

Appendix 2



HIGHBURY
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION

Consultation Response to the London Borough of Haringey

Please find following the consultation response on behalf of the Highbury Community Association (HCA) to the application by Festival Republic for a series of music concerts in July 2016.

The application reference is HGY02419. As requested this response is being sent to Sarah Jones (sarah.jones@haringey.gov.uk).

The Highbury Community Association's Position

The HCA is a volunteer led organisation with around 1,000 active members - both local residents and businesses - in the Highbury, Lower Holloway and Finsbury Park areas. We have represented the views of local people since 1997.

We support the use of Finsbury Park for the benefit of all local residents and would be happy to see events organised that are accessible to all who want to use the Park; and promote the diversity and inclusion of the local community in a variety of different types of event. We do not support the use of the Park for events that are disproportionate in scale, cause annoyance, are not properly organised involve a loss of amenity to local residents or prevent their enjoyment of the Park.

The HCA opposes the London Borough (LB) of Haringey granting a licence for these proposed music concerts for a number of reasons, which we set out below.

We have also set out a series of questions that we believe need to be answered before LB Haringey grants permission for the application. This is because it is not possible to get the full picture of what is proposed in the limited documentation which we have so far seen; and the very short time we have been given to respond to the consultation.

Consultation Process

The HCA is disappointed that the consultation process is not open to local people, who will be most impacted by the proposed music concerts in this application. Whilst we are aware that LB Haringey has an Outdoor Events Policy, we do not believe it is fair to use this to deny individual residents the ability to share their views whether they are a resident of LB Haringey or a neighbouring Borough.

Secondly we believe the length of the consultation process - just 10 days - is far too short.

- Can you please justify the reason why local people are being denied an individual voice in this consultation?
- Can you also confirm that the people who will be most affected (residents of LB Hackney and LB Islington) will have their proper voices heard during this consultation?
- We would also like you to confirm that the event organisers submitted their application the required nine months before the event date as set out in your Outdoor Events Policy?
- If this is the case, can you also confirm why it has taken almost five months to consult on the application and why the consultation period is so short?

Length of Event, Including Preparation and Clean Up

The HCA believes that the proposed length of disruption/closure of a large section of the Park - some 21 days - represents a significant loss of amenity over too long a time period. We note with some irony that the proposed length of the event closure is twice as long as the amount of time we are being given to respond to the consultation!

The HCA also believes that a three week closure of a large section of the Park in the height of summer is a disproportionate inconvenience to local people. To many local residents, free access to the Finsbury Park is the only locally available open space which would be denied to them at the height of the summer months.

The HCA believes that the proposed finish time of 10:30pm on Friday and Saturday, and 10:00pm on Sunday is too late and should be brought forward. We would be interested to know what measures are in place to enforce the finish times of the concerts.

Noise

From previous experience local residents have to endure excessive noise not just during the concerts, but also in the preparation for the events.

- Can you confirm that, if the application is granted, the location and position of the stage will be directed away from nearby housing and soundproofed to an acceptable level to reduce the noise and inconvenience of the concerts taking place?
- Can you further confirm that any fireworks will not be set off at the end of the event, but will be done so during less anti-social hours?

Damage to the Park

In previous years there has been significant damage to the grass where the event has taken place. We recall that stakeholders visited the Park following last year's Wireless Festival to survey the damage caused, which covered a large expanse of the Park.

The HCA believes this damage is likely to happen again and is a further reason why the event application should be rejected. It is clear LB Haringey consider their longstanding relationship with the event organisers is of greater importance than the good stewardship and maintenance of the Park.

- Can LB Haringey confirm that there is a guarantee will be no damage to the Park as seen in previous years if the event application is granted?

Addition of an Unspecified 'Community/Charity Event'

The HCA considers that the addition of another day where a 'community/charity' music concert will take place is not adequate recompense for the inconvenience of the main concerts taking place on the following weekend; and would simply be just another large-scale event that will produce the same problems of the 'paid for' events.

It is the HCA's view that this just means the Park will be inaccessible for an additional week, and that the community benefits much more from free access to the Park than it does from a vague proposal for a 'community/charity event'.

- Can LB Haringey please confirm that local charities will benefit from any proceeds if this additional event takes place, the consultation information just refers to an unspecified 'national/regional charity'?
- Please also confirm how much you expect to raise for this charity and whether the organisers will be making a direct contribution to the proposed charity?

Reduced Access at Finsbury Park Station

London Underground are currently undertaking step-free access works at Finsbury Park station on the northbound platforms. As a result there is reduced access for people travelling north into the station (which will be the vast majority of people attending the proposed music concerts). London Underground are advising people to avoid using the station due to this reduced access. During Arsenal match days this access is further restricted due to short-term closures and trains running non-stop through the station to avoid dangerous overcrowding. These works are due to continue until August 2016, so will be taking place during the time of the proposed music concerts.

It is the HCA's view that it would be inappropriate to approve this application whilst these works are taking place at Finsbury Park station.

- Can you please tell us of the discussions LB Haringey have been having with London Underground of the impact of their works with regard to this application?

Anti-Social Behaviour

In previous years our residents have experienced anti-social behaviour due to the large number of people at the station (some with tickets for the events, some without).

The HCA believes the anti-social behaviour that comes with such a large-scale event taking place for many hours over several days outweighs any 'public benefit' of putting on the concerts. We also do not believe the event is aimed at 'families' and 'older people' as your consultation document asserts. From previous years it is clear that the overwhelming majority of people are in your 'young people' category.

Most ticket holders do not live in Haringey, Hackney or Islington so have no association with the area, but negatively impact on the local area for the duration of the events. Indeed the Wireless Festival is advertised on a national, and European scale.

- Can you please confirm what arrangements are in place to prevent anti-social behaviour?

Your consultation letter makes some vague references that "security will be enhanced with resilience procedures further improved".

- Can you please explain what will actually happen in the local area to improve security and resilience?

You also make reference to the "deployment of dedicated teams with specific responsibilities".

- Can you please confirm how many people this will involve and what their 'specific responsibilities' actually are?
- Also can you confirm the advice LB Haringey has received from the Police regarding the application.

Local information

In previous years the experience of HCA members has been that the provision of information has been poor with many local residents being unaware of the music concerts taking place - or of a dedicated contact number that people can call. Feedback from local residents has reported that the contact numbers provided last year did not work and calls to complain about noise and anti-social behaviour were not answered or ignored.

The HCA would like to see improvements of the provision of local information should you decide to grant the application.

- Can you confirm there will be a dedicated and working contact number and that local residents (including in Hackney and Islington) will receive leaflets delivered to their homes and businesses outlining the concert timings and who to contact in the event of a problem?

Conclusion

The HCA believes the residents of Hackney and Islington are disproportionately affected by these concerts which are intentionally placed as far away from Haringey residents as possible. We do not believe that any potential 'public benefit' outweighs the damage and detriment caused to a large section of the Park for an excessive period of three weeks. We believe the loss of amenity over a three week period will harm local people's enjoyment of the Park. We also do not support the assertion that one benefit of the event will be 'raising the profile of the park and area nationally as a venue' as this will only likely encourage more music concerts taking place.

We further believe the works taking place at Finsbury Park station potentially pose a threat to public safety as there is reduced access and it is likely the station will close during busy times to manage the crowds of the 45,000 people you expect to attend over several days.

The HCA further believes there will be a repeat of the anti-social behaviour caused by concert-goers, the vast majority of whom have no connection whatsoever with the local community. We also do not support the addition of a further concert on the preceding weekend, as the details are vague and any potential benefits are not clear; and actually involve closing the Park for a further week. We would want to see much more information about how this would be organised, and which local charity would potentially benefit before reconsidering our position.

We also believe the consultation period of 10 days is too short and should be open to individuals as well as local community groups.

For all the reasons we have provided the HCA's considered and firm view is that the event application should be refused.

In the interests of openness we are copying this response to our local ward councillors, local MPs, members of the London Assembly, fellow community groups. We will also be making this response available on our website.

We look forward to you taking our views into account and to you answering our questions.

Yours sincerely,



On behalf of the Highbury Community Association

From: [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** Park Events
Sent: 18 February 2016 11:44
To: Jones Sarah
Cc: Channer Thema
Subject: RE: Detailed Consultation for Application - 'Finsbury Park Concerts. Wireless Festival' ,
Application No - 'HGY02419'

Hi Sarah and Thema, many thanks for this.

We have an event at Clissold on Sunday 3 July (Daymer – Turkish Cultural event) which usually has around 3000 attendees. Not of the scale of the event at Finsbury but wanted to let you know as both on the same day could have slightly more of an effect on residents living between the two parks.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Events Officer
Leisure and Green Spaces / Health and Community Services
Hackney Service Centre, 1 Hillman St, Hackney, London, E8 1DY

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

www.hackney.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 February 2016 11:19

To: Jones Sarah

Cc: Channer Thema

Subject: Re: Detailed Consultation for Application - 'Finsbury Park Concerts. Wireless Festival' ,
Application No - 'HGY02419'

Hi Sarah, Thema,

Thanks for sendign through this application. The London Mets Baseball Club has no huge objection to the concert--to be honest, we enjoy hearing the music over the hill :)

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

Chair - London Mets Baseball Club

www.LondonMets.org

Statement to: SARAH JONES – HARINGEY EVENT OFFICE
Report by: [REDACTED] – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MHDT
Subject: FESTIVAL REPUBLIC HIRE APPLICATION – HGY02419
STAKEHOLDER CONSUTLATION

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Manor House Development Trust is a resident led Charity based on the eastern side of Finsbury Park on Woodberry Down (www.mhdt.org.uk). MHDT has a keen interest in the application having carried out conservation work in Finsbury Park; as well as working with the applicant in previous years providing local volunteers to act as stewards in and around the Festival. MHDT has also given evidence to Haringey Councillors and Officers at a Scrutiny Panel Meeting regarding previous Festivals.

2. MHDT Comments

- 2.1 MHDT is broadly in favour of the application HGY02419 with the following comments.
- 2.2 **The Charity Event** is a good initiative and welcomed. However we note that local charities will not benefit from the event. With only regional and national charities being supported we fear that the good this event is attempting to create amongst those neighbouring the festival will be lost.

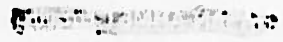
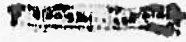
MHDT has consistently asked Organisers to consider supporting local charities in the Festival's charity work.

MHDT asks that organisers revisit there intention to work with regional and national charities and instead look to support local charities who are working in some of the UK's poorest and most challenging areas. Such intent may mitigate some of the ill feeling from the disruption that the events cause local communities.

MHDT asks that organisers provide a free space within the event so that local charities can provide information on their work to Festival goers.

- 2.3 **Employment Opportunities** - Organisers should be working closely with those organisations who provide access to jobs to local residents so that local people may directly economically benefit from the Festival. The Festivals will create many job opportunities such as: Stewarding; hospitality; catering etc. As with others working with LBH such as property developers Organiser should be given contracted targets should be set around the employment of local people.
- 2.4 **Volunteering Opportunities** – Organisers should build on last year's successful volunteering around the Festival by local people. As part of its contract Organisers should be obliged to engage a local

organisation to provide a range of volunteering services; such as directing festival goers inside and out-side the festival.



From: [REDACTED] parkviewcafe [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 March 2016 13:52
To: Jones Sarah
Subject: RE: Detailed Consultation for Application - 'Finsbury Park Concerts. Wireless Festival' ,
Application No - 'HGY02419'

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for consulting me regarding the wireless festival and other events in Finsbury Park.

i confirm that I am happy for these events to go ahead. They are highly enjoyed by the community.

Kind regards;

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 March 2016 11:11
To: Jones Sarah
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Finsbury Park Stakeholder Festival Consultation Submission: Pedal Power

Dear Ms Sarah Jones,

Thank you for including Pedal Power in this consultation. As you know, we are an all-ability cycling club with a several hundred strong membership of mentally and/or physically disabled individuals of all ages from 2 years up, with a high proportion of BME. Many of our members are reliant on Pedal Power as their one family weekend outing. Cycling sessions take place next to the basket ball courts on alternate Saturday afternoons and on the athletics track every Tuesday & Wednesday 10 months of the year. Weekday sessions include drop-ins as well as booking from schools and orthodox Jewish groups.

For June/July 2015 we had an average Saturday turnout of 115 people (not including the Wireless Festival weekend when our numbers were reduced to 75). It's not unheard of for us to reach over 150 disabled & their carers/families on a good summer's day.

We understand the need to hold events in Finsbury Park, however during concert periods we lose our Saturday cycling venue. Not just on actual concert days (this year the wireless festival will coincide with the Pedal Power Saturday) but during the lengthy build up and take down periods. As there is also a concert the first week of July, past experience tells us they may start the build up the previous weekend, which is also a Pedal Power day. If we are able to book the track all affected days, we can still run our sessions - assuming it is not already in use. To do this we need accurate information of exactly when the basketball court area will be used. In the past festival organisers have filled the space with equipment several days earlier than we had been told to expect and we have turned up to find we cannot use the area. It is of increased importance from this year now that the ball sports area has been fenced off and is no longer available for multiple use. **We request that the exact dates the open area will be out of use be made plain to all parties and strictly adhered to.**

Also as our members are disabled, many are reliant on being able to arrive by car and park. We note that festival security have been very helpful on festival days and hope that they will continue to do so. **We ask that festival security be officially informed to allow our users entry by car.** Secondly seeing only no entry signs at the Park Gates puts our members off attempting to drive in. We welcome the information that there will be improved signage and **request that this includes a clear sign telling disabled Pedal Power members they may enter the park by car.**

We look forward to continued positive engagement with the Haringey Parks and Leisure Services and heartily welcome the setting up of a new stake holder group for Finsbury Park.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Chair of Pedal Power Cycling Club

[REDACTED]
www.pedalpowercc.org

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 February 2016 08:50
To: Jones Sarah
Cc: Farrow Simon; Cllr McNamara Stuart; [REDACTED] Cllr Kober Claire
Subject: RE: Festival Republic Park Hire Application - Stakeholder Consultation

Dear Sarah

Many thanks for sharing this with me. I'm a little confused about the process now and where/when I should be sending comments?

Great news on the traffic ban at school run times, thank you, and for the opportunity to discuss the events in advance.

My main concern is for us to think through the start time on Friday 8th July and the implications for the school. So starting at 330pm is good from a sound perspective. However, we need to think practically about the flow of children through the park going home at exactly the time the concert starts and the likely crowding, and probably afternoon drinking that will impact. We don't need a repeat of what happened for the Stone Roses concert where very young children were getting abuse from passing people on the way to the gig who had been drinking all day.

I'd like an urgent review and discussion of that as a group please - you, us and Festival Republic, and for us to think this through from the childrens' safety perspective before any decisions are made.

Please let me know when best to do that - I suggest we do so at the school one Friday so we can experience together what it is like to be at the school around that time, and how the children disperse at 315ish.

Many thanks
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 March 2016 15:03
To: Jones Sarah
Cc: Farrow Simon; Cllr McNamara Stuart; [REDACTED] Cllr Kober Claire
Subject: RE: Festival Republic Park Hire Application - Stakeholder Consultation

Hi Sarah

Yes, please do use my email as feedback. I'd also like to make sure we are considering how to create more value for local schools affected. Wireless liaised with schools on an individual basis to provide funding for music provision as part of their CSR responsibilities (I assume).

I'd like to make sure the offer is at least as good as from Wireless - our school always suffers from these events so really there needs to be an element of compensation. I'd prefer for you to negotiate a good offer centrally, or at least set up meetings with us to do so, and make sure it's part of the expectations from the organisers.

Please can you make sure that gets into the feedback too?

Many thanks
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 March 2016 10:22
To: Jones Sarah
Cc: Farrow Simon; Cllr McNamara Stuart; [REDACTED] Cllr Kober Claire
Subject: RE: Festival Republic Park Hire Application - Stakeholder Consultation

Hi Sarah

Sorry, I know I'm past the deadline but I want to give you more feedback following our PTA meeting last night - we're trying to set a date for our summer fair which is our big fundraiser for the year. It's always towards the end of June, early July as that's the best weather and best timing for getting everyone out and spending money.

This year it's Ramadan in June/July and we have a large and important Muslim community at our school so you can imagine we want to find a date that works for them. That's the 8th July. There's no way we can hold a fair when there's a concert due to the noise and disruption levels so we're going to have to move our fair into the time of Ramadan. This is a bad situation for many of our parents and children and for our community generally. I'd like you to reconsider that weekend for the Wireless festival for that reason. It's too late the week after, and too early before Ramadan. If you don't think that's appropriate I'd like to get your reasoning in writing please so I can make sure our Muslim community is fully informed that we have done everything that we as a school can to be inclusive, and have lobbied you to make the change. I'm interested in how this sits alongside the Prevent strategy that we are delivering at school.

I'd appreciate your quick response.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

The Friends of Finsbury Park

Manor House Lodge
Seven Sisters Road
London N4 2DE

Patron

The Right Honourable
Jeremy Corbyn MP



The Friends of Finsbury Park

RESPONSE TO THE GENERAL CONSULTATION FOR APPLICATION - WIRELESS FESTIVAL: FINSBURY PARK: JULY 2016 – APPLICATION NO: 'HGY02419'

The Friends of Finsbury Park is a charity that was formed in 1986 by people who care about Finsbury Park – its past, present and future. We support the use of Finsbury Park for the benefit of all local residents and park users, with events organised that are accessible to all who want to use the Park. We do not support the use of the Park for major events such as Wireless Festival which are simply too big, too noisy, unmanageable, unsafe and prevent local people and residents from enjoying the park.

The Friends of Finsbury Park (FoFP) object to the London Borough of Haringey granting a license for the above application on the following grounds:

Lack of Information:

We believe that the information supplied on the event application is wholly inadequate and does not allow us to make an informed and meaningful response. Our request to see crucial information such as a Risk Assessment, Noise Management Plan, Green policy, Event Management Plan and a site map of the event has been refused, and detail about the vaunted community event is non-existent.

We are not reassured by the promises given to improve control and management of the 2016 events. Such reassurances ring hollow as similar undertakings were given last year and then broken. Movement of heavy vehicles was neither effectively monitored or observed. Speeding heavy vehicles on the carriageway were regularly unaccompanied by buggies, particularly in the final days when Live Nation were 'racing' to leave site on time and avoid the incurrance of 'overstaying' charges. When FoFP members questioned stewards on the non-accompaniment of speeding heavy vehicles we were told that, "We can't possibly get this job done in time if all the heavy vehicles are accompanied". We have photographic evidence of this (supplied to the Scrutiny Committee) and further video evidence is also available.

Damage to the Park:

The very fabric of the park was damaged last year and the serious degradation to the Park caused by last year's Wireless Festival event is still evident. Swathes of grass were badly damaged with whole fields being reduced to dust, which have still not recovered properly. Carriageways were damaged by heavy vehicles and trees were broken and damaged by the erection of the 8 foot high barriers designed to keep residents and park users out.

Similar damage is likely to arise from the proposed festival and constitutes further grounds for rejecting this application.

Loss of Amenity:

We are yet to see the proposed footprint for this year's Festival. However, the footprint occupied by last year's Wireless Festival was excessive and completely unacceptable. A very large area of the most used part of the Park was enclosed and inaccessible to park users for three weeks over the summer.

Although a narrow public route was provided through the event last year, the promoters have conceded that, from the date their contractors arrive on site until the day they leave, the enclosed area becomes a designated building site. They insist that, consequently, health and safety regulations demand that they must not allow public access to their building site for the duration of their stay in the Park which is a major loss of amenity for three weeks or more when the park is most used. As we have no information on a proposed area/map for the event, we have no way to tell what public access is proposed this year.

The very limited areas of the Park remaining freely accessible to the public once the concert site and leased areas are taken into account, are very adversely impacted by noise and diesel fumes for the duration of the promoters/contractors stay and present a considerably diminished amenity for families and other park users.

Restricted access for this period of time also forces sports groups in the park to stop for the best part of three weeks.

The hard surface area adjacent to the Ball Courts was used as Wireless' main marshalling yard (Bone Yard) and where all materials and vehicles were based was not included on the Event Map/Area plan, closing an essential area of the park used by children, cycling groups and sports groups, without prior knowledge.

After last year's Wireless Festival event, most of our members formed the view that we had effectively lost use of Finsbury Park for about a month.

The Prevention Of Public Nuisance And The Prevention Of Crime And Disorder:

There were major security failings at last year's event with break-ins and attempted break-ins along the perimeter fencing which resulted in large and intimidating crowds of people disrupting public order in areas of the park outside the event itself, which Live Nation were unable to control. We spoke to a number of Live Nation stewards who told us that they felt intimidated and unsafe. The evidence of the TV footage and press reports arising from the 'break-ins' reinforces our view that, despite all assurances to the contrary, the Stewards

are not, and cannot be, effective against concerted and organised attempts at a break-in. We also challenge the Haringey and Festival Republic narrative that the break-ins were not effective and that those attempting to gain free access were all successfully repelled. A number of young people gathered round the skate-board area in the days following the break-ins were boasting openly about having managed to get in and stay in. We also strongly refute their assertion that they can effectively police the lengthy perimeter fence, Their claim is partly contingent on the assumption that stall holders will intervene to repel those attempting to scale the fence. Given the evidence from last year, this is clearly a ludicrous claim.

The markedly reduced police presence was also clearly a factor in the disorder last year. But how many police would it require to effectively secure the lengthy perimeter? Certainly more than they would be able or willing to provide.

From the numbers of reports we received, it is clear to us that open drug dealing was markedly increased at the 2015 Wireless Festival. We received a number of representations from concerned local residents who had observed drug dealers operating with apparent impunity and making no efforts to conceal their activities. Hot spots observed included the Oxford Road area, closely adjacent to Stroud Green School. Some parents of schoolchildren attending this school expressed their alarm at having to run the gauntlet of these open drug-dealers when collecting their children from school. Other drug-dealing hot spots were the area just outside the entrance to the VIP area and also adjacent to Manor House Gate café. Some drug dealers operated on bicycles and seemed to make no effort to conceal their activities.

Large swathes of Finsbury Park and many adjacent streets were littered with large numbers of nitrous oxide (laughing gas) cylinders. Whilst this may not yet be illegal, it is clear that, albeit briefly, these are 'behaviour altering' and can and do lead to very anti-social behaviour.

Noise:

The noise from Wireless Festival is unacceptable. It was particularly bad during sound tests and often caused buildings to vibrate. The noise monitoring measures put in place are wholly inadequate, being neither sufficiently scientific nor independent to allay reasonable concerns about excessive noise.

Noise at these levels and for this duration impacts badly on the physical and mental health of those inflicted with it. It forces residents to close their windows during the height of summer, prevents young children from sleeping, makes it impossible for local residents to work from home and deprives those fortunate enough to have access to a garden from enjoying the amenity of their own home. For many local residents, the noise was clearly and dominantly evident even when watching television indoors with the windows closed.

The special phone lines put in place to deal with complaints seemed to be monitored by one person and often it was impossible to get through to complain. Last year one of our members tried ringing the two numbers on the letter they were sent by the council and event organisers to complain about the level of noise; the council number said "sorry, this number has not been recognised" – She tried the number several times carefully checking it was right. She then tried the Live Nation number (which said 'operational show days only'), and there was no answer, despite holding on for some time.

The impact of loud noise on local schools during term time, particularly in Stroud Green, constitutes a serious impediment to learning.

Public Safety

Speeding, heavy lorries and large numbers of vehicles and equipment transform the normally quiet carriageway into a busy and dangerous road. Park users cross at their peril and stewards see their role as facilitating the flow of vehicles rather than pedestrian park users. Many weeks after the concert promoters had left site, scaffolding brackets and large metal bolts and pins were found at a number of sites. These presented a serious risk to health and safety. We can provide photos.

Despite all former assurances given on effective clearing of site after Wireless 2015, large quantities of seriously hazardous materials were left on site; many of these remained on site for some days after Wireless' departure. We have provided Haringey's Scrutiny Committee with irrefutable photographic evidence of this.

The Tobacco Tent erected at Wireless 2015 (a family event) was inconsistent with Haringey's stated Health policy, which states, *Reducing smoking rates is a key priority for Outcome 2 of the Haringey Health and Wellbeing Strategy (HWS): a reduced life expectancy gap across Haringey (see JSNA life expectancy chapter)*. Even the proposed scaled-down tobacco sales unit singularly fails to remedy the hypocrisy exposed by the clear conflict between Haringey's stated aims and their actions.

The Protection Of Children From Harm:

Wireless events are forbidding for young children – the big vehicles and extra pollution change the atmosphere in the park and make it unpleasant and at times threatening, often with event go-ers hanging round the cafe and playground areas, drinking alcohol during the day time before the concerts have started, causing far fewer families to use these areas during event times.

The first day of the proposed event, Friday 8th July, is a school day. This will inevitably lead to disruption to learning in nearby schools. It will also lead to the loss of access and use of park amenity for schoolchildren both before and after school hours. During the summer the park is well used by parents and children for games, picnics and relaxation. With so much of Finsbury Park off bounds, children may well seek play areas in surrounding streets with the possible subsequent endangerment to them. The enclosure of the Children's play area adjacent to the boating lake during last year's event was seen as particularly unacceptable. This deprived children of a very well used and popular amenity.

Clearly audible bad language was heard through school windows, kept open during the heatwave. The presence of large numbers of people abusing drugs and alcohol also present an added risk of harm to children. As mentioned, children and their parents have to run the gauntlet of open drug dealing and are frequently intimidated by anti social behaviour. The measures proposed by Haringey to allow a halt to vehicle movements within the park during conventional schools arrival and departure times are essential but they do not address the

issues related to the disruption of children's schooling and sleep with the very necessary sleep of young children seriously disturbed by the excessive noise generated by these concerts, and most event days ending after 10pm.

For the 16 plus days that the Wireless Festival promoters are likely to be on site, the presence of their contractors and frequent movement of their heavy vehicles and equipment introduces a range of additional hazards for children and vulnerable adults.

The noise from these events, both that generated during the concerts and the inevitable noise generated by contractors erecting a major concert site with many stages, also prevents families from benefitting from the physical and mental wellbeing that a normally 'peaceful' park can provide.

The increasing density of local housing has led to larger numbers of families without access to a garden. The green space afforded by Finsbury Park is a vital lung for all, but particularly for children. One of our members has told us that she does not have a garden and finds it very difficult to explain to her children why they have to be cooped up in their flat because the Park which they normally use is now inaccessible for many weeks over the summer due to these concerts.

Number Of Attendees:

45,000 per event day is excessive. The damage to the fabric of the park caused by such a concentration of people over three days is evident from past events and would be unavoidable at the proposed events. The marshalling of events of this size is extraordinarily challenging and most of our feedback from last year's event was predominantly that it was a challenge too far for the stewards both within and outside the enclosed area.

The Finsbury Park Safer Neighbourhood Police Team even stated at a public meeting that they were strongly opposed to these events and regarded them as badly managed.

The task of crowd management is going to be further challenged in 2016 by the closures and roadworks in and around Finsbury Park Station. Attracting such a concentration of large numbers to the Finsbury Park area during this period will create an unacceptable risk of harm to festival goers, other park users and members of the local community seeking to use their streets. Access, egress and safe evacuation of the Park cannot possibly be made safe with compromised access to Finsbury Park Station.

Other:

Much is still unclear and misleading on the application.

Under 'Audience Profile' you state that the audience profile is: 'Families, Young People, Older People, Other'. The profile at last year's event certainly did not comply with the family criteria. This is not an accurate description of a Wireless Festival audience. In fact at one stakeholder meeting a Live Nation representative clearly stated that the target audience for Wireless were women in the 18-25 age range.

It is also worrying that you claim events will bring a great opportunity to the park and help raise the profile of the park and area nationally as a venue. Finsbury Park is not, and should never be promoted as a venue for this kind of event.

We urge you to decline this application.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Chair

The Friends of Finsbury Park

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 February 2016 12:32
To: Jones Sarah
Cc: Farrow Simon; Cllr McNamara Stuart; Keeble Andrea
Subject: Re: Festival Republic Park Hire Application - Stakeholder Consultation

Hi Sarah,

Thanks for providing the opportunity to comment on this event.

Our feedback from previous years of this event is that it does cause major disruption to our regular Tag Rugby leagues within the park (for which we formally book pitches through the council), where we have 400 people participating weekly on Monday and Wednesday nights. We've had to relocate to Downhills Park for three weeks the last two years due to the set-up and pack down of this event and when we come back the seven sisters road pitches we use are generally in a far worse state than prior to leaving.

Hence we've had to strongly reconsider moving to Downhills Park permanently in the back end of our season (July and August) based on Health and Safety concerns of our players getting injured on the damaged pitches. Downhills Park is far less popular with our players, as Tag Rugby is a social sport played after work. Finsbury Park works well for us and other sporting groups as it's easily accessible by public transport in the evening and Downhills Park takes another 20 minutes at least to reach.

I understand in the current climate that councils need to hire out their parks for these types of events to raise much needed revenue, but I would strongly ask you to consider a park further north in Haringey which isn't as popular for regular summer sport. If Finsbury Park is to be used, I would suggest some of the money raised is re-invested into some much needed ground maintenance on the pitches parallel to seven sisters road and the pitch known as the Thames Water pitch which has been unplayable for a number of years.

I would also suggest the funds should be used to fund some lights between Manor House station and the Finsbury Park Athletics stadium. I know the reason there is no lights (local bat population), but in the presence of the councillor I'd thought I'd raise this as a major concern. Having no lighting poses a serious risk of mugging or worse for any sports participants walking between the floodlit Finsbury Park Athletics Stadium and the station.

Many thanks.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
Managing Director
Try Tag Rugby
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

www.trytagrugby.com

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) & [Twitter](#)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 March 2016 22:07
To: Jones Sarah
Cc: Channer Thema; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Detailed Consultation for Application - 'Finsbury Park Concerts. Wireless Festival' ,
Application No - 'HGY02419'

Dear Sarah,

I am writing on behalf of Brownswood residents living on Seven Sisters road and the adjacent side roads; many of whom have experienced great inconvenience during the previous 2 Wireless festivals. Despite some improvements last year, there are many areas which could be improved if Haringey are serious in mitigating the negative aspects of holding large events in residential areas.

I request consistent and sufficient stewarding so that ASB is kept to a minimum. I also ask that sounds checks occur outside school hours and that the event on Sunday closes at 9 O clock. 10pm on a Sunday is too late when people are preparing themselves and families for work/ school the next day, particularly when people were still hanging around the side roads last year until midnight waiting for taxis and making lots of noise.

I hope you will consider these requests on behalf of Brownswood residents when considering the Wireless festival application.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Brownswood Ward
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

www.twitter.com/BrownswoodClrs



CATHERINE WEST MP

Member of Parliament for Hornsey and Wood Green

Nick Walkley
Chief Executive, Haringey Council
Civic Centre
High Road
London N22 8LE

24 February 2016

Dear Nick

Wireless Festival in Finsbury Park

I have been contacted by a number of local residents concerned that the application made by Festival Republic to use Finsbury Park this summer is only subject to a 10 day stakeholder consultation period. You will be well aware that residents and local stakeholder groups including the Friends of Finsbury Park have serious concerns about the impact of the concerts and I formally objected to the original proposals.

Whilst I appreciate the need for the council to raise funds as a result of massive government cuts, I am concerned that 10 days is a very short window for responses on such an important issue and would urge the council to extend the consultation window and widen participation to local residents who bear the brunt of the disruption. Please can you consider this as a matter of urgency?

I would also welcome an update on what action the council is taking in advance of this year's proposed events to tackle the following issues that have been raised by local residents.

Use of the park

For many local people, particularly those who don't have their own gardens, Finsbury Park is a much-loved public space that they want to enjoy during the warm weather. Large barriers preventing access some weeks before the concerts and continuing for some time afterwards prevent access for a considerable period of time. This is frustrating and many feel disproportionate. I would like to see every effort made to significantly minimise the amount of time barriers are in place.

Noise

During the concerts themselves a number of people have told me they need to leave their



homes, or at the very least stay inside with all doors and windows closed, because the noise is unbearable. Before the concerts, the soundchecks cause additional disturbance and after the concerts noise continues for a number of days due to the huge clean-up operation. This means local people are inconvenienced for much longer than the actual length of the concerts. Further restriction on noise levels and times together with strict enforcement of any excessive noise nuisance would be much welcomed.

I am particularly concerned by reports from a local primary school about the impact on their pupils when Wireless Festival started in the early afternoon of Friday 3 July. Due to the adult language coming from the stage, together with the extremely loud noise, the children were forced to stay inside on one of the hottest days of the year. I would support calls for any events to be held outside of school term time.

Anti-social behaviour

I've received numerous reports of rubbish thrown into gardens and drunk festival goers causing disruption on residential streets including urinating in gardens. Local people should not have to put up with this and I would like to see tough enforcement action and increased patrols during any concerts.

Benefit for the local community

Finally, I believe that local people who are bearing the brunt of the disruption caused by these events should enjoy the benefit of the proceeds. I would like to see all the money raised spent in Finsbury Park and the local area on important improvements such as lighting, improving the facilities and general maintenance. Sufficient resources also need to be allocated to rapid clean-up and tough enforcement of anti-social behaviour to reduce the impact on local residents.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Catherine

Catherine West MP

cc Ullr McNamara

*Cabinet Member for
Environment*

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Festival Republic Park Hire Application - Stakeholder Consultation
Date: 1 March 2016 23:52:27 GMT
To: simon.farrow@haringey.gov.uk
Cc: Cllr Barbara Blake <[REDACTED]>, Cllr Morton Peter
<[REDACTED]>, Cllr Ozbek Ali Gul <Ali.Gul.OZBEK@haringey.gov.uk>
<[REDACTED]>, <[REDACTED]>
Cllr McNamara Stuart <Stuart.McNamara@haringey.gov.uk>, <[REDACTED]>

Dear Simon Farrow - Head of Direct Services
Re: Festival Republic Park Hire Application - Stakeholder Consultation

I write in response to the Stakeholders Consultation concerning the proposed festival event in Finsbury Park in July 2016

Our comments are set out below;

1. That the event finishes every night at 10pm at the very latest (except Sundays)
10:30pm is too late for residents and our children who live near by.
 2. On Sundays the event should finish at 9pm as residents and children will need to go to school and work on the Monday morning.
 3. Vehicular Ban should be until 9:30am so that users, commuters and parents traveling through the park can travel safely.
 4. The condition of Park needs to be addressed after the event by full repairs i.e. extraction of glass, waste and litter from the grassed site.
 5. Re-seeding and regular watering will encourage quicker growth and recovery to the bare earth exposed by 2 weeks of preparation and concert going.
 6. Greater security (i.e. double the amount last year)is required to prevent drunken gate crashers making the site and local users safer in the park.
 7. The event dates are not acceptable - The event should not take place over two consecutive weekends.
We suggest that the Charity event is on Friday 8th July and the other 2 day events Sat 9th and Sunday 10th are on consecutive days (Three days in Total)
- To present the event over two consecutive weekends causes great disturbance to residents wildlife and users of the Park. We feel this in the strongest terms as users and local residents who have had to put up with such concerts over the years.
8. Publish broadly the profits of such commercial events to residents and users, so they can see the fiscal benefit to the Parks Dept.

[REDACTED]

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Usually the St Anns Ward residents are not included with such input into Finsbury Park but are greatly affected by noise traffic parking and loss of resources to residents.

I would be grateful if the GRA are invited too and consulted in the future on such matters at the park.

With kind regards

[REDACTED] Acting GRA Chair
and Community Garden Co-Ordinator
The Gardens Residents Association (GRA)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



as from: [REDACTED]
email: [REDACTED]

SGRA

STROUD GREEN
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Simon Farrow
Head of Direct Services
Haringey Council

via email

09:00:30 March 2016

Dear Simon,

Re: FESTIVAL REPUBLIC PARK HIRE APPLICATION

On behalf of the Stroud Green RA I have received comments from residents regarding the above application for the use of Finsbury Park this year.

As you are aware, there is continued strong local opposition to holding major events in Finsbury Park, especially ones that considerably reduce the areas available to residents for prolonged periods of time, in the above case for 3 weeks in the summertime when families without outdoor space at their disposal rely heavily on the park facility for their recreational pursuits. The area free for use during the Wireless Festival event is extremely limited and not particularly practical, a large part being sloping and tree covered.

These major events pose a health and safety hazard to park users despite controls and enforcement implemented by the council. We note in the letter to stakeholders that the planned improvements on last year's concerts are still not all in place and would urge that no application be authorised until such improvements have been satisfactorily agreed with the organisers. This should not however infer that residents would be any happier with this or any other large scale event taking place in the park.

One of the main areas of concern is the noise and nuisance to the local community. The level of noise is so intrusive that residents find being at home and using their gardens during the period of the event extremely unpleasant, so much so that they feel they have no other option but to spend the time with the windows shut or to actually be out of London for the duration. As was experienced last year, the noise levels are affected by the weather, strong winds exacerbating the problem.

There are still issues with the degradation of the ground resulting from 45,000 concert goers per day using the park, hundreds of vehicle movements and food and drink stalls, marquees and other temporary structures in place for 3 weeks. In wet weather the grass is churned up; if hot it dries out. The tarmac surfaces also suffer.

SGRA would be interested in further information on the "charity event" that "will bring an amazing event to the borough and benefit a national/regional charity greatly". Which charity exactly and just how amazing will be this event? The description is sketchy to say the least and not acceptable as part of an application to use a large area of Finsbury Park. It is also unclear as to which day this charity concert will

2.

3rd March 2016

Simon Farrow
Head of Direct Services
Haringey Council

be staged, Saturday, 2nd or Sunday, 3rd July. It is disingenuous to promote this at the top of the application when the event details refer only to the large-scale music festival the following weekend.

Stroud Green RA has not changed its stance regarding the use of a large area of Finsbury Park for prolonged periods for major events and urges Haringey Council to reject this current application.

Yours sincerely,

A large, irregular black redaction mark covering the signature of the sender.A horizontal black redaction mark covering the name of the sender.

Chair

Faint, illegible text at the top of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.



A small, faint rectangular mark or stamp located below the dark smudge on the right side of the page.