

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing (2003 Act) Sub-Committee held on
Tuesday, 25 July 2023 at 10.30 a.m.

1. Appointment of Chair

Councillor Anna Bradnam was appointed as Chair.

2. Introductions / Procedure

The Chair introduced panel members and officers and explained the procedure for the hearing.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Mark Howell declared a non-pecuniary interest as the holder of a personal alcohol licence.

Cllr Jose Hales declared a non-pecuniary interest as the director of a management team that held an alcohol licence.

Cllr Mark Howell declared a non-pecuniary interested as a SIA (Security Industry Authority) licence holder.

4. Grant of a Premises Licence: Horseheath Lodge, Horseheath Lodge Estate, Dean Road, Cambridge

Date of Hearing:	25 July 2023
Premises:	Horseheath Lodge, Horseheath Lodge Estate
Premises Address:	Dean Road, Cambridge, CB21 4PT
Premises user:	Mr David Roberts
Application:	Application for the Grant of a Premises Licence

Those present at the hearing:

Sub-Committee:	Councillor Anna Bradnam (Chair) Councillor Jose Hales Councillor Mark Howell
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SCDC Officers:	Natasha Wade-Guest, Licensing Technical Officer James Langley, Legal Adviser (attended virtually) Rachel Jackson, Principal Licensing Officer Aaron Clarke, Democratic Services Technical Officer
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Applicant:	David Roberts, Cambridge Rock Festival
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Director**Representees:**

- Julia Stanton – Cambridge Rock Festival Director
- Mary Roberts – Cambridge Rock Festival Director
- Emma Thomas – Head Steward, Cambridge Rock Festival
- John McLinton – Head Safety Officer, Cambridge Rock Festival
- Chris Stapleton – Health & Safety Advisor, Cambridge Rock Festival
- John Bald – Linton Parish Council
- Hannah Brown - Press Officer, Cambridgeshire Live

The application

To consider the grant of a Premises Licence.

Background

On 2 June 2023, an application for the grant of a premises licence for Horseheath Lodge, Horseheath Lodge Estate, Dean Road, Cambridge, CB21 4PT was submitted to the Licensing Authority, advertised and consulted upon.

The proposed application seeks to carry out the following activities:

Hours Open to the Public**Supply of Alcohol**

The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises.

Thursday to Sunday:-

Thursday – Sunday:-

11:00 – 23:45

11:00 – 23:00

Provision of Live Music**Provision of Recorded Music**

Indoors and Outdoors

Indoors and Outdoors

Thursday to Sunday:-

Thursday – Sunday:-

11:00 – 23:00

11:00 – 23:00

**Provision of Late Night
Refreshment**

Indoors and Outdoors

Thursday to Sunday:-

11:00 – 23:45

A statutory 28-day consultation period started on 2 June 2023 and ended on 30 June 2023. This enabled Responsible Authorities and 'Other Persons' to make representations towards the application. 'Other Persons' includes any individual, body or business whether or not they live in the vicinity.

The application was advertised in the Cambridge Independent on 21 June 2023, and the site notice displayed on the premises as required. Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service had no objection to the application but provided some observations. Planning had no objection and confirmed that planning permission was not required.

The Police had no objection to the application and agreed with the applicant several conditions to be imposed on any licence granted including the condition "This licence shall permit The Cambridge Rock Festival, one annual, four-consecutive day festival event to take place at the premises between 1 May and 30 September annually, with a limit on attendees of 1500 (including staff, contractors, and entertainers).

Cambridge County Council Highways had no objection to the application and agreed conditions to be imposed on any licence granted including "Need to contact Highways no later than 12 weeks prior to the event if a temporary traffic regulation order (TTRO) is required (Speed Limit Reduction).

Relevant representations

Environmental Health had no objection to the application and have agreed with the applicant several conditions to be imposed on any licence granted.

Trading Standards had no objection to the application.

There were no responses from other Responsible Authorities.

Representations were received from Linton Parish Council and three residents.

The applicant's additional supporting submissions followed, were sent to all parties and displayed on the website.

Observations:

The panel heard representations from the applicant, who explained the details and key points of the application and the events that would take place, including the demographics of these events. The following was explained:

- The nature of the music held at the event and emphasised the family friendly aspects of the festival.
 - It was noted that the event had evolved from being a 'beer festival' to being a 'music festival'.
 - The applicant apologised for a lack of engagement with Linton Parish Council but emphasised that this would be addressed during any future years in which the festival would be held.
 - One of the key aims of the festival was to keep the sound from each of the three individual stages at the festival apart without any sound interference between them.
 - That charities are invited to come along to the festival to set-up stalls for fundraising opportunities.
 - That the last festival was in 2022 at Peterborough Showground but that the site was no longer available.
 - The Horseheath Lodge site was in a depression in the ground which assisted with the prevention of sound transmission and leakage from the site. It was also noted that the festival avoids the use of technology that would cause sound transmission over a wide area.
 - There were no complaints received by the District Council or the Parish Councils in 2017 or 2018 when the festival was last held at the Horseheath Lodge site.
 - Concerns were raised by Linton Parish Council about the impact of the noise on local residents. There were further concerns raised over the ability of the local authority to deal with out of hours noise complaints should they arise.
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Decision

Taking all the above into account the Sub-Committee **decided to grant the Premises Licence.**

Reasons

- This event had run at Horseheath Lodge in 2017 and 2018 only. There had been no events subsequently at this location until the application in 2023. When the events in question ran in 2017 and 2018 there had been no complaints or concerns relating to the four Licensing Objectives.
- There had been no complaints received by the Licensing Authority. The directors David Roberts and Julia Stanton said the only contact they had received from the public on the night of an event, was asking what time the event would end.

- There was evidence supplied by Mr Roberts from Horseheath Parish Council which explained the event was clearly well managed with adequate stewards and no excess noise, residents stated strong support for the Rock Festival at Horseheath Lodge.
- Cllr David Bald of Linton Parish Council raised concerns in anticipation of noise nuisance and the ability to report complaints contemporaneously to the Licensing Authority. On investigation, it seemed that previous complaints to Linton Parish Council did not relate to the Cambridge Rock Festival.
- Three residents from West Wickham had submitted objections but did not make reference to the dates of the events. The complaints were of a general nature and could not be attributed to the Cambridge Rock Festival.
- Traffic. David Roberts advised ticket purchasers to exercise caution as the A1307 is a fast road; the panel felt this demonstrated that he was a conscientious event organiser.
- David Roberts explained that the pattern of arrival was staggered between those arriving to camp for four days and those arriving for day events. The festival had never experienced queueing back onto the highways.

The premises user, Mr Roberts, has a right of appeal against the decision to issue a counter notice, to the Cambridge Magistrates' Court within 21 days of receiving notification of this decision however, no appeal can be brought later than 5 working days before the day on which the event period specified in the temporary event notice begins.

The Meeting ended at 1.00 p.m.
