

Hello

I'm writing to comment on the application for the "Open Arms" event to be held in Finsbury Park this summer.

Many of the surrounding residents of Haringey, Hackney & Islington which the Park is in the middle of have very little, if any outside space, so Finsbury Park is incredibly important to them, particularly after the year we've all had.

Finsbury Park area, particularly near the Tube station & the park itself already has ongoing issues with antisocial behaviour such as drug selling & misuse, street drinking & violent crime. As a parent of 2 teenagers, I am constantly concerned for their safety.

Putting on an event like this, with 810 hours of alcohol sale in the middle of the park will inevitably increase antisocial behaviour around the tube & in the park. As it has done with all other big events in the park where alcohol is sold, (for example Oktoberfest in 2018) in a season when local residents, myself and my family, neighbours & local friends *desperately* need somewhere to exercise, take children to play & get fresh air. All of this will be made more difficult if the park is taken over by noise and antisocial behaviour.

I am completely baffled that anyone at Haringey council can allow this to happen, I can only assume that no one who supports this application actually lives here or they would understand how difficult it is for residents when antisocial behaviour increases so they cannot use their well used and well loved local park space.

Please do not allow this application.

With best wishes

Bex Daynes

Dear Council

I write to say

- i. I have no objection to the application, provided that
2. Conditions are imposed and enforced about the provision of toilets and about collection of litter, re-cycling etc.
3. I am shocked to have learned about this project only at this last minute, even though I get regular emails from the council on other matters + leaflets through my letter box. I walk in the park most days and have seen no displays about this event/facility/application.

Perhaps you are very short staffed from Covid. Best wishes,

Michael Edwards

I am writing to register my objections to the proposed Open Arms in Finsbury.

My concerns are that a park is a place of leisure and not a suitable venue for a daytime drinking venue attracting noise, litter and potentially drunken people making it an unpleasant environment for residents out to enjoy exercise on their own or with friends and family. Children visiting the park should not be potentially subjected to drunken behaviour.

People of all communities currently enjoy the park but with the introduction of an alcohol venue, some of our residents, ie Muslims, will be put off using it. That is a disgrace, the park is for everyone.

Who is going to police this venue to protect the public from disorderly behaviour and potential criminal activity resulting from drinking too much? Policing a drinking venue is an unnecessary waste of police time and resources.

Why should park users and local residents be subjected to music from ad hoc "performers"? A park should be a place for contemplation, exercise and enjoying the company of friends and family in a safe and peaceful environment. A park is not a place for all day drinking.

Local residents are thrilled that Wireless has been cancelled again this year but this is an thoroughly ill thought out idea that nobody needs or wants.

Please, please reconsider and drop this terrible proposal. Keep the park safe and peaceful for local residents.

Regards,

Jasbir Saund

Dear Haringey Licensing,

As a frequent user of Finsbury Park, I am writing to raise my objection to the proposed beer garden - the Open Arms - that the council is considering giving permission to for the whole of the 2021 summer in Finsbury Park.

Far from being a one-off 'event', this application risks turning our park into an open public house for four months with few, if any, controls. The published details are light and we have yet to see terms and conditions over noise from any recorded music. Four months of al fresco drinkers may trample our park at least as much as Wireless did, something the local community already objected to. The litter effect could also be as huge.

The 'premises' mentioned appear to be the entire park, with a free-moving audience, supposedly 200, but in practice, unlimited. If the pub in the park is unfenced and the space is unsecured, with free access to a bar, how will the Licensing Authority check that there is no sale to minors? The proposed site may be separated from the children's playground by little more than the length of the MacKenzie Garden. Is the beer etc. to be re-stocked daily or will alcohol supplies be held in the park overnight? Please note also that not all alcohol events in the park have passed peacefully (namely Oktoberfest). Without proper consideration and detail on cultural performances, the application is for an open-air pub: the entertainment will be 'ancillary', if not incidental, to the sale of alcohol.

What I welcome are medium sized festivals with genuine cultural community value and real engagement such as La Clave Festival, which is practically a model event. It is fun, free, family-orientated and with minimal impact on our park. I would miss it not returning. However, I hear that La Clave might be in jeopardy if the Beer Garden is allowed to go ahead on the Saturday allotted to it.

Yours sincerely,
Ann Ryle

Dear Haringey Licensing,

As a user of Finsbury Park, I am writing to raise my objection to the proposed beer garden - the Open Arms - that the council is considering giving permission to for the whole of the 2021 summer in Finsbury Park.

Agreeing to this application risks turning our park into an open public house for four months with few controls. The published details are light and we know little over terms and conditions over noise from any recorded music. Four months of al fresco drinkers may trample our park at least as much as other previous events have done. The litter effect could also be as huge.

If the pub in the park is unfenced and the space is unsecured, with free access to a bar, how will the Licensing Authority check that there is no sale to minors? What separation will there be from the children's playground? Is the beer etc. to be re-stocked daily or will alcohol supplies be held in the park overnight? We know not all alcohol events in the park have passed peacefully (namely Oktoberfest).

I hear that La Clave might be in jeopardy if the Beer Garden is allowed to go ahead on the Saturday allotted to it.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Shallice

Dear Haringey Licensing,

As a frequent user of Finsbury Park, we are writing to raise our objection to the proposed beer garden - the Open Arms - that the council is considering giving permission to for the whole of the 2021 summer in Finsbury Park. While we can see theoretically that these conditions in the open air are safer for Covid restrictions, the idea of a beer garden in a park which is used for a number of activities, not least some peace quiet in a green space in an already congested area of London seems potentially dangerous. Finsbury Park has become a friendly space for families and this proposal runs the risk of affecting this atmosphere. Please can you rethink your proposal

Yours sincerely

Lawrence Scott & Jenny Green

Dear Haringey Licensing,

As a frequent user of Finsbury Park, I am writing to raise my objection to the proposed beer garden - the Open Arms - that the council is considering giving permission to for the whole of the 2021 summer in Finsbury Park.

Far from being a one-off 'event', this application risks turning our park into an open public house for four months with few, if any, controls. The published details are light and we have yet to see terms and conditions over noise from any recorded music. Four months of al fresco drinkers may trample our park at least as much as Wireless did, something the local community already objected to. The litter effect could also be as huge.

The 'premises' mentioned appear to be the entire park, with a free-moving audience, supposedly 200, but in practice, unlimited. If the pub in the park is unfenced and the space is unsecured, with free access to a bar, how will the Licensing Authority check that there is no sale to minors? The proposed site may be separated from the children's playground by little more than the length of the MacKenzie Garden. Is the beer etc. to be re-stocked daily or will alcohol supplies be held in the park overnight? Please note also that not all alcohol events in the park have passed peacefully (namely Oktoberfest).

Without proper consideration and detail on cultural performances, the application is for an open-air pub: the entertainment will be 'ancillary', if not incidental, to the sale of alcohol.

What I welcome are medium sized festivals with genuine cultural community value and real engagement such as La Clave Festival, which is practically a model event. I hope it returns. It is fun, free, family-orientated and with minimal impact on our park.

Yours sincerely

Mary McHugh

Dear Haringey Licensing,

As a frequent user of Finsbury Park, I am writing to raise my objection to the proposed beer garden - the Open Arms - that the council is considering giving permission to for the whole of the 2021 summer in Finsbury Park.

Far from being a one-off 'event', this application risks turning our park into an open public house for four months with few, if any, controls. The published details are light and we have yet to see terms and conditions. The litter effect could be huge and social distancing and disturbance become a real problem within the area for other park users.

The 'premises' mentioned appear to be the entire park, with a free-moving audience, supposedly 200, but in practice, unlimited. If the pub in the park is unfenced and the space is unsecured, with free access to a bar, how will the Licensing Authority check that there is no sale to minors?

Also other alcohol events in the park have not gone well - namely Oktoberfest.

Without proper consideration and detail on cultural performances, the application is for an open-air pub: the entertainment will be 'ancillary', if not incidental, to the sale of alcohol.

I would also worry about the effect on other pubs and hospitality venues around the park which could be massively impacted by this competition.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Lanchin (Local resident & park user)

Dear Licensing Dept

I am writing to protest in the strongest terms about the proposed 'beer garden' or at least a semi-permanent beer tent/marquee/facility in Finsbury Park. I am aware of the details we know so far of this so will not repeat them.

Suffice to say that the park has been the most amazing resource during the past year for local residents, and it has been a blessed relief not to have the usual almost back to back large music festivals despoiling and vandalising our park. I realise that there are those in the council who are aware of the substantial revenue potential of creating a pub in the park. Beer sales are what drive all festival profits. So from a 'monetisation' point of view it is 'genius'. Unfortunately, from a park users' point of view it's a disaster. The park should not be about alcohol consumption. Apart from anything else I suspect it will be an affront to many Muslim members of our community, who can escape our alcohol culture in the park. The council will be acting in a discriminatory manner if it introduces this. The argument will be that it is only in one corner of the park, but it would of course permeate the whole place, only exacerbating the problems we already have with urination and [I am afraid] defecation in the shrubbery areas. [Dog owners know all about this alas.] Beer sales by the pint will introduce a culture of drunkenness in the park which is not a problem at the moment. Remember that th parks were created in th 19th century in part to provide a more wholesome alternative to the pub, where families could go in safety. That will all be ruined. And we don't need a 'trial period' to understand that.

Please do not grant this licence. It goes entirely against the spirit of a public park and will only encourage excessive alcohol consumption post-lockdown. It will also impact on the revenues of local pubs, which have been so hard hit by the pandemic. Why should the council muscle in on their revenue in this way?; they need this post-lockdown period to get back on their feet.

Yours sincerely

Tim Richardson

Dear Haringey Licensing,

As a frequent user of Finsbury Park, I am writing to raise my objection to the proposed beer garden - the Open Arms - that the council is considering giving permission to for the whole of the 2021 summer in Finsbury Park.

Far from being a one-off 'event', this application risks turning our park into an open public house for four months with few, if any, controls. The published details are light and we have yet to see terms and conditions over noise from any recorded music. Four months of al fresco drinkers may trample our park at least as much as Wireless did, something the local community already objected to. The litter effect could also be as huge.

The 'premises' mentioned appear to be the entire park, with a free-moving audience, supposedly 200, but in practice, unlimited. If the pub in the park is unfenced and the space is unsecured, with free access to a bar, how will the Licensing Authority check that there is no sale to minors? The proposed site may be separated from the children's playground by little more than the length of the MacKenzie Garden. Is the beer etc. to be re-stocked daily or will alcohol supplies be held in the park overnight? Please note also that not all alcohol events in the park have passed peacefully (namely Oktoberfest).

Without proper consideration and detail on cultural performances, the application is for an open-air pub: the entertainment will be 'ancillary', if not incidental, to the sale of alcohol.

I see that the details have now been removed from your website. However the original notice (see attached) stated today as the deadline.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Craig (nee Crockett)

As a former resident of Stroud for many years, who regularly meets with friends for walks in the park, I very much object to the plans for the beer garden in the Park for the whole summer.

I remember the noise and chaos when the Council let Wireless and other weekend events spoil the area for the community. I think this would be even worse, as the proposal appears to be to take over the whole Park. The pandemic has made people appreciate and need free outdoor spaces for relaxation and serenity, especially when many have no outdoor space of their own. While having a beer garden on one or two weekends would be fine, this idea feels like one that disregards the needs of locals and privileges the filling of the Council's coffers.

Yours sincerely
Rossana Horsley

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed summer beer garden in Finsbury park.

I dread to think of the damage that will be done to the park over this period of time, with crowds tramping around, noise, litter and drunkenness.

I urge the council not to let this happen.

Regards,
Pushpinder Khaneka

Dear Haringey Licensing,

As a local resident and frequent user of Finsbury Park, I am writing to raise my objection to the proposed beer garden - the Open Arms - that the council is considering giving permission to for the whole of the 2021 summer in Finsbury Park.

Far from being a one-off 'event', this application risks turning our park into an open public house for four months with few, if any, controls. The published details are light and we have yet to see terms and conditions over noise from any recorded music. Four months of al fresco drinkers may trample our park at least as much as Wireless did (over a few days), something the local community already objected to. The litter effect could also be as huge. Let alone the single use plastic that the bar is likely to generate.

The 'premises' mentioned appear to be the entire park, with a free-moving audience, supposedly 200, but in practice, unlimited. If the pub in the park is unfenced and the space is unsecured, with free access to a bar, how will the Licensing Authority check that there is no sale to minors? The proposed site may be separated from the children's playground by little more than the length of the MacKenzie Garden. Is the beer etc. to be re-stocked daily or will alcohol supplies be held in the park overnight? Please note also that not all alcohol events in the park have passed peacefully (namely Oktoberfest).

Small children and anti-social behaviour is not a good mix in any circumstance.

Without proper consideration and detail on cultural performances, the application is for an open-air pub: the entertainment will be 'ancillary', if not incidental, to the sale of alcohol.

Yours sincerely

Sallie Aprahamian

Dear Haringey Licensing,

As a daily user of Finsbury Park, I am writing to raise my objection to the proposed beer garden which the council is considering giving permission to for the entirety of the 2021 summer in Finsbury Park. Taking up space in the park where the only way people can enjoy it is by going inside a sectioned off area, and by spending money is takes away from the reason the park exists. Parks are community based, free to the public places where people can drink and celebrate yes, but also play sports, relax, host awesome music festivals for a few days (La Clave comes to mind). Sectioning off parts of the park for private alcohol related use is unnecessary. People can already bring their own alcohol for a much more cost effective price. Also, the likelihood of litter increases dramatically as well, and quite frankly could be a bit of a shitshow.

Oktoberfest, anybody? I've asked all my friends who also live in the area via an informal poll, and only 1 in 16 said they'd be interested. It doesn't seem like anybody really wants it. Please do not put this in the park, or if you do, try it for a few weeks and give the actual members of the community a chance to see it's effects. It's only right.

Thanks,

Josh Hayes

I would like to register my opinion objecting to the opening of this Beer Garden in Finsbury Park over the summer. The al fresco drinking on and off the premises will be unsecured, unfenced and will dominate the Park that should be maintained as a peaceful public amenity.

Jane Bywaters

**TO:
HARINGEY LICENSING**

**RE: APPLICATION BY ASSEMBLED GALA LTD FOR 'THE OPEN ARMS' IN
FINSBURY PARK**

OBJECTION

I wish to object to the granting of the licence applied for on the following grounds:

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Sadly, Finsbury Park already has serious existing problems with high levels of criminal activity and disorder, most of which appear to be on a considerably larger scale than is common to other local Parks and open Spaces such as Highbury Fields, Clissold Park, Priory Park and Waterlow Park.

On any given day I could point out three particular drug dealing hotspots within the Park where open drug dealing is conducted with seemingly complete impunity, often accompanied by loud music. Two of these dealing hotspots are within 100 metres of the proposed location for the 'Open Arms'.

The Police are overstretched and, whilst there has been some intervention and a recent prosecution for drugs offences, they have not, historically, been able to devote adequate resources to addressing or remedying this serious criminal activity within Finsbury Park. The recently appointed Park Rangers are not a visible presence and I am not aware of their having made interventions to prevent this activity, quite possibly on the very understandable grounds of wanting to protect their own safety and their not having the appropriate powers.

Finsbury Park also has serious existing problems with the abuse of alcohol. It has attracted groups of heavy drinkers for some years, many of them congregating in the area close to the Manor House Lodge but increasingly taking over benches in other locations within the Park. The activities of some of these drinkers have led to bonfires being lit within the Park which have occasionally become out of control and presented a hazard to park users and park buildings.

The existing problems with drug and alcohol abuse have never been adequately addressed by either the Police or by Haringey Council This does not make for a safe environment or for a welcoming environment.

The proposed Licence, which would allow for the provision of alcohol from a central hub within Finsbury Park for lengthy periods over four months would be likely to seriously exacerbate existing problems of criminality and disorder. If the licence were to be granted, Finsbury Park would effectively be declared one large 'beer garden'. There would be no possibility to contain the areas where the alcohol would be consumed and the overall impact on park users seeking some peace and tranquillity during the COVID pandemic would be likely to be very negative and to create a hostile and unwelcoming environment

where excess drinking would go unchallenged and be likely to lead to increased crime and disorder.

Public Safety

The granting of this licence would be highly likely to make Finsbury Park a less safe space. The high crime levels associated with excessive drinking are well proven. There is nothing in the application to reassure me that the usual checks and controls exercised by pubs could be effectively be applied to a wide open space such as Finsbury Park.

I appreciate that it could be argued that alcohol is freely available at Festivals , but these events are usually only for a limited period of days at most and are heavily controlled environments with high levels of security staffing and available police back-up. No such controls would be available or feasible were the whole of Finsbury Park to become an unlimited 'beer garden' where alcohol purchased from 'The Open Arms' pub could be consumed in any quantity in any area of the Park. Drink would be likely to be served without accompanying food in most cases.

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

The current problem with excess drinking by groups in the Park presents a major nuisance which neither Haringey Council nor the Police have resolved. These drinkers frequently harass park users, largely through begging, and have a propensity to light fires which pollute the environment and present a hazard. An additional and readily available source of alcohol centrally located within Finsbury Park would undoubtedly worsen and exacerbate what is already a source of public nuisance.

Noise nuisance has been a major concern of Park users and local residents for some time. Noise has constituted a major nuisance, particularly from large events, but there has been the limited consolation of knowing that it was, hitherto, or limited periods, normally three consecutive days at most. The granting of this licence would have the potential to inflict health damaging noise throughout the Park and surrounding areas for four months. We have enjoyed one summer of peace from this nuisance, please give us a break.

The Protection of Children from Harm

Children and young persons would be likely to be adversely impacted by the granting of the licence applied for.

Finsbury Park makes a major contribution to the physical and mental health and wellbeing of all park users and particularly to children. The COVID Pandemic has presented particular challenges for our children, separated as they have been from their young friends and with very limited opportunities to engage with those outside their immediate family unit.

COVID 19 remains a continuing threat and, whilst the speedy roll-out of vaccines has already shown progress in reducing cases, there is no guarantee that new waves and variants of the disease will not again become a serious threat and could become 'Spreader events'. Any initiative which is likely to encourage large numbers of people to congregate should not be encouraged. This would particularly be the case prior to the 21st June when

further COVID 19 relaxations are due to be introduced. We know, of course, that these dates are only a guidance and
We keep our children away from pubs and discourage them from drinking for proven good health reasons. Provision of what would effectively be one large unsupervised and uncontrolled pub or 'beer garden' in Finsbury Park would entirely change the nature of the space and make it an area which parents would feel was a less safe and welcoming an environment for young families.

We need to make the Park a more attractive and safe space for children and turning the whole park into a drinking venue, which this proposed licence has the potential for doing, would risk causing considerable harm to children through the likely increased anti-social behaviour which can so often be associated with excess drinking and which they would inevitably be exposed to.

This pub would be operating during term time and the noise from live and broadcast music could adversely impact their studies.

In summary I submit that there are more than adequate grounds for rejecting this application.

Such a licence would allow for an unfenced and uncontrolled environment for alcohol consumption and be likely to be in breach of all four of the appropriate licensing criteria. Adding readily-available alcohol to the mix of readily-available drugs could have disastrous consequences.

Whilst I would seriously object to the granting of this licence at any time, I consider that it would be particularly inappropriate and irresponsible to grant such a licence whilst we are still battling to control the spread of COVID 19.

I URGE YOU TO REJECT THE APPLICATION

Many thanks for your consideration.

Best Wishes,

Kevin Duffy

Dear Haringey Council Licensing Committee,

I wish to formally object to the granting of a license to Open Arms in Finsbury Park from May to September 2021.

My comments regarding the four licensing objectives are as follows:

THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER

As we have seen in the past from festivals such as Wireless, these type of events are a magnet for anti social behaviour including drug peddling and usage (witness the nitrous dioxide cylinders strewn in and around the Park after Wireless) and drunken disorderlyness.

How will this type of anti social behaviour be curbed by Haringey Council?. Will the police be involved?. In 2019 at the Finsbury Park 150th anniversary celebrations, I raised this issue with Sara Jones of Haringey Council's Parks Department and refered specifically to the drug dealing and drunkenness at the Manor House and Seven Sisters Roads gates and at an area immediately south of the Mackenzie Gardens. Ms.

Jones's reply was this matter was not one that Haringey Council was responsible for and that I should contact the police.

How will the Open Arms pub operate?. Will the pub be fenced off?. How will the numbers be regulated?. Will there be checks on minors attempting to purchase alcohol?. Since an end to the Covid pandemic is not in sight and the government is urging people to wear face masks and maintain social distancing for the foreseeable future, how will these measures be enforced at the proposed Open Arms pub in the Park?.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Criminal activities such as drug dealing will undoubtedly be increased by the presence of a pub selling alcohol in the centre of the Park. Many of the Park's regular visitors such as families with children will feel intimidated by this sort of menacing behaviour.

THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE

The unrelenting noise five days a week and nine hours a day, the overcrowding in the Park, the associated litter and damage to vegetation all add up to a considerable public nuisance. The Open Arms license is from May to September, five days a week. Haringey Council is, in effect, taking the Park, a vital amenity is this period of lockdown away from local residents in Haringey, Islington and Hackney for a period of five months over the height of the summer. During the past year, I don't think that at any period during it's 150 years of existence has Finsbury Park seen such a huge number of visitors. Let's please keep it this way and secure the Park as a "park for the people", for the well-being of the general public and not for the benefit of profit making commercial entities. Once again this raises the thorny question: What are Parks for? Are they for the benefit of the general public or as a source of revenue for the local Council?.

THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM

Children will be intimidated by the intimidating drunken disorderlyness and criminal drug dealing which will be the effect of locating a pub in the heart of the Park. The proposed site of the Open Arms pub will be a short distance away from children's playground.

Gordon Hutchison

Dear Haringey Council,

I have just read about your proposed Beer Garden in Finsbury Park for the whole of this summer, I am extremely shocked - horrified in fact.

The thought of four months of noise, litter, possibly unruly behaviour, large crowds in what is an extremely well-used park is horrible to think about.

Families, children, joggers, walkers, groups exercising, people out for peace and quiet and a chance to be in nature would all feel overwhelmed.

It is not fair to inflict this on us. The occasional Saturday or Sunday for a special event is one thing. This would be a huge imposition.

Please think again and be fair to Haringey residents.

Yours sincerely,

Liz Miranda

Dear sirs

I'm writing to object to the proposal of The Open Arms Festival from May to September 2021.

My primary fear is the security in the park when this festival is taking place. I have a small child and we go to the park every day. The idea that the park will hold this festival over 4 months with alcohol available throughout raises major concerns for me regarding the welfare of my daughter. Are the areas of the festival sectioned off? Will there be security monitoring the festival goes throughout? The festivals also create a mass of litter, what plans are in place to clean up the park during this period of time?

The park is used extensively by families and is our 'green space' in this very busy part of town, we rely on it heavily for our well being and that of our families. It is also a remarkably safe space and I don't believe it will stay that way should we have a four month long festival.

We have lived in the locality for over 20 years so we are aware of all the festivals that happen. They cause some disturbance but as they are usually short lived events, we endure. The idea of a four month long festival has the potential to be detrimental to our every day lives for too long.

I would appreciate it if you could count my email as an objection to the event and keep me informed of any decisions in regards to this event.

Many thanks

Nekhat Patel

The Open Arms has applied to open a beer garden in Finsbury Park from Wednesday to Sunday from 12noon -9pm from 17 May to 17 September. I wish to oppose this application on the grounds that it will interfere with the opportunity for children to have free access and use of the park during the day-time [i.e. until 7 pm] for the whole of the summer.

Finsbury Park is a community park in an area of high density housing. I am a long standing resident of Hornsey and although I am now too old to use the Park myself, my grandson lives in Stroud Green and I have four great grandchildren who use it regularly. The lock down has hit children hard and they need to have an opportunity to run around freely. Events aimed at them, like the La Clave Festival in mid August, should have priority over commercial interests.

Is the Beer Garden to be enclosed or will its customers be able to wonder freely anywhere in the Park? How will it be possible to ensure the safety of unaccompanied children or make sure they are not offered alcohol ? How will litter be managed ?

Beer gardens can quickly turn into bear gardens and the noise from the proposed entertainments for the Open Arms will shatter the peace and quiet of those living near the park every day except Tuesdays and those Mondays which are not bank holidays for 4 months - not just occasionally, every day! . How can this be fair to those who foot Haringey's Council Tax ?

No-one would oppose the use of the Park for occasional cultural events but this application if granted will deprive the families of that part of Haringey of opportunities to relax together in the open air. And how will they be able to have confidence that their older children will be safe playing together there?

I urge you to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Morris

Firstly I am very surprised that I had to learn about this through a social media post rather than from the Council putting up notices of some kind in the park. Surely a good consultation should have done that? I wonder if mandatory procedures have been followed in this case.

I am very concerned that:-

- this proposal will lead to extra littering in the park
- there may be more drunkenness and anti-social behaviour in the park, which is especially unpleasant near a children's playground
- there may be unwanted noise for other park users and nearby residents
- there may be undue pressure on toilet facilities

I suggest that if this licence is granted:-

- the area be fenced and clearly delimited so that drinking activities do not spread outside it
- the amount of alcohol sold per customer per session be limited to 2 drinks
- customers not be allowed to take away alcohol to drink in other parts of the park - they must return their bottle, glass (even if disposable) or can before leaving the enclosure and a small returnable deposit, e.g. 20p, should be retained at the service point to help enforce this. To avoid litter this rule should apply to soft drinks too.
- noise levels be carefully monitored in consultation with other park users and local residents
- extra toilets and associated cleaning be put in place, even if they are portaloos, at the licensee's expense
- customers be reminded by notices at the service points and exits from the enclosure not to litter the park with crisp packets, peanut wrappings, etc and to return all containers to the counter or an appropriate bin within the licensed area.

Anne Gray

Dear Haringay Council,

One of the few benefits of the pandemic was how beautiful Finsbury Park became as a space for families when it was not subjected to Wireless Festival and other money spinning ventures that you impose on local residents.

So I think your proposal for Open Arms is totally wrongheaded. It will bring with it alcohol, disorder and likely drug dealing to what was a safe place and very close to children's play spaces.

I completely object to this and cannot see why you put the needs of a commercial business above those of the residents who voted you into office.

Please reconsider this bad idea. I am sure it won't end well if you go ahead in the face of such strong local opposition.

Kind Regards,

Db

Good evening,

I would like to object the the above license application.

I have concerns about the following:

public safety

prevention of public nuisance

Prevention of crime and disorder

Protection of children from harm

We live opposite Finsbury Park entrance at seven sisters, a main entrance in and out of the park and already a hot spot for anti-social behaviour (public urination, smoking drugs, drug dealing etc). Our experience of previous licensed events in the park have been extremely bad, including having people lying /sitting in the street drunk in the middle of the day, people smoking drugs, urinating through the gate to the alley we live on, shouting in the street after events have finished. We have a two and a half year old and have had to pass all of this in order to gain access to our home.

This also extends to use of the park on some occasions becoming extremely uncomfortable for us to use with our young child, as a result of events being held. My wife has said she feels uncomfortable using the park when some events have been on in the past.

We understand the place for well managed events in the park, but feel that the following aspects of the application are excessive and will cause significant issues for people that live around the park, as well as other users of the park during events:

- Alcohol being allowed for sale on and off premises. Why? What possible benefit can this have short of making the event organisers and actively encouraging consumption to happen in local communities, which are already well appointed with pubs and off licenses.
- Alcohol being sold for **five** days per week, **nine hours per day**, see above points
- this being for four months, during the peak use of the park, making it a less enjoyable place for the majority of people to enjoy for the main months people want to access the park, particularly for families who will not be able to have a holiday this year.

Your sincerely

Robert Lloyd

HGY/2021/0992

Finsbury Park Green Lanes N4

Type of Application: FULL PLANNING PERMISSION

Proposal: Erection of four refreshment kiosks performance space and ancillary structures

Dear Haringey council,

I am writing to strongly object to the above planning permission.

There are very limited details given about the nature of this event and it is going on for 4 months through the summer. I use the park daily for the playground with my young baby and the proposal will potentially lead to alcohol led disruptive behaviour in an unrestricted fashion throughout the whole park for extended periods of time making it unusable by families such as ours.

Best wishes,

Natasha Chetty

Dear Haringey team

I am writing to object to the planned open arms event in Finsbury park. There has been very little notification of this to us.

Finsbury park has become a focal point for the local community - green space has become especially more important in this last year.

The park has already had frequent festivals in the last which have brought litter, anti social behaviour, noise and damaged the wildlife in the park.

The proposal to allow a large open air pub in the middle of this all is likely to put of many families, elderly and pet owners from using the park, and cause upset to the residents in the surrounding area.

Please also do consider there are existing licensed pubs in the area which have been struggling during the pandemic and this will also adversely affect.

I am a Haringey resident and live at

Yours sincerely

Dr Thaven Chetty

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing, as a local parent, to express my concern about the application for a license for the Open Arms in Finsbury Park for four months this summer.

In particular, I am concerned about:

- The sale of alcohol in a public park which could potentially be taken elsewhere in the park, e.g. close to or into the children's playground.
- The risk that drunk people in the park put children and other local people using the park.
- The risk of alcohol - including the possibility of fights in the park.
- Litter in the park, which is likely to substantially increase with the pub in the park, and can affect wildlife if ingested.
- The length of the licence (a shorter trial period would be much better).
- Damage to the grass due to the length of the installation.
- Noise for local residents, especially from amplified music
- Control of numbers attending (as I cannot see how this will be enforced)

I do hope that you consider the potential dangers that this application poses to the community and act accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

Dear Licencing.

I'm writing as I've been informed that the deadline for comment on the "Open Arms" proposed bar at Finsbury Park has been extended.

I write to object to the proposal based on the fact that I am concerned with

- Increased anti-social behaviour
- Public drunkenness
- Drugs use
- Theft of personal property
- Noise controls for live/amplified music
- How a non-ticketed, open access series of events will be monitored and controlled

The park is for public use where young children and families enjoy open space. It is not a public house.

Im also hugely concerned about our wildlife nesting birds etc who live in the park, this pub should not be permitted, to help support our wildlife and ecosystem.

We have pubs on our high streets which is where such premises licence and amplified entertainment should be, and where such activity can be Policed.

I object for the above reasons and request this application is rejected.

Thank you

Andy Newman

Dear Haringey Licensing,

As a frequent user of Finsbury Park, I am writing to raise my objection to the proposed beer garden - the Open Arms - that the council is considering giving permission to for the whole of the 2021 summer in Finsbury Park.

Far from being a one-off 'event', this application risks turning our park into an open public house for four months with few, if any, controls. The published details are light and we have yet to see terms and conditions over noise from any recorded music. Four months of al fresco drinkers may trample our park at least as much as Wireless did, something the local community already objected to. The litter effect could also be as huge.

The 'premises' mentioned appear to be the entire park, with a free-moving audience, supposedly 200, but in practice, unlimited. If the pub in the park is unfenced and the space is unsecured, with free access to a bar, how will the Licensing Authority check that there is no sale to minors? The proposed site may be separated from the children's playground by little more than the length of the MacKenzie Garden. Is the beer etc. to be re-stocked daily or will alcohol supplies be held in the park overnight? Please note also that not all alcohol events in the park have passed peacefully (namely Oktoberfest).

Without proper consideration and detail on cultural performances, the application is for an open-air pub: the entertainment will be 'ancillary', if not incidental, to the sale of alcohol.

What I welcome are medium sized festivals with genuine cultural community value and real engagement such as La Clave Festival, which is practically a model event. I hope it returns. It is fun, free, family-orientated and with minimal impact on our park.

Yours sincerely

Mary McHugh
Haringey Resident -

