



CRF <crfhelpline@gmail.com>

SUPPORT FOR CAMBRIDGE ROCK FESTIVAL

1 message

Nick Leech [REDACTED]
To: Cambridge Rock Festival <crfhelpline@gmail.com>

Wed, Jul 12, 2023 at 4:13 PM

Dear CRF

Please find attached statement of support for the CRF, as regards future Licencing. Feel free to pass it on to relevant authorities in your efforts to secure future licencing and permissions for the Event in future years.

Dear Sirs,

I was very disappointed that the 2023 Cambridge Rock Festival had to be cancelled because the "goalposts had been moved" as regards Licencing Conditions imposed by the local authorities and there was not enough time left to put through the enhanced paperwork required to be granted a licence.

I have been to the Cambridge Rock Festival about 10 times over the years - both at the Haggis Farm Polo Club site, and at the Horseheath Lodge site. I can vouch for the fact that the CRF is extemely well run by Dave Roberts and his Team. I am an experienced attendee at a great many music festivals and other similar events all around the UK over the last 30+ years, and I can assure that the CRF is one of the very best run events.

In-muster and out-muster of cars and other vehicles is handled very well by experienced stewards every year. People do not all arrive and leave at the same time causing gridlock. People tend to arrive in dribs and drabs at different times over a couple of days to set up camp for the event. Similarly, people leave in dribs and drabs after the last performance, overnight and over the following day. Signposting for the festival in the area is usually excellent. So, the impact of traffic on local roads/residents is minimal.

Numbers of attendees are relatively small - it is essentially a small "boutique" type event, so numbers of people and vehicles is kept down. The size of the event site is tiny compared to something like Glastonbury, Reading or Download Music Festivals. It is very small even compared to the Cambridge Folk Festival which is held every year in the area, with far, far greater numbers in attendance.

The people who attend the CRF every year tend to be the more mature age group of music fans - typically in the 40-75 year age bracket. They are well behaved people with a genuine love of live music - they are not noisy, rowdy people. The majority of people attending are mature couples, and also some are families with children. There is a real ale bar, but people do not get "roaring drunk", they tend to be discerning mature real ale drinkers who sample a few beers whilst watching the music.

There are usually two main stages plus a small "acoustic" stage. All three stages are housed in temporary marquees. PA systems are relatively small - especially on stages 2 and 3. I know for a fact that a great deal of care is taken to minimise the acoustic/noise impact of the festival on local residents. Indeed, they have to ensure that the music from the two "electric stages" does not drown out the music in the Acoustic Stage which is extremely close by.

I have heard that there has been extra local concern about CRF, which has largely been caused by the impact of another festival in the same local area in a previous year. However, the latter festival was a different style of music, with larger/louder PA systems playing later into the night and with a much younger, rowdier demographic. In comparison, the CRF has minimal local impact and I wholeheartedly support it.

Although I do not live in Cambridgeshire myself, I would be more than happy to have CRF held in my own local vicinity. I would also add that the CRF brings financial benefit to the local area due to the money spent by the attendees in local shops, cafes etc. Not to mention the fact that many of the bands and artists who play at CRF are from the local Cambridgeshire or SE England area.

I sincerely hope that the Licence will be granted to CRF to allow it to go ahead in 2024.

Yours faithfully

***Mr Nicholas A. Leech
Morecambe, Lancashire
Aged 64 years***