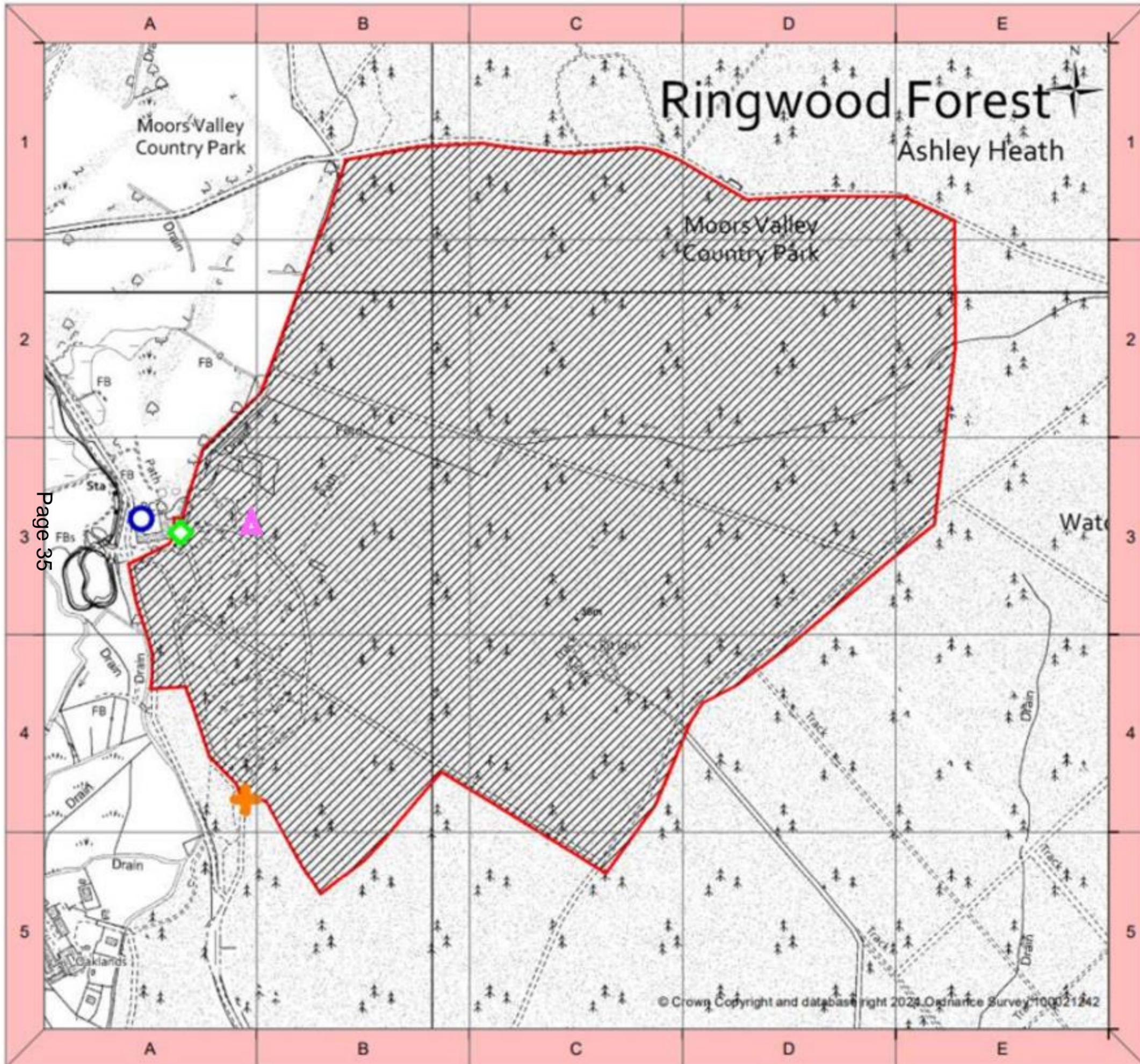
-  Boundary Line
-  The licensable area
-  Public Toilets
-  Pedestrian Ingress/Egress
-  Vehicle Ingress/Egress
-  Firefighting Equipment

*Please note locations of temporary units serving alcohol during the event, will be confirmed to Dorset Council 4 weeks prior to the event start date.*

*There is no permanent kitchen located within the licensable area.*



Forestry England forests and woodlands have been certified in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)



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**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE**

**Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service**  
Five Rivers Community Health & Wellbeing Centre,  
Hulse Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 3NR

Forestry England,  
Moors Valley Country Park and Forest  
Horton Road  
Ashley Heath  
Nr. Ringwood  
Dorset.  
BH24 2ET

Direct Line:  
Email: paul.ticehurst@dwfire.org.uk  
Your ref: -  
My ref: P0138192/167544  
Date: 12 March 2024

FAO: Sarah Taylor

Dear Madam,

**Licensing Act 2003 – Application for New Premises Licence  
The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005**

**Address of Premises:** Moors Valley Country Park, East Dorset Countryside Management Service, Moors Valley Country Park, Moors Valley Park - Access Road, Ashley Heath, Ringwood, BH24 2ET

I refer to the application dated 22/04/2024 for a New Premises Licence for the above premises.

Based on the information received, I write to inform you that I have no adverse comments to make. However, additional information or action may be required relating to the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and will be addressed separately.

**The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005**

Articles 9 & 11 of The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 require that a suitable and sufficient fire risk assessment is completed, and the significant findings are recorded.

---

Chief Fire Officer Ben Ansell

- Further guidance can be found in the “Fire Safety – Risk Assessment” publication for this premises type, available as a free download from [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) (fire safety law and guidance documents for business).

I take this opportunity to remind you that fire safety is a dynamic process to be considered on a daily basis, and the assessment of fire risk should be constantly under review and updated as required, especially where the risk in the premises has been affected by alterations, changes in procedures, use or occupancy.

### **Additional Support and Information**

If you require further information about your responsibilities on how to comply with the law or access additional help or guidance, please visit our website; [dwfire.org.uk](http://dwfire.org.uk).

Yours Faithfully

Paul Ticehurst

## New premises licence app - Moors Valley Country Park & Forest

Darren Naraine

Tue 26/03/2024 16:00

Dear Licensing,

Thank you for the consultation for a new premises licence app - Moors Valley Country Park & Forest.

Environmental Health have some concerns that such events might give rise to a noise nuisance.

Section M d of the application sets out some measure to prevent public nuisance. However, it makes reference to a "Noise Management Plan." It is difficult for Environmental Health to comment fully without first seeing the details in this plan.

I would recommend that the noise management plan is submitted for consideration before we can fully comment on this application.

If the application is considered for approval before submission of the noise management plan, I would like to recommend the following conditions

1. Before any outdoor film screening and outdoor events involving sound amplification takes place a Noise Management Plan needs to be submitted and agreed in writing with Environmental Health Officer at least 8 weeks before the event.
2. A direct telephone number for the manager at the premises / event shall be publicly available at all times the premises is open. This telephone number is to be made available to residents and businesses in the vicinity.
3. Amplified music shall not be played at a level that will cause unreasonable disturbance to the occupants of any properties in the vicinity.

Further details of what should be included in the Noise Management Plan are available upon request.

Kind regards

**Darren Naraine**  
**Environmental Protection Team Leader**  
**Community and Public Protection**  
**Dorset Council**

[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)



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On behalf of the Dorset Council Safety Advisory Group (DC SAG), I am making a representation in respect of the following application for a premises licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003

Applicant: Forestry England

Premises: Moors Valley Country Park and Forest, Horton Road, Ashley Heath, Nr. Ringwood

This representation relates to the following licensing objectives:

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

### Representation

The licensing authority is directed by guidance to discuss with event organisers arrangements for licensable activities and offer advice and assistance about the content of proposed operating schedules at the earliest opportunity. This obligation is repeated through the council's own licensing policy where it recommends early consultation with responsible authorities and identifies the multi-agency safety advisory group as the forum to consider the special factors related to the type of activities proposed within the application identifying that "where necessary a special meeting will be organised in order to consider any issues that will require to be addressed".

The DC SAG is concerned that as no meeting has been held, there has been no opportunity for all responsible and other regulatory authorities to gain certainty that whatever is conditioned on the licence can be satisfactorily delivered by the applicants.

To ensure that the licence when issued is clear, concise, appropriate, and proportionate the DC SAG wish to meet with the applicants and be afforded the opportunity to assess their proposals.

An invitation to meet with the DC Sag has been extended to the applicants and a response is awaited.

### Suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy this representation:

There are no suggested conditions that would serve to remedy this representation.

### Suggested actions that could be undertaken to remedy this representation.

That the determination of the application be postponed until such time as the DC SAG have met with the applicants and formally assessed the event proposals.

## Conditions- Moors Valley Country Park

### General

Events will not exceed a capacity of 4999. All events will be ticketed.

The named DPS or their nominated personal licence holder will be on site for each event day to oversee alcohol sales from all units.

All staff will be easily identifiable by means of uniform.

Key Management and visitor facing staff will be radio holders for communication purposes and in the event of an emergency.

No child under the age of 16 will be permitted access to the premises without a parent/guardian.

### Plans to be submitted

An Event Management Plan (EMP) will be produced for submission to Dorset Council at least six weeks prior to each and any event. The EMP will include (but not limited to)

- **Event Days and Times**, including any planned displays or sub-events.
- A detailed **Site Plan**, which will include all temporary food and drink units, any special displays, the location of any pyrotechnics, all temporary structures, any stages and any water hazards. Any Safety Information signage that is placed for visitors throughout the premises where required e.g. uneven surfaces, non permitted items, emergency exit routes, will be detailed on the Site Plan.
- **Counter Terrorism Risk Assessment** following guidance from Protect UK.
- **Number and Capacity Plan**. The plan will include the number of tickets to be sold and whether any will be available on the Gate. There will be a Risk assessment within the plan to determine whether ticketed timeslots will be applied to manage on-site capacity figures and to minimize wait times at the on-site public facilities e.g. toilets, car parking, food and drink units. The protocol for ejecting people from the site.
- **Traffic Management Plan**, which will include, but not be limited to, car park management arrangements, staffing and security. A signage plan. A risk assessment will be included, detailing the contingency plans for any problems that could occur on the approach roads.
- **Stewarding and Security Plan**, the plan will include; the numbers of stewards and SIA trained security staff that will be available at the event; where and when ticket and ID verification checks will take place and which exits and entrances will be staffed by Stewards and/or SIA trained staff. Incident Log, Drug Security, plan for protests.
- **First Aid provision**, including the location of the medical treatment centre and the staffing of first aiders or paramedics.
- **Toilet Facilities**. Numbers and locations of all toilets must be given with details of the specific provisions for disabled toilets.
- **Fire Risk Assessment**
- **Noise Management Plan (NMP)** which will include details of any sound system to be used, locations and orientations of speaker displays or other noise sources, details of any monitoring that will be carried out, including the locations where this will occur, and details of any DB levels that will be used as guidance for the prevention of public nuisance.
- **Lighting Plan** which will include a protocol for any power failure on site: details of Emergency lighting will be installed throughout the event site and details of the lighting of all pathways and/or routes across the site that the public will take.

- **Children on Site Plan** which will include; A Challenge 25 Policy which will be in operation at all alcohol points of sale and enforced by trained staff. Details of how and when age verification checks will be done. Protocols for dealing with lost children and a protocol for reporting any safeguarding issues.
- **Local Communication Plan**, which will include which local residents should be advised of the event and details of how they will be advised. It will also include contact numbers that will be manned and available for both the public and the Responsible Authorities.
- **Litter Plan** which will include the measures in place for keeping the site free of litter and the arrangements for the disposal of rubbish. It will also include any clear up plans for the surrounding environment.

### **Logs**

The following Record Logs will be completed during the event and available for inspection by an authorised officer on request.

- Refusals Log, to include details of anyone refused entry to the site or refused alcohol at any bar.
- Complaints Log, to record any complaints received from either site visitors or residents who are affected by the event. The log will include details of any actions taken and details of any follow up to the complaint.
- Incidents Log, which will include, but not be limited to, any incidents where SIA security are deployed, any incidents of lost children.
- First Aid Log for all accidents, injuries and illnesses dealt with by the First Aid providers.

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**1. Representation 1 – Verwood Town Council**

Members support this licence application.

**2. Representation 2**

I wish to appeal against the recent license application made by Moors Valley Country Park.

I represent the local residents of St Leonards, St Ives and Ashley Heath through the Horton Road Action Group (HRAG). We are currently engaged with the parish council on matters concerning the issues of increased traffic, noise, pollution and overall risk to residents and visitors in and around Horton Road. This has recently come to a head after the sad death of a motorcyclist opposite One Stop convenience store on Horton Road.

The HRAG comprises of 140+ members on our Facebook group with over 1000 residents contacted via leaflet drop, of which a some have been in contact directly as they are not on Facebook. We are meeting the parish council on March 27<sup>th</sup> and there is a specific agenda item to discuss our concerns, with representatives from the police and One Stop invited. We have also started to raise a petition to show the level of concern at the daily issues we see.

Moors Valley Country Park is listed as the 30<sup>th</sup> most popular visitor attraction in the UK with nearly 900,000 visitors a year. With the new industrial estates along the Horton / Ringwood road and the significant increase in vehicles and full size 44 tonne HNVs, things are getting worse for residents.

Our concern is the additional noise and still more increases in traffic volumes, which are likely to be outside the peak traffic times, and its impact to local residents wellbeing from late night events. We regularly hear the Moor Valley steam train when operating during the day, so cinema and music events in the evening, potentially all year round, is not something we would support.

Horton Road is regularly used as a race track past our houses and Moor Valley entrance, so the thought of up to 4,999 visitors in an evening, being served alcohol isn't going down well amongst residents., and understandably too. We all love Moors Valley and what it give residents and visitors alike, but when is enough enough. After covid lockdown Moor Valley relocated their overflow car park, from a flood plain to a new car park on higher ground. On paper this was a move of existing parking, however the reality is they can now use this on a daily basis whereas the previous areas was never used as cars got stuck in the field.

We are aware of the impact noise has in other localities around Moors valley, such as Verwood, and with the plans for Purple Haze gravel working on the northern edge of Moors Valley, and the noise this could introduce, the peaceful and beautiful area we all enjoy living in will change dramatically if we keep allowing it.

**3. Representation 3**

I object to the above application on the following grounds:

Ashley Heath is a quiet residential area with a large percentage of elderly residents and this development would disturb the peaceful environment.

No matter how much monitoring and control of audio is used, sound carries a long way especially in the evening air. A constant back ground of music and speech would prevent residents from having quiet enjoyment of their properties.

The many thousands of vehicles departing from Moors Valley Park at the end of a performance at 2300 would cause traffic congestion on Horton Road and Woolbridge Road. It could be past midnight before the roads cleared to allow residents to sleep.

As there is no public transport to Moors Park all visitors would arrive by car and the availability of alcoholic drinks during the day and evening would encourage drunk driving. There are too many accidents caused by over the limit drivers and Moors Valley Park should not be permitted to sell alcohol.

There is no consideration of how wild life would cope with the noise and nuisance of an open air cinema, probably being scared out of their wits. It would be like Guy Fawkes night every evening.

I respectfully request the committee to reject this application

**4. Representation 4**

As a local resident my wife and i have a strong objection to this application given the huge increase in traffic volumes experienced on Horton rd.due to woolbridge industrial estate expansion.recent death included.

Rumour has up to 4000 attendees possible and alcohol disturbance!

**5. Representation 5**

I strongly object to the proposal by Forestry Englad for regulated entertainment. It will be a huge disturbance to the natural wildlife and local residents.

**6. Representation 6**

I wish to object to the above planning application on the grounds of:

**Crime and disorder**

How will these event be policed ? 4999 people are a lot to police and I would like to see a strategy report from the police to see how these events will be facilitated especially as all traffic will be entering and exiting from the Horton Road. The drink drive rate will increase on a road which has a poor safety record.

**Prevention of Public Nuisance**

4999 people will be a public nuisance just by their sheer number. Considerable number of cars, motor bikes, cyclists. The Horton road makes no provision for cyclists. We are a SSI site and no respect will be given to noise and light pollution at night to these animals along with residents. What is the car parking capacity of Moors Valley or are we going to have parking along the Horton Road and traffic jams as 4999 people trying to get in the place at a specific time.

**Protection of Children from Harm**

Moors Valley is a family entertainment site yet there is no safe place for children to cycle to or from these events, there is no safe place to cross the road to an event.

Moors Valley actively encourages children but you have applied for an alcohol licence.

#### Public Safety

What happens regarding a major incident? How are the emergency services going to attend with only one entrance and exit and 4999 people running around the place

There is a lack of clarity regarding how many outdoor events will take place, how many music events will be held, is Ashley Heath going to be the next Glastonbury in a few years? How many requests to extend opening hours will be made during a year?

I object on the above grounds, I feel this idea has not been risk assessed, fair consideration has not been given to the location given we are in a SSI site and a village, the consultation period falls outside of the next Parish Council meeting.

### 7. **Representation 7**

I wish to object to the above planning application on the grounds of:

#### Crime and disorder

How will these event be policed? 4999 people are a lot to police and I would like to see a strategy report from the police to see how these events will be facilitated especially as all traffic will be entering and exiting from the Horton Road. The drink drive rate will increase on a road which has a poor safety record.

#### Prevention of Public Nuisance

4999 people will be a public nuisance just by their sheer number. Considerable number of cars, motor bikes, cyclists. The Horton road makes no provision for cyclists. We are a SSI site and no respect will be given to noise and light pollution at night to these animals along with residents. What is the car parking capacity of Moors Valley or are we going to have parking along the Horton Road and traffic jams as 4999 people trying to get in the place at a specific time.

#### Protection of Children from Harm

Moors Valley is a family entertainment site yet there is no safe place for children to cycle to or from these events, there is no safe place to cross the road to an event. Moors Valley actively encourages children but you have applied for an alcohol licence.

#### Public Safety

What happens regarding a major incident? How are the emergency services going to attend with only one entrance and exit and 4999 people running around the place

There is a lack of clarity regarding how many outdoor events will take place, how many music events will be held, is Ashley Heath going to be the next Glastonbury in a few years? How many requests to extend opening hours will be made during a year?

I object on the above grounds, I feel this idea has not been risk assessed, fair consideration has not been given to the location given we are in a SSI site and a village, the consultation period falls outside of the next Parish Council meeting.

**8. Representation 8 - East Dorset Environment Partnership (EDEP)  
In the absence of any information on the impact on biodiversity and proposed mitigation EDEP objects to this application**

The application refers to ticketed outdoor film screenings to be held between 10.00 and 23.00 on any day of the year other than Christmas Day. It states *Amplified recorded music will be played during events for background and atmospheric purposes. For example, walk in music for film screenings or appropriate seasonal songs throughout walking trails<sup>1</sup>*. It is understood that it is also intended to illuminate at least one of the trails for evening family events although this has not been mentioned in the application. We note that the recorded music is to be set at (unspecified) pre-determined levels and identified in a Noise Management Plan. Control of noise from the films themselves is not mentioned. The trails that would be lit or have background music have not been specified. The application has only identified noise as a potential nuisance to human receptors (*noise sensitive premises*). The Noise Management Plan has not been included.

The new guidance on strengthened biodiversity duty, introduced by the Environment Act 2021 and the NERC Act (as amended) requires public authorities to have regard to Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS), and to consider the action they can take to conserve and enhance biodiversity. At the very least the applicants should demonstrate to the Licensing Authority how they will ensure they undertake the appropriate due diligence and proper consideration of biodiversity in planning any events.

The application's description of the site simply as woodland is incorrect. With the exception of the lakes and Moors River system, it is coniferous plantation over lowland heath with a commitment to substantial further heathland restoration in the 2009 Forest Design Plan as part of FE's Open Habitats Policy. There is no assessment of the impact of either artificial light or noise on biodiversity or how this would be mitigated. Light from headlights would also need to be mitigated. Of particular concern is adverse impact on nightjars, bats and invertebrates and, depending on the location of the events, potential adverse impact of light on the aquatic environment.

Please note that surveys submitted with current Hampshire County Council Planning Application **21/10459** for Purple Haze on the east side MVCP identified an invertebrate assemblage characteristic of lowland heathland of National Importance<sup>2</sup>, at least 10 species of bat, and populations of breeding nightjar, Dartford warbler and woodlark, all of which are qualifying species of the Dorset Heathlands Special Protection Area. The potential for in-combination impact in the event that planning consent is granted for that extensive minerals development should be considered.

The maximum capacity of events is 4999. We are concerned about the large numbers of vehicles arriving and departing simultaneously and the impacts (including noise) they will have on residents in St Ives and the local road network.

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<sup>1</sup> EDEP emphasis

<sup>2</sup> A total of **511** invertebrate species were recorded from the site of which **55** (10%) are of recognised conservation status including **6 Nationally Rare**, and **39 Nationally Scarce**.

## 9. Representation 9

The Management Team at Moors Valley Country Park are to be commended on the way they have developed the site over the last 30 years into one of the most popular leisure destination sites in the whole of the U.K. (Ranked 30<sup>th</sup> of the top attractions in 2022 with nearly 811k visitors) To continue to develop the attraction, to attract more visitors and hence increase revenue whilst still trying to keep the venue “alive and fresh” must be quite an onus task. One can quite understand therefore the thinking behind the application for a license to play recorded music and films and the additional request for a license to sell alcohol during these times. We also acknowledge the additional revenue that comes into the Hampshire / Dorset area as a result.

However as our family have lived in the area for longer than the Country Park has been in existence, we have many concerns regarding this application. We also accept that until an application for this license is approved it would be counter-productive for the Management team to put too much finite detail and work into the plans, but this means that when commenting on this application we as residents have had to make - either rightly or wrongly- several assumptions .

1. The Park - and its Car park - currently closes at 7pm latest unless there are evening events. The application for this license - both alcohol and films/music – are to operate from 10.00am until 11pm – the indication being that the Park could be open for a further 4 hours per day for 364 days a year, bringing with it **increased volumes of traffic to an already busy area. This will include the arrival of temporary Food and Drink units and the additional Centre staff in preparation for an event.**

2. The application is currently just for films and recorded music, but should a license be granted, this could open the doors for an application for “live” music in the future. These could both cause an issue with **noise pollution as well as light pollution.**

3. Due to the high Car parking charges currently in operation, visitors to the site probably do not stay for the whole day and their arrival and departure from the venue is phased throughout the day - helping with the traffic flow along the roads approaching the site i.e. mainly the Horton Road . Currently the visitors to the attraction arrive by a variety of ways - on foot, cycle, motorbike, private car, bus or coach. One assumes that as some, if not all, of the film showings will be in the evening, the mode of transport will be heavily weighted towards motorbikes, cars and coaches. Unlike the daytime visitors whose arrival is phased, these visitors will mainly be arriving and departing at roughly the same time. This will cause **chaos** on the adjacent roads.

4. The numbers of people attending could total up to 5000 people. Assuming that there are between 2-4 people per vehicle, this could result in an additional 1250-2500 vehicles arriving and departing for a “sell out event”. **How long will it take 2500 vehicles to exit the site** from the one entrance / exit? How will this affect the well being of those residents close to the entrance ?

5. Once at the exit, even if there is a 50:50 split in the direction the traffic leaves, this could result in up to 1250 vehicles travelling on both the road towards Three Legged Cross (TLC) and towards the Ashley Heath Roundabout (AHR). Heavy goods vehicles use the Horton Road throughout all hours of the day and night and this, along with those vehicles making a RH turn towards TLC will add to the **congestion.**

6. Traffic backs up from the AHR roundabout on the Horton Road each day normally when the employees from Woolsbridge Industrial area leave at 4.30pm. What will the traffic queues be like with up to 1250 vehicles? The noise from these queues

late at night will have a **detrimental effect on the air quality** and the **well being and mental health** of the residents whose properties abut the Horton Road .

7. Whilst we hope that many drivers will be sensible about any consumption of **alcohol** at such an event , there will be some people who “ overdo “ their drinking , which , coupled with the potential traffic queues , may cause them to take **unnecessary risks – resulting in further accidents.**

8. If the traffic is queued up towards the AHR , drivers may decide to use Woolsbridge Road as a cut through to the A31. This part of Horton Road is already an **accident black spot – and could possibly become a greater one !**

9. To avoid the high car parking fees we always get visitors to the centre park in **Peveril Close** (no parking restrictions ,only road with street lighting, free parking) and the occupants then either walk or cycle to Moors Valley, **paying scant regard to how they park on the road** -often parking on both sides of the Close , opposite Driveways , and allow children, pets and cycles on to the front gardens of residents. Unless the cost of Car parking is included in the price of the film ticket, more people could park in the Close on an event night and walk to the venue. This could become a major issue with parking and late night noise for the residents, many of whom are pensioners.

10. The Management team state they will clear the site after an event - how will they action this and how will they prevent people/ “ne'er-do-wells” from lingering in the Forest after such an event. The area benefits currently from an **exceptionally low crime rate** - we do not want this changing.

11. There appears to be little regard for the “Dark Skies Policy” in this proposal - rather odd when the site is co –owned by the Forestry Commission. According to recent bat surveys undertaken there are approx 30 different type of bat in the area – some quite rare. How can the authorities justify demanding residents protect the surrounding wildlife and then pay no regard when a financial gain to their organisation is involved.

12. Finally **Horton Road is not “fit for purpose”** to take this number of additional vehicles either in structure or width. There only Street Lighting on the Horton Road at the junctions. The Management team at the centre have implied they have considered the impact their proposal will have on the surrounding area. THIS IS CLEARLY NOT THE CASE AND THEY ARE ONLY CONSIDERING THE POTENTIAL FINANCIAL GAIN TO THEIR CENTRE.

Until a better infrastructure is in place – or additional points of entry/ exit into the Country Park are installed we feel that on the grounds of

- . PUBLIC SAFETY
- . PREVENTING PUBLIC NUISANCE,
- . PREVENTION OF CRIME &DISORDER

this application is **REJECTED**

**10. Representation 10**

I strongly object to the application for a new premises licence in respect of Moors Valley Country Park.

1. The proposed outdoor cinema is inappropriate in the setting of Moors Valley Country Park. The Country Park is a forest and lakes which are used for exercise and physical activities such as walking, the play trail and Go Ape. The country park is greatly valued by residents and visitor alike for the quiet enjoyment of nature.
2. The noise will ruin the peace and quiet of the country park and disturb the local wildlife.
3. The noise will be a significant nuisance to local residents. Who will be affected will depend on the wind direct at the time of the event. Asking attendees to leave quietly is farcical, the advice can simply be ignored especially if alcohol is involved.
4. The application is for every day of the year except Christmas Day. This is excessive and could potentially ruin the lives of local residents, not to mention the current value of the country park. If the application is granted the number of events should be strictly restricted to no more than 4 events a year.
5. Activities in the country park do not need background music. The forest provides that! Nature does not need background music.
6. There is nothing to stop the venue from holding "Music events" which would also be inappropriate.

**11. Representation 11**

This idea of concerts and entertainment in the forest was proposed over 10 years ago and was met by total rejection by all the surrounding communities. As a result of this extremely strong feeling from the local communities, parish and local councillors as well as our MP, the Forestry Commission quite rightly withdrew their application. We cannot believe that the forest is again being proposed for such a purpose. It can only be based upon financial greed. If the Forestry Commission cannot make the forest pay other than by resorting to commercial ventures, then they should sell it to those who can make it a success.

Finally, it is essential that forests continue to be a place of quiet contemplation in these times of increasing awareness of mental health issues. These proposals are totally incompatible with your recent development of the wellness trail within the forest.

**12. Representation 12**

I wish to appeal against the application made by the above. My concern is the noise and traffic impact to local residents from late night events.

Of even greater concern is the addition of the statement " or as determined by the duration of the event".

Recent events, such as music festivals, have had extreme impact on Verwood residents into the early hours of the morning.

This will also impact those in St Leonards and St Ives and Ashley Heath, especially those residing along the Horton Road.

You may be aware there is already a campaign being started by local residents, concerned about the speed and dangerous driving of motorists on the Horton Road. I am concerned that this will just add to the current situation especially with alcohol being introduced.

**13. Representation 13**

I write to inform you of my concerns regarding the above application.

The request for the license is for 4999 people to attend events at the above venue. I object to this application and my concerns are listed as follows:

Vehicles - There is only one car park in Moors Valley which has its entrance on Horton Road, in the village of Ashley Heath. At 11pm all 4999 people will exit via this one entrance. There will be queues of traffic, people will have consumed alcohol and their tolerance level will be lower as they wait in the queue to leave the venue. This could then cause public disorder were people become frustrated and take it out on each other for example: a car jumps the queue; this could then result in horn beeping or even violence which will be witnessed by all including children. Alcohol will be served so there is a higher chance of people drink drinking, as they won't be able to leave their car behind and get a taxi. Whilst people wait to leave the venue in the long queue, they may need the bathroom, people could then vacate their vehicles to pee in bushes, exposing themselves.

Toilets – There are not enough toilets for this many visitors at one time, making the trees and bushes an alternative toilet.

Noise – I live in Ashley Heath, whilst at home, I can hear the hoot from the steam train and also the announcements by Ringwood Cheetahs when they have their monthly event at the race track. The noise level from an outdoor concert or cinema will most definitely be heard at my property and this will affect my health and wellbeing. People will attend on foot and the private road into Ringwood forest to get to Moors Valley goes directly by my property, the event will attract all different kinds of people including drunk teenagers who will then be existing the forest via this road, which could be a concern for noise and public disorder.

People attending by foot – many people will also attend these events by foot, from Three Legged Cross, Verwood, Ringwood and Ashley Heath, you can't stop people walking around a forest so I am not sure how they would police this. There are signs stating the area is at high risk of fire. People leaving by foot could be a little intoxicated and whilst not thinking could throw cigarette butts causing a forest fire. I would also like to make the point that people will not need to be at the event to listen to the music, as noise travels, they could be anywhere in the forest having a private party, with a disposal barbecue and creating a fire risk as well as a public nuisance.

The Windsor Hall at the BIC in Bournemouth can only hold 4000 people seated, the above events will be bigger than this, these events will not only have a detrimental effect on the people who live in the village that the vehicles drive through, but also on the animals/birds/insects that live in the park.

I have highlighted my concerns and hope that these are considered when you make your decision.

**14. Representation 14 - Lesley Haskins Charitable Trust (The Erica Trust)**

The Lesley Haskins Charitable Trust (The Erica Trust) owns and manages approximately 60 acres of land, known as Rushmoor Heath, immediately west of Moors Valley Country Park. This land is part of West Moors and Holt Heaths SSSI and comprises internationally important lowland heath (with associated wet woodland) and supports, amongst other specialist heathland species, breeding populations of nightjar.

We have seen the response of EDEP and reiterate every point made.

We are astonished to note that no attempt has been made to make any assessment of the impact of the application on important biodiversity. Apart from our own heathland immediately to the west, the land north, east, and south of the application site also supports heathland, some permanent, some transitory as part of the FE plantation cropping cycle. The potential impact upon nightjars using all these heathland areas is likely to be especially significant bearing in mind that nightjars, as the name suggests, take flight from dusk when they communicate by 'churring', calling and wing clapping – all of which could be obliterated by the noise from this facility thereby affecting establishment of breeding territories. Both nightjars and bats are insectivorous particularly depending upon moths. Lights can draw in insects, especially moths, from over a considerable distance, inevitably depleting the food source over the established bat and nightjar feeding grounds. These, and other potential impacts, must be properly examined and assessed. NET should have an input.

**As we believe there is likely to be a significant negative impact on internationally important biodiversity, and no data is presented by the applicant to demonstrate that they have given this matter any consideration whatsoever, The Lesley Haskins Charitable Trust objects strongly to the application.**

**15. Representation 15 - RSPB**

The RSPB's interest in this planning application is as follows:

*The potential to adversely impact populations of breeding nightjar, a qualifying species of the Dorset Heathlands Special Protection Area.*

The RSPB **objects** to this application on the grounds that insufficient environmental information is currently available on which to fully assess the potential impacts of the proposal on breeding nightjar, a qualifying species of the Dorset Heathlands Special Protection Area.

Ringwood Forest is functionally-linked to the current Special Protection Area (SPA), and essential to maintain and enhance resilient ecological networks. A review of the UK's terrestrial SPA network was published in 2016, which recommended a boundary review of some existing heathland SPAs, including the Dorset Heathlands SPA. There is strong evidence to extend the SPA boundary to include parts of Ringwood Forest. The recommendations of this review are yet to be implemented.

Nightjar are found throughout Ringwood Forest. A survey carried out by the Hampshire Ornithological Society in 2021 recorded 50 territories on the Hampshire part of

Ringwood Forest, including several pairs within MVCP. Nightjar are most active at dusk when they carry out display flights and communicate via 'churring'. There is no detail in the application to highlight noise or light levels, or when films will be shown. This detail, including the referenced Noise Management Plan, must be made available to assess the potential for it to coincide with nightjar activity. Nightjar are often found using clearings and woodland edge habitat, which might also coincide with a likely area for film screenings, but there is no plan or location map provided to make this assessment (although according to the application checklist on page 19 a plan of the premises has been submitted). No details are given on the frequency of events planned.

The RSPB has contacted FE to request further information and are grateful to them for the information provided. This goes some way to reassuring us that the current plans are not extensive, and that FE will be carrying out an environmental impact assessment prior to any licensable activities taking place. However, it highlights that the licensing process appears to be unfit for purpose. We maintain our concerns that, once a license has been authorised, activities can be carried out without the opportunity for any external scrutiny. There seems to be no legal obligation for future impact assessments, and the license appears to be open ended (no end date specified in Part 3), so any future changes to current plans could be made without any obligation to assess potential impacts. Although FE state that they currently have plans for just one event this year, the terms of the license, as laid out in the application document, could allow them to operate screenings between 10:00-23:00 every day of the year except Christmas Day, with up to 5000 people attending. Clearly activities at this scale would likely see some degree of impact from the number of people, cars, noise and lights associated with such large scale events. The license should be specific to the actual plans so that activities can be clearly assessed.

Whilst I understand that FE have an internal process which would be carried out, I can see no obligation for FE to make this available for consultation ahead of activities taking place. We are keen to understand the licensing process better so that we can work with Dorset Council, FE and others to ensure that licensable activities are fully assessed for environmental impacts. We welcome any information that Dorset Council can provide to assist with this.

We have tried to contact Dorset Council Natural Environment Team (NET) for advice and information regarding this process but were unable to reach anyone on the phone before the consultation deadline. We recommend that the licensing team are in touch with the NET for their perspective (this may already have happened, in which case we will continue to seek advice from NET ourselves).

The RSPB have already responded to Hampshire County Council regarding planning application 21/10459 at Purple Haze near Verwood on the north-east side of MVCP. We objected to that proposal based on similar concerns to those given here. If consent is given for that development, there is potential for in-combination effects on the nightjar population and other biodiversity.

In summary, it appears that no assessment has been made of the potential impacts that this proposal could have on breeding nightjar, or indeed any other biodiversity in the area, as the license application process does not carry this requirement. In the absence of any assessments, it is not possible to conclude no impact on designated sites or priority species. This would be a breach of environmental legislation, and therefore our objection is made on the grounds of 'Prevention of Crime and Disorder'.

The RSPB agree with the concerns raised by the East Dorset Environmental Partnership and the Erica Trust and reiterate our **objection** to this application on the grounds outlined above. We would be willing to discuss these points further, and work with Dorset Council and FE towards a clearer understanding of both the licensing process and the specific proposal.

**16. Representation 16**

I am writing to oppose the application for a premises licence for Moores Valley Park. Alcohol and children's events do not go hand in hand and it is irresponsible of Moores Valley to organise events geared for children where alcohol consumption is encouraged. Most park users drive to these events as is evident from the enormous car parks. It is irresponsible to encourage alcohol consumption and driving. These two points alone pose a risk to public and child safety.

A carte blanche alcohol licence is inappropriate as it will merely open the flood gates for alcohol to be served every day of the week, with exception of Christmas Day, rather than at special events which I understand is currently the practice.

The use of outdoor music, combined with the serving of alcohol will cause significant public nuisance to local residents.

It would be helpful if Moores Valley Park increased the special licences for specific events and then canvassed local residents about their impact on public nuisance. If access to the park for these special events involved free car parking, that might also reduce the nuisance caused to local residents.

In addition to this I object to the potential impact to wildlife, specifically the local bat population and the effect it could have on these protected species. What studies are they planning to put in place to establish nesting sites near the proposed areas that they plan to light after dusk?

The lack of joined up thinking with the highways agency regarding the one existing entry to the park is likely to result in long queues into and out of the park which could result in aggressive driving, potential crime and public nuisance.

I strongly object to Moores Valley being issued with an alcohol license and hope that the council will suggest that they continue with their current practice of issuing special licenses for specific events.

**17. Representation 17**

I WISH TO OBJECT TO THE GRANTING OF AN ALCOHOL LICENSE TO FORESTRY ENGLAND FOR THE MOORS VALLEY COUNTRY PARK (MVCP)

Before listing my objections, I would like to question how Dorset Council can make an independent and objective decision on this application when it operates MVCP in collaboration with the applicant and where it derives significant financial gain from the said collaboration.

My objections are as follows:

Public safety/Crime and Disorder. The consumption of alcohol leads to humans doing stupid things. My major concern at MVCP is the increased risk of FIRE which would affect me directly as my house is adjacent to MVCP and surrounded by trees. The park is almost wholly planted with highly combustible pine forest. We have signs out all year round banning fires and barbeques. Provision of alcohol from 10am to 11pm every day is likely to lead to irresponsible behaviour. Look how one disposable barbeque destroyed a massive part of Wareham Forest. In addition to fire risk, there is the added risk of drunkenness causing violent behaviour. MVCP is a family destination. We really don't want it to end up like Bournemouth, which is become a no-go zone with regular instances of violent disorder, sexual abuse and antisocial behaviour. Finally, there is zero provision of public transport to MVCP and so provision of all day drinking, particularly after events is likely to increase the risk of drink-driving.

Prevention of Public Nuisance. The provision of alcohol is presumably required so that MVCP can host night- time events such as outdoor cinema and music. This type of event is likely to cause noise pollution to local residents (we know that noise carries from MVCP because we all hear the steam train whistke clearly, both inside and outside our houses). It is also likely to increase littering and rubbish inside and outside the park.

## Moors Valley Country Park & Forest premises licence application statement

The key purpose for our Moors Valley Country Park & Forest premises licence application is to host an exciting and family focussed seasonal illuminated light trail event in 2024 around Halloween.

This Halloween light trail is the only event planned for 2024 under this premises licence and is purposely a family friendly event that showcases Moors Valley Country Park & Forest. The illuminated light trail will run for a limited 10 consecutive day run around Halloween and will operate from 4pm, with last entry at 9pm. The trail is a 1-mile walking experience on existing forest walking trails with lighting and audio effects including incidental background music (there are no live musical elements) including some actors / costumed interactive elements.

The whole event is programmed and designed to be family friendly entertainment and similar to other seasonal illumination events already held in Dorset including Christmas at Kingston Lacy. We feel this event will be a great asset to showcase Moors Valley Country Park and Forest and will bring in new and existing audiences to our visitor attraction.

The event is a tightly capacity controlled ticketed event, segmented into 15-minute arrival slots. This staggered approach is to ensure the event has a steady and manageable flow of vehicles and attendees. We are not anticipating there being any more than around 2,000 attendees on-site at any one point, which is lower than what the site can experience on a normal busy summer day. All cars will be easily accommodated within our on-site car park, and due to steady arrival/departure, we are not expecting any issues onto the neighbouring road network.

There will be hot and cold refreshments available, including mulled wine and beer. The audience profile that attends these events are low risk, including a low consumption of alcohol, due to it being a family friendly entertainment. Data from previous similar events held at Blenheim Palace confirms that only 1 in 5 people who attend this type of event purchased an alcoholic drink. The most popular beverage sold at this family event is hot chocolate.

We will be working with RG Live, part of the Sony Group, who are the UK's leading provider of illuminated light trails who have successfully brought these family light trail experiences to several other notable UK visitor attractions including other Forestry England sites, National Trust properties (including Kingston Lacy in Dorset), Kew Gardens and Blenheim Palace.

A full comprehensive suite of event documentation, including all relevant health and safety documentation, will be provided as per our proposed licence conditions.

We have sent to the Dorset Council Safety Advisory Group (SAG) a full suite of event documentation from our event partner who executed a similar illuminated light trail event hosted at a Forestry England site in 2023. This event documentation was sent to demonstrate we are partnering up with reputable, experienced event professionals who have a proven track record of planning and delivery this type of illuminated light trail event experiences in ecologically sensitive venues.

Documentation submitted to the SAG includes:

- Event Management Plan
- Construction Phase Plan
- Onsite Health & Safety Policy
- Site Operations General Risk Assessment

- Method Statement
- Extreme Weather Plan
- Fire Incident Flow Chart
- Medical Incident Flow Chart
- Comms Plan

In summary, to confirm we are not planning on doing any event activity with live music / concert elements, hence why this regulated entertainment is not included within the premises licence application. On advice of Dorset Council, we will now also be removing the regulated entertainment of recorded music. The background music played during our illuminated light trail events is incidental only to complement the lighting of the trees and installations.

While we have hosted outdoor cinema at other Forestry England sites elsewhere in the country, there are no current plans to do this at Moors Valley Country Park & Forest.

We are confident the illuminated light trail we are proposing around Halloween will be a low risk, family friendly enjoyable event with minimal impact that will meet all four of the licencing objectives.

## 2. The licensing objectives

### Crime and disorder

- 2.1 Licensing authorities should look to the police as the main source of advice on crime and disorder. They should also seek to involve the local Community Safety Partnership (CSP).
- 2.2 In the exercise of their functions, licensing authorities should seek to co-operate with the Security Industry Authority (“SIA”) as far as possible and consider adding relevant conditions to licences where appropriate. The SIA also plays an important role in preventing crime and disorder by ensuring that door supervisors are properly licensed and, in partnership with police and other agencies, that security companies are not being used as fronts for serious and organised criminal activity. This may include making specific enquiries or visiting premises through intelligence led operations in conjunction with the police, local authorities and other partner agencies. Similarly, the provision of requirements for door supervision may be appropriate to ensure that people who are drunk, drug dealers or people carrying firearms do not enter the premises and ensuring that the police are kept informed.
- 2.3 Conditions should be targeted on deterrence and preventing crime and disorder including the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises (see paragraph 10.10). For example, where there is good reason to suppose that disorder may take place, the presence of closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras both inside and immediately outside the premises can actively deter disorder, nuisance, anti-social behaviour and crime generally. Some licence holders may wish to have cameras on their premises for the prevention of crime directed against the business itself, its staff, or its customers. But any condition may require a broader approach, and it may be appropriate to ensure that the precise location of cameras is set out on plans to ensure that certain areas are properly covered and there is no subsequent dispute over the terms of the condition.
- 2.4 The inclusion of radio links and ring-round phone systems should be considered an appropriate condition for public houses, bars and nightclubs operating in city and town centre leisure areas with a high density of licensed premises. These systems allow managers of licensed premises to communicate instantly with the police and facilitate a rapid response to any disorder which may be endangering the customers and staff on the premises.
- 2.5 Conditions relating to the management competency of designated premises supervisors should not normally be attached to premises licences. It will normally be the responsibility of the premises licence holder as an employer, and not the licensing authority, to ensure that the managers appointed at the premises are competent and appropriately trained. The designated premises supervisor is the key person who will usually be responsible for the day to day management of the premises by the premises licence holder, including the prevention of disorder. A condition of this kind may only be justified as appropriate in rare circumstances where it can be demonstrated that, in the circumstances associated with particular premises, poor management competency could give rise to issues of crime and disorder and public safety.

- 2.6 The prevention of crime includes the prevention of immigration crime including the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises. Licensing authorities should work with Home Office Immigration Enforcement, as well as the police, in respect of these matters. Licence conditions that are considered appropriate for the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises might include requiring a premises licence holder to undertake right to work checks on all staff employed at the licensed premises or requiring that evidence of a right to work check, either physical or digital (e.g. a copy of any document checked as part of a right to work check or a clear copy of the online right to work check) are retained at the licensed premises.
- 2.7 The objective to crime under the Licensing Act 2003 would include taking measures to prevent incidents of spiking which would usually be prosecuted under section 23 and 24 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861, and section 61 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. The following examples are within the range of behaviours that would be considered spiking. This list is not exhaustive:
- Putting alcohol into someone's drink without their knowledge or permission
  - Putting prescription or illegal drugs into an alcoholic or non-alcoholic drink without their knowledge or permission
  - Injecting another person with prescription or illegal drugs without their knowledge or permission
  - Putting prescription or illegal drugs into another person's food without their knowledge or permission
  - Putting prescription or illegal drugs into another person's cigarette or vape without their knowledge or permission

## Public safety

- 2.8 Licence holders have a responsibility to ensure the safety of those using their premises, as a part of their duties under the 2003 Act. This concerns the safety of people using the relevant premises rather than public health which is addressed in other legislation. Physical safety includes the prevention of accidents and injuries and other immediate harms that can result from alcohol consumption such as unconsciousness or alcohol poisoning. Conditions relating to public safety may also promote the crime and disorder objective as noted above. There will of course be occasions when a public safety condition could incidentally benefit a person's health more generally, but it should not be the purpose of the condition as this would be outside the licensing authority's powers (be ultra vires) under the 2003 Act. Conditions should not be imposed on a premises licence or club premises certificate which relate to cleanliness or hygiene.
- 2.9 A number of matters should be considered in relation to public safety. These may include:
- Fire safety;
  - Ensuring appropriate access for emergency services such as ambulances;
  - Good communication with local authorities and emergency services, for example communications networks with the police and signing up for local incident alerts (see paragraph 2.4 above);

- Ensuring the presence of trained first aiders on the premises and appropriate first aid kits;
  - Ensuring the safety of people when leaving the premises (for example, through the provision of information on late-night transportation);
  - Ensuring appropriate and frequent waste disposal, particularly of glass bottles;
  - Ensuring appropriate limits on the maximum capacity of the premises (see paragraphs 2.12-2.13, and Chapter 10; and
  - Considering the use of CCTV in and around the premises (as noted in paragraph 2.3 above, this may also assist with promoting the crime and disorder objective).
- 2.10 The measures that are appropriate to promote public safety will vary between premises and the matters listed above may not apply in all cases. As set out in Chapter 8 (8.38-8.46), applicants should consider when making their application which steps it is appropriate to take to promote the public safety objective and demonstrate how they achieve that.
- 2.11 Counter terrorism and public safety
- 2.12 Licensing committees may wish to give due consideration to appropriate counter-terrorism measures and advice when considering licence applications, for example at high profile or large premises or events or where there are factors which may increase attractiveness to attacks, and in particular when in receipt of relevant advice from police counter terrorist staff.
- 2.13 It is particularly relevant to consider conditions around health care provision in this regard. Any additional licensing conditions should be appropriate and proportionate to the venue as noted in para 1.16. We recommend that all licensing authorities pay particular attention to terrorist threats when making specific licence conditions in relation to security or health care provision at appropriate premises and events applying for a licence.
- 2.14 As noted in para 2.8 licensing authorities can recommend conditions where appropriate to do so, such as ensuring appropriate access for emergency services and vehicles such as ambulances; good communication with local authorities and emergency services, for example communications networks with the police and signing up for local incident alerts (see paragraph 2.4); and ensuring the presence of sufficient trained first aiders on the premises and appropriate first aid kits.
- 2.15 However, in some instances, licensing authorities may wish to tailor their approach, depending on the particular nature of the application, and go further when addressing concerns around possible terrorist or other such risks. We have provided an Annex to help inform and support licensing authorities in their decision making with regards to additional licence conditions for premises and events, that may benefit from further security planning and health care provision in the aftermath of a particular type of incident.

## **Ensuring safe departure of those using the premises**

- 2.16 Licence holders should make provision to ensure that premises users safely leave their premises. Measures that may assist include:

- Providing information on the premises of local taxi companies who can provide safe transportation home; and
- Ensuring adequate lighting outside the premises, particularly on paths leading to and from the premises and in car parks.

## Maintenance and repair

- 2.17 Where there is a requirement in other legislation for premises open to the public or for employers to possess certificates attesting to the safety or satisfactory nature of certain equipment or fixtures on the premises, it would be inappropriate for a licensing condition to require possession of such a certificate. However, it would be permissible to require as a condition of a licence or certificate, if appropriate, checks on this equipment to be conducted at specified intervals and for evidence of these checks to be retained by the premises licence holder or club provided this does not duplicate or gold-plate a requirement in other legislation. Similarly, it would be permissible for licensing authorities, if they receive relevant representations from responsible authorities or any other persons, to attach conditions which require equipment of particular standards to be maintained on the premises. Responsible authorities – such as health and safety authorities – should therefore make their expectations clear in this respect to enable prospective licence holders or clubs to prepare effective operating schedules and club operating schedules.

## Safe capacities

- 2.18 “Safe capacities” should only be imposed where appropriate for the promotion of public safety or the prevention of disorder on the relevant premises. For example, if a capacity has been imposed through other legislation, it would be inappropriate to reproduce it in a premises licence. Indeed, it would also be wrong to lay down conditions which conflict with other legal requirements. However, if no safe capacity has been imposed through other legislation, a responsible authority may consider it appropriate for a new capacity to be attached to the premises which would apply at any material time when the licensable activities are taking place and make representations to that effect. For example, in certain circumstances, capacity limits may be appropriate in preventing disorder, as overcrowded venues can increase the risks of crowds becoming frustrated and hostile.
- 2.19 The permitted capacity is a limit on the number of persons who may be on the premises at any time, following a recommendation by the relevant fire and rescue authority under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. For any application for a premises licence or club premises certificate for premises without an existing permitted capacity where the applicant wishes to take advantage of the special provisions set out in section 177 of the 2003 Act<sup>1</sup>, the applicant should conduct their own risk assessment as to the appropriate capacity of the premises. They should send their recommendation to the fire and rescue authority which will consider it and decide what the “permitted capacity” of those premises should be.
- 2.20 Public safety may include the safety of performers appearing at any premises, but does not extend to the prevention of injury from participation in a boxing or wrestling

<sup>1</sup> S 177 of the 2003 Act now only applies to performances of dance.

entertainment.

## Public nuisance

- 2.21 The 2003 Act enables licensing authorities and responsible authorities, through representations, to consider what constitutes public nuisance and what is appropriate to prevent it in terms of conditions attached to specific premises licences and club premises certificates. It is therefore important that in considering the promotion of this licensing objective, licensing authorities and responsible authorities focus on the effect of the licensable activities at the specific premises on persons living and working (including those carrying on business) in the area around the premises which may be disproportionate and unreasonable. The issues will mainly concern noise nuisance, light pollution, noxious smells and litter.
- 2.22 Public nuisance is given a statutory meaning in many pieces of legislation. It is however not narrowly defined in the 2003 Act and retains its broad common law meaning. It may include in appropriate circumstances the reduction of the living and working amenity and environment of other persons living and working in the area of the licensed premises. Public nuisance may also arise as a result of the adverse effects of artificial light, dust, odour and insects or where its effect is prejudicial to health.
- 2.23 Conditions relating to noise nuisance will usually concern steps appropriate to control the levels of noise emanating from premises. This might be achieved by a simple measure such as ensuring that doors and windows are kept closed after a particular time, or persons are not permitted in garden areas of the premises after a certain time. More sophisticated measures like the installation of acoustic curtains or rubber speaker mounts to mitigate sound escape from the premises may be appropriate. However, conditions in relation to live or recorded music may not be enforceable in circumstances where the entertainment activity itself is not licensable (see chapter 16). Any conditions appropriate to promote the prevention of public nuisance should be tailored to the type, nature and characteristics of the specific premises and its licensable activities. Licensing authorities should avoid inappropriate or disproportionate measures that could deter events that are valuable to the community, such as live music. Noise limiters, for example, are expensive to purchase and install and are likely to be a considerable burden for smaller venues.
- 2.24 As with all conditions, those relating to noise nuisance may not be appropriate in certain circumstances where provisions in other legislation adequately protect those living in the area of the premises. But as stated earlier in this Guidance, the approach of licensing authorities and responsible authorities should be one of prevention and when their powers are engaged, licensing authorities should be aware of the fact that other legislation may not adequately cover concerns raised in relevant representations and additional conditions may be appropriate.
- 2.25 Where applications have given rise to representations, any appropriate conditions should normally focus on the most sensitive periods. For example, the most sensitive period for people being disturbed by unreasonably loud music is at night and into the early morning when residents in adjacent properties may be attempting to go to sleep or are sleeping. This is why there is still a need for a licence for performances of live music between 11 pm and 8 am. In certain circumstances, conditions relating to noise

emanating from the premises may also be appropriate to address any disturbance anticipated as customers enter and leave.

- 2.26 Measures to control light pollution will also require careful thought. Bright lighting outside premises which is considered appropriate to prevent crime and disorder may itself give rise to light pollution for some neighbours. Applicants, licensing authorities and responsible authorities will need to balance these issues.
- 2.27 Beyond the immediate area surrounding the premises, these are matters for the personal responsibility of individuals under the law. An individual who engages in anti-social behaviour is accountable in their own right. However, it would be perfectly reasonable for a licensing authority to impose a condition, following relevant representations, that requires the licence holder or club to place signs at the exits from the building encouraging patrons to be quiet until they leave the area, or that, if they wish to smoke, to do so at designated places on the premises instead of outside, and to respect the rights of people living nearby to a peaceful night.

## Protection of children from harm

- 2.28 The protection of children from harm includes the protection of children from moral, psychological and physical harm. This includes not only protecting children from the harms associated directly with alcohol consumption but also wider harms such as exposure to strong language and sexual expletives (for example, in the context of exposure to certain films or adult entertainment). Licensing authorities must also consider the need to protect children from sexual exploitation when undertaking licensing functions.
- 2.29 The Government believes that it is completely unacceptable to sell alcohol to children. Conditions relating to the access of children where alcohol is sold and which are appropriate to protect them from harm should be carefully considered. Moreover, conditions restricting the access of children to premises should be strongly considered in circumstances where:
- adult entertainment is provided;
  - a member or members of the current management have been convicted for serving alcohol to minors or with a reputation for allowing underage drinking (other than in the context of the exemption in the 2003 Act relating to 16 and 17 year olds consuming beer, wine and cider when accompanied by an adult during a table meal);
  - it is known that unaccompanied children have been allowed access;
  - there is a known association with drug taking or dealing; or
  - in some cases, the premises are used exclusively or primarily for the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises.
- 2.30 It is also possible that activities, such as adult entertainment, may take place at certain times on premises but not at other times. For example, premises may operate as a café bar during the day providing meals for families but also provide entertainment with a sexual content after 8.00pm. It is not possible to give an exhaustive list of what amounts to entertainment or services of an adult or sexual nature. Applicants, responsible authorities and licensing authorities will need to consider this point carefully. This would broadly include topless bar staff, striptease, lap-, table- or pole-dancing, performances involving feigned violence or horrific incidents, feigned or actual sexual acts or fetishism,

or entertainment involving strong and offensive language.

- 2.31 Applicants must be clear in their operating schedules about the activities and times at which the events would take place to help determine when it is not appropriate for children to enter the premises. Consideration should also be given to the proximity of premises to schools and youth clubs so that applicants take appropriate steps to ensure that advertising relating to their premises, or relating to events at their premises, is not displayed at a time when children are likely to be near the premises.
- 2.32 Licensing authorities and responsible authorities should expect applicants, when preparing an operating schedule or club operating schedule, to set out the steps to be taken to protect children from harm when on the premises.
- 2.33 Conditions, where they are appropriate, should reflect the licensable activities taking place on the premises. In addition to the mandatory condition regarding age verification, other conditions relating to the protection of children from harm can include:
- restrictions on the hours when children may be present;
  - restrictions or exclusions on the presence of children under certain ages when particular specified activities are taking place;
  - restrictions on the parts of the premises to which children may have access;
  - age restrictions (below 18);
  - restrictions or exclusions when certain activities are taking place;
  - requirements for an accompanying adult (including for example, a combination of requirements which provide that children under a particular age must be accompanied by an adult); and
  - full exclusion of people under 18 from the premises when any licensable activities are taking place.
- 2.34 Please see also Chapter 10 for details about the Licensing Act 2003 (Mandatory Licensing Conditions) Order 2010.
- 2.35 Licensing authorities should give considerable weight to representations about child protection matters. In addition to the responsible authority whose functions relate directly to child protection, the Director of Public Health may also have access to relevant evidence to inform such representations. These representations may include, amongst other things, the use of health data about the harms that alcohol can cause to underage drinkers. Where a responsible authority, or other person, presents evidence to the licensing authority linking specific premises with harms to children (such as ambulance data or emergency department attendances by persons under 18 years old with alcohol-related illnesses or injuries) this evidence should be considered, and the licensing authority should also consider what action is appropriate to ensure this licensing objective is effectively enforced. In relation to applications for the grant of a licence in areas where evidence is presented on high levels of alcohol-related harms in persons aged under 18, it is recommended that the licensing authority considers what conditions may be appropriate to ensure that this objective is promoted effectively.
- 2.36 The 2003 Act provides that, where a premises licence or club premises certificate authorises the exhibition of a film, it must include a condition requiring the admission of children to films to be restricted in accordance with recommendations given either by a body designated under section 4 of the Video Recordings Act 1984 specified in the

licence (the British Board of Film Classification is currently the only body which has been so designated) or by the licensing authority itself. Further details are given in Chapter 10.

- 2.37 Theatres may present a range of diverse activities and entertainment including, for example, variety shows incorporating adult entertainment. It is appropriate in these cases for a licensing authority to consider restricting the admission of children in such circumstances. Entertainments may also be presented at theatres specifically for children. It will be appropriate to consider whether a condition should be attached to a premises licence or club premises certificate which requires the presence of a sufficient number of adult staff on the premises to ensure the wellbeing of the children during any emergency.

### **Offences relating to the sale and supply of alcohol to children**

- 2.38 Licensing authorities are expected to maintain close contact with the police, young offenders' teams and trading standards officers (who can carry out test purchases under section 154 of the 2003 Act) about the extent of unlawful sales and consumption of alcohol by minors and to be involved in the development of any strategies to control or prevent these unlawful activities and to pursue prosecutions. Licensing authorities, alongside the police, are prosecuting authorities for the purposes of these offences, except for the offences under section 147A (persistently selling alcohol to children). Where, as a matter of policy, warnings are given to retailers prior to any decision to prosecute in respect of an offence, it is important that each of the enforcement arms should be aware of the warnings each of them has given.