

From: Barrett Daliah <Daliah.Barrett@haringey.gov.uk>

Sent: 22 January 2022 13:41

To: Jools Butterfield ; Licensing <Licensing.Licensing@haringey.gov.uk>

Subject: Fwd: Formal objection to Haringey Council granting a license to Kranksbrothers to set up and run a series of commercial events in Finsbury Park from 31 July to 19 August 2022

Hi Jools

A further representation

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From: Gordon Hutchison <

Sent: Saturday, 22 January 2022, 13:32

To: Barrett Daliah; Licensing

Cc: Cllr Culverwell Eldridge; Cllr Hearn Kirsten; Cllr Stone Daniel; mile.hakaka@haringey.gov.uk; david lammy; catherine west

Subject: Formal objection to Haringey Council granting a license to Kranksbrothers to set up and run a series of commercial events in Finsbury Park from 31 July to 19 August 2022

Dear Haringey Council Licensing Committee,

REF NO: HGYEVE000467

I wish to formally object to the granting of a variation of the license to Kranksbrothers in Finsbury Park covering the period from 31 July to 19 August 2022

My comments regarding the four licensing objectives are as follows:

THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER

As witnessed in the past at festivals such as Wireless, these boozy, noisy and raucous events have sadly become a magnet for anti-social behaviour including drug peddling and usage (e.g. the nitrous dioxide cylinders strewn in and around the Park after Wireless) and drunken disorderliness.

Past experience of these events has demonstrated the complete inability of Haringey Council and the police to curb the anti-social behaviour generated by many of the attendees.

How will the numbers be regulated?. Kranksbrothers are asking for a 33% increase in attendees at their proposed Finsbury Park events for this year (up from a daily 6,000 last year to 8,000 in 2022). Will there be checks on minors attempting to purchase alcohol?.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Criminal activities such as drug dealing will be increased by the presence of a series of commercial events 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.

Since the Covid pandemic is unfortunately still with us, and the scientific medical community are urging people to continue to wear face masks and maintain social distancing at crowded, closely packed gatherings -- how will these measures be enforced at the proposed Kranksbrothers events?.

THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE

The unrelenting noise over a period of three weeks, the overcrowding in the Park, the associated litter and serious damage to vegetation all add up to a considerable public nuisance.

The Kranksbrothers license is from 31 July to 19 August. This follows on from the scheduled Wireless Festival in Finsbury Park for the entire month of July.

Haringey Council is, in effect, taking the Park, a vital public amenity (as has been illustrated as never before during the pandemic), away from local residents in Haringey, Islington and Hackney for a period of almost two months over the height of the summer and school holidays.

During the past two years of the pandemic I don't think that at any other time in its 150 years history has the park seen such huge numbers (in all seasons) of visitors

The proposed events will cover approx. 8 hectares of one of the most beautiful spots in the Park -- an area hugely popular with picnickers during the summer. A hideous eight foot wall, covering a large green space and the park carriageway, will enclose the event. Last year the grass in this area was totally destroyed by Kranksbrothers. I fear that the reseeded area will not regenerate until well into 2023.

Haringey Council please listen to local residents and park users and keep Finsbury Park as a "Park for the People" -- as flagged up by the Council in its publicly materials celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Park.

Finsbury Park was established for the well-being and enjoyment of the general public and not for the benefit of profit making commercial entities.

This raises, yet again, the 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

August is the peak summer holiday period for many children for whom the Park is their only garden, a place for recreation and pleasure.

Children will be scared to visit the Park, intimidated by the drunken disorderliness and criminal drug dealing which will undoubtedly be the effect (as we have seen from other previous alcohol selling events) of holding the Kranksbrothers events in the Park.

As witnessed at previous Kranksbrothers events, these gatherings sanctioned and actively encouraged by Haringey Council, have a "magnet effect" in attracting drug dealers and other criminals and anti social elements.

The proposed site of thes Krankbrothers events will be a short distance away from children's playgrounds.

I would be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of my objection and confirm that it has been received within the deadline shown on the Council's website.

Gordon Hutchison