

From: **Percolate Community** <community@percolatemusic.co.uk>
Date: Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 9:43 AM
Subject: Re: Barking Park Proposal
To: louise chappell
Cc: Kitty Bartlett <kitty@percolatemusic.co.uk>

Dear Louise,

I am following up here as we are in receipt of your objection to our licence application in relation to our music event in Barking Park.

I wanted to take the opportunity to address your concerns directly in advance of the Subcommittee hearing, so you have a fully detailed view of how we plan to mitigate these issues in advance of the meeting.

I hope you don't mind if I quote you directly for clarity of the points which I am responding to and apologies if these responses come across as direct, that is not the intention, I'm keen to come back to all your concerns as succinctly as possible.

I am objecting to the area of the park being used, the planned area is full of trees, shrubs and wildlife. Holding the event in this area will be of great detriment to the park environment. The effects of this application on the local wildlife including the lake will be upsetting to the animals given that it is the breeding/nesting/raising young time of year. There has been a family of swans living on the lake for many, many years. I've been visiting the park for over 12 years and they have always been there.

I do not see how up to 7000 people are going to congregate in the planned area without damage occurring to the wildlife or plants & trees.

The park is an important part of the community for families, runners, walkers, dog walkers and people young and old, this event will effectively make it out of bounds for all those users during the planned events.

If the event has to take part in the park, can I please ask why the field area adjacent to Longbridge Road, behind Barking Abbey School cannot be used? Surely this area is better suited, the grass will recover quickly, less wildlife are trees are likely to be affected and it is further away from the lake. Secondly, there is much better pedestrian access with the bigger gates and this also gives better access for the emergency services.

With regards to your concerns in relation to the environmental impact the event may cause, this is an incredibly important part of our planning process when it comes to producing outdoor events. We have been undergoing a series of surveys on the site (phase 1 of which I have attached for your reference) with our appointed environmental consultants BSG Ecology. This allows us to more deeply understand the nature of all the habitats on the site, and inform our mitigation process in relation to the impact we may cause to all species present. It may also give you some reassurance that we have now moved the main stage away from the lake to the top path where the lime trees run.

In respect to your concern about damage to the wildlife and plants, most of the site will be fenced off to the public, keeping them predominantly on either grass or the hard standing, away from the shrubbed areas.

In terms of public access to the park we have designed the event so that all of the amenities can remain open (the football pitches, splashpark, bowls club, cafe, etc) throughout the entirety of the time we are on site, so whilst we will be taking a section of the park away for a few weeks, it will still be fully accessible on a slightly reduced capacity.

The chosen location for the event is tailored to the event we had envisioned producing, specifically with regard to the layout of the trees that we want to build our installation in. I do understand your view on this, and if we were looking to do a large mainstage concert event the playing fields would be perfect, but we are looking to create something that feels more artistic and tailored to the space we are proposing. To be fully candid, our concept would not work in such an open space.

Prevention of Crime & Disorder - I believe the sale of alcohol would give rise to disorder and possible crimes being committed.

We have a full alcohol management plan in place from our team of highly experienced bar operators. In addition to this the event and affected surrounding areas of the event will be heavily stewarded to safeguard against criminal activity.

Public Safety - with the numbers expected/planned for safety of those in the immediate area or those still trying to access and use the park as normal could be compromised.

As said, we will have a comprehensive crowd management plan which will detail all of the operations and procedures in place to get everyone safely on and off the site. This will be part of our detailed event management plan which is authored by our NEBOSH certified event director of 25 years event production experience. All of these documents are reviewed at length by the Safety Advisory Group consisting of Police, Environmental Health, Highways, Health and Safety, Fire Safety, and the LBBB events team. Suffice to say we have a lot of people, other than local residents, that we are accountable to on this front to make sure we are addressing this point in extreme detail!

Public Nuisance - To those living in the immediate area and homes which back on to the park, and those unable to use the park as normal.

We will of course do our best to minimise the level of inconvenience to all park users and those who live close to the park. We have already hosted two rounds of consultations both in person and online to invite as many people as possible to engage with us during this application process. We will also be operating within strict noise guidelines set by the Environmental Health Department. No residents living close by have expressed concern about our licensing application.

Apologies that this has been such a lengthy email, but I was keen to offer some responses to your concerns in advance of the subcommittee hearing as well open a dialogue should you wish to participate. I would love the opportunity to give you a call or meet at your convenience to discuss these points.

Kind regards,
Fred

On Thu, Dec 14, 2023 at 9:37 AM Percolate Community <community@percolatemusic.co.uk> wrote:
Dear Louise,

Thank you for your email. Unfortunately there were no attendees at last night's meeting so there are no minutes to share.

We do however have minutes from the online consultation which we hosted the night before, Kitty on CC will share these with you when they're typed up.

Consultation began on the first of December and will remain open for as long as we're hosting the event. You are welcome to submit any suggestions or engage with us at any point over email, or if you would prefer I can arrange a time to speak to you directly at your convenience.

There will be another round of online and in person consultations in January, we will publish and circulate the details for these at the beginning of next month.

Our full license application is planned for submission at the beginning of January, at this point you will have an opportunity to lodge any formal objections / support for the event to the LBB Licensing Authority.

I hope this response has sufficiently answered your questions, please do let us know if there's anything else you'd like to know from us at this stage.

Best,

Fred

On Wed, Dec 13, 2023 at 6:39 PM louise chappell wrote:

I am unable to make it to the meeting tonight, could you please send me a copy of the minutes/ or a copy of the notes from the matters raised.

Can you also let me know the timeline of the proposal including the consultation period with the local residents and park users, and how we can make written objections/suggestions.

Thank you.

Louise Chappell

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The Percolate Team



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The Percolate Team



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