

From
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Date 9th April 2018

RE: Application to increase licensable capacity from 4,999 to 9,999 at Cattows Farm, Heather

I would only wish to support this application subject to the improved handling of litter and rubbish left in the environment after these events at this venue. As a local resident who uses the road between Heather and Normanton several times per day I can confirm that:

1. Visitors to the event deposit a significant amount of litter close to the venue on local roads and hedges, in particular the Normanton to Heather Road. This is not removed effectively by the event organiser.
2. The venue itself is not cleaned quickly after events resulting in the wind spreading litter and debris to local roads, hedges and fields.
3. When the venue is cleaned this excludes effective off-site roads, verges and hedges. (There are still AA road cones in the verges today 6 months after the last event).
4. Locals live for several months dismayed by the excessive amount of litter in the community with no effort by the event organisers to return the local environment to its good state. The event site itself appears to be cleaned, although too slowly.

5. The litter poses health risks to domestic animals and wildlife, which is growing due the success or the new Queen Elizabeth Woods, directly across the road from this venue.

6. In an exceptional case, I personally drove over a flattened metal/rigid plastic container in the road which sliced through my pneumatic power steering pipes on my car at 5am in the morning taking my vehicle off the road for two days. I accept this is an unusual case but this can easily be avoided.

In summary, I am not against the increase in capacity as it can only help sustain a rural community by bringing in new trade and opportunities. However, event organisers or the council must ensure that the local roads and verges around the venue are promptly and effectively cleaned of rubbish and litter after each event. If this cannot be guaranteed then I would object to the increase in the proposed licence.

Yours


Gareth Braithwaite