



CRF <crfhelpline@gmail.com>

Noise nuisance

1 message

Esther Bickerton [REDACTED]
To: crfhelpline@gmail.com

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To whom it may concern,
I have recently been informed of the devastating news that a much loved and well respected event will no go ahead as planned this year.
I have attended CRF at two of the sites where it's been held over the years, twice in Horseheath and twice just outside Cambridge.
I have found it to be an extremely well organised, well run event that has the most amazing warm, welcoming atmosphere and gives immense pleasure to music fans and festival fans alike.

Having been a stall holder, I can categorically state that the music is never too loud and finishes with precision timing so there is no noise disturbance.

I can say this hand on heart as each of the four times I have had a pitch I'm there well after the music ends at 11 if not before as I'm still packing up my food business.

Any activity beyond this time is a quiet operation to wind down, have security safely escort punters out, watch for crowd control (I have never seen any trouble or issues) and general tidy up, help stall holders and prepare for the next day.

There have also been years I have not attended, and can also comment on the noise pollution level as a single parent living in Horseheath village it's self.

In the daytime, if the wind is blowing this way, you can just about catch the odd snippet of sound, never loud enough to identify the song or actually be 100% there actually is music coming from somewhere. I can not see at all how this could be classed as disruptive, or even mildly annoying!

There is another Annual Festival that takes place a little nearer to Horseheath which is slightly more audible. I'm sure you know of the Wild Wood Festival.

Living in the village and having connections with neighbouring villages of Linton, West Wickham etc I have heard the odd grumble about Wild Wood over the years but by far the majority of villagers can't see what the problem is.

We had a meeting in our village hall to discuss Wild Wood a few years ago and it was overwhelmingly supported despite a few key people putting up negative posters and posts on village social media sites.

Wild Wood has always been more audible than CRF so I'm am extremely shocked at this decision.

I will confess I have a vested interest in CRF. I have a very small food business (a team of 2) and absolutely love having a pitch at CRF.

It is not an intimidating, overly loud, roudy Rock Festival (as I thought it might be before I attended) it's welcoming, professionally run and great fun for punters, staff and vendors alike.

This puts a huge dent in the annual turnover of my little local business, and will have affected other pitch holders who will now be unable to fill those CRF dates with other Venu opportunities at this late stage in Summer event planning. The ripple effect is much more than just disappointed festival goers, it affects local businesses and I feel really upset at all the wasted time and effort that has put in by the organisers and loyal volunteers.

I won't be able now to take my children on holiday, or get my business bank account to a more comfortable place. This is a bit of a personal disaster, and seems like an extreme reaction to the minority of people who would prefer the event not to run for the short time it's there.

I hope things will be set right for next time, and thank you for taking the time to read this.

Kind regards,

Esther Bickerton
The kitsch Hen.