

Objections for Krankbrother Limited variations for PL1294 & P1376

#### Objection 1

Dear Sir or Madam,

I have seen your licensing application to increase the visitor capacity at two planned events on consecutive weekends between May and September 2022 at Beckenham Place Park.

This is a residential area and as a local resident, I am opposed to the planned increase in capacity for these events.

#### **Experience of previous festivals in Beckenham Place Park**

The parkland itself suffered damage from the events in 2021 and some of that still hasn't recovered. The grass has not all grown back and is still bare earth in places. This is particularly evident on the parkland at the south side of the lake, on both sides of the pathway. It looks a mess at the best of times and when it rains heavily it creates a muddy quagmire. Increasing capacity can only make this damage even worse. Please don't damage this beautiful park even further.

Last year's events were also a huge noise disturbance. The music could clearly be heard in my property all the time the events were on, until late at night. There were people in the streets drinking alcohol before and after the events last year including people shouting and drinking in the street long after the events finished at night. This is surely likely to get even worse if there are even more people attending.

It also meant we couldn't use the park fully, and not only on the event days. Some of the walkways even away from the main festival site were blocked off with fencing. The fencing blocking off access was in place several days before the event and several days afterwards until it was taken down, as well as the big vehicles in and out and the construction and take-down of the festival facilities for days before and after the events themselves. We are regular users of the park on most days and this access for local residents to their local green space was much reduced for the sake of a music festival. If the capacity is increased I am concerned it will take up even more of the park, and with the potential to cause even more damage in more areas.

The local public transport infrastructure is already busy as it is (trains are still not running a full pre-pandemic timetable) and there is often weekend engineering work with no trains running. Increasing the event capacity even further will potentially impact local residents and the infrastructure we use in our daily lives even more, for local people who need to use that limited public transport to get to and from work on the event days or travel for leisure. Will additional transport be laid on so these events and the planned extra capacity do not impact residents/regular transport users?

The festival-goers left much litter behind last year. I am not necessarily talking about within the park itself, but in the surrounding area. Bottles and cans were left strewn at Beckenham Hill station, for example, with no one clearing it up that I could see, presumably left for the poor station staff to clear up.

Increasing the capacity can surely only make all of these issues even worse for the people who live near the park or near the train stations.

#### **Potential wildlife disturbance - further concerns**

I also feel strongly that any such event should not be held between May and 1 September, even at the previous lower capacity, due to the potential wildlife disturbance. As you'll be aware, the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 legally protects nesting birds and their young. I do not feel an event such as this should be held in Beckenham Place Park during the widely accepted nesting season (1 March to end of August).

All birds, their nests and eggs and their dependent young are protected by law and offences include intentionally or recklessly disturbing any wild bird while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturbing the dependent young of such a bird.

I am certainly not suggesting anyone would intentionally disturb a nesting bird or young bird. However my view is that holding an event such as this, with the obvious amount of loud noise it entails, the number of people within the park, the construction/transport of the event staging with vehicles being driven across the park, the litter, and then further increasing the capacity so there are even more people present than at previous events, clearly has the potential to cause such disturbance.

We are privileged to have so much precious wildlife that calls this park home, at a time when the UK is now one of the most nature depleted countries.

You could hold the events after the end of August to reduce this risk. The exact dates for the festivals are not given in the notices in the park, it simply says between May and September.

If the events are both to be held outside the accepted nesting season then that is good news. I would still have concerns about the proposed increase in capacity, however, for the reasons outlined above.

Thank you for your time and for considering this correspondence from a concerned resident.

## **Objection 2**

Dear Licensing Committee

Whilst commenting on the application for variation perhaps the wider question is why this operator has not had its existing licence revoked. Last year we, along with many Beckenham residents were subjected to a row over two weekends which can only be described as a noise akin to torture techniques applied by the Stasi. The competing sound systems, all targeted at Beckenham, provided a collective assault that was way above any approved limit and rendered the use of our garden, and even the house, impossible. It was clearly illegal given our right to enjoy our property in peace. Further, given the totally inadequate planning, many residents were subjected to anti-social behaviour and direct violation of their property. The Licensing Committee is clearly negligent in not holding the operator to account and revoking their licence.

Given the disgraceful performance last year, it is clearly inappropriate to upsize the event and increase the capacity to 12,000. In addition to violating what residents were told by the council at the time of planning (the park would only be used for small events of no more than a few thousand) there are the following objections;

- more people will lead to even more noise, anti-social behaviour and even more of the problems of last year.
- the park is incapable of coping with this number of people - areas used last year have still not recovered. 'The Bunker', used as one of the sites last time remains largely devoid of grass whilst damage elsewhere was never repaired and remains. The site is simply not capable of coping with the existing footfall without let alone a substantial increase without major landscaping works which Lewisham shows no intention of providing.
- The park has an area of ancient woodland which houses protected species of bats and other wildlife and clearly, they are not being protected and their habitat and viability is being disturbed by loud noise into the night.

Of course, we recognise The Licensing Committee will do nothing and continue to inflict this row and disturbance on the residents of Beckenham in the knowledge that we cannot vote on Lewisham matters. However, perhaps its time for Beckenham residents to exercise their right to protest by

setting up outside committee members houses any playing loud rows from multiple sound systems continuously for 12 hours a day so that you and your neighbours can also appreciate the experience.

### **Objection 3**

**To whom it may concern:**

#### **Krankbrother Event In Beckenham Place Park 2022**

As one of many hundreds of residents living in and adjacent to the **Beckenham Place Park Conservation Area**, we strongly oppose the application for an increase in capacity for **Krankbrother Limited** events at Beckenham Place Park. Last year, there were significant problems with large crowds accessing the park, excessive and illegal parking, trespassing, extremely loud thundering noise, and extensive littering at properties close to the park. Beckenham as a town didn't cope with the number of visitors last year, therefore I cannot see how any increase can possibly be managed.

Also last year, the access closest to Beckenham Junction station was closed, so people attending the event had to walk up Southend Road, many of them trying to access the park by cutting through properties, and actively trespassing across private land along the road.

Beckenham Place Park is not an urban park in a city location. It is historic parkland surrounded by residential properties with a Grade II listed mansion. It has limited access points, both meaning that any increase in event capacity will cause huge disruption to residents who live at its boundaries, a good many of whom have not even been consulted about this application.

There were also issues with addressing any problems - Bromley Council simply said they weren't responsible, Lewisham Council stated that we could not complain because we are not Lewisham Council residents, Yet almost every single affected household is not located in Lewisham, but in fact in Bromley!

It cannot be right that those most affected by this application do not receive the simple courtesy and respect of public consultation.

### **Objection 4**

Notice of Application for Variation of Premises Licence, Krankbrother Productions Ltd

Licence PL No. 1294 & PL No. 1376 in respect of Beckenham Place Park, Beckenham Hill Road,

I, hereby, write my objection to the forthcoming venue at the above location.

Firstly, I object to so many people coming to this venue from all over. There is not enough car parking space in the park, or surrounding areas. Also this is not a very wise action seeing that the Covid 19 infection is yet again on the increase. This would be most prevalent in a crowded situation even in the open air.

Secondly, last year was a complete nightmare for the people living around this area and, indeed, several miles away. People could not walk their dogs as the noise made the dogs very anxious and some ran away from their owners. Nor could they take their children for walks or use the children's play area, let alone the two cafes. The din went on until 10pm. On a nice day one could not sit out in their gardens.

Thirdly, the wild life, which is abundant in this park, also suffered. I found a parakeet that was so agitated. It was obvious it had flown from the park to get away from the deafening noise. Which must sound like thunder and worse to the animals who inhabit the park.

Fourthly, the people who had been to the venue used the park as a lavatory, as witnessed by those walking their dogs and children, during and after the event. This is disgusting. Most dog walkers pick up their dog's mess. Though there are toilet facilities within the venue, some think it better to behave like animals.

Fifthly, There would be less police on the ground because they would be policing this venue and more chance of burglaries as well as car theft as this is a very populated residential area.

Beckenham Place Park is not another Woodstock. Beckenham Place Park is in a residential area and intended for residents and visitors to take leisurely walks with or without children or dogs. Also for children to play in the play areas and visitors to enjoy the cafes and bar areas provided without the enormous noise being emitted from the venue.

I do hope my voice will be heard.

#### **Objection 5**

I hope this email finds you well.

I would like to strongly oppose the application in the subject as it has a significant negative effect on the lives of residents living around the park.

Our family lives as far as BR1, still last summer when these festivals took place we could barely sleep because of the noise. The only way our 1 year old could sleep was with shut windows which you can imagine created an incredibly hot room causing another reason for sleep issues. But even with closed windows the beat of the music felt like someone was drumming inside our heads.

The park itself became dirty, litter everywhere and we have serious concerns about the environmental impact of these festivals on the park. As you can see from our postcode we live in Bromley not Lewisham but respectfully enjoy the park throughout the year. We are so happy and lucky to live near it and absolutely love that our daughter can explore its flora and fauna, we teach her to be respectful towards nature and nurture it in any possible way. We have serious concerns about all these being ruined by noise pollution the festivals create and its visitors' behaviour. Has there been an environmental impact assessment carried out?

I understand the financial benefits of these festivals and I'm all for additional income for the park but unfortunately, due to the above issues and concerns we have to strongly oppose making it even bigger.

Also if you could provide some information regarding any assessment that was carried out regarding the environmental impact that would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Should you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me on the below number or on this email address.

#### **Objection 6**

I wish to object to this request for an increase in capacity after the disastrous way events were run last year.

We live in BBP and its unbearable for residents, Lewisham are seeking to cash in on the park with no regard for local residents.

We have heard this years events will be better something we doubt yet already an increase in capacity is requested.

There should be no music on Sunday nights and Saturday must be controlled far better.

We strongly object.

## **Objection 7**

**From:** Wells, Stephen, Cllr [<mailto:Stephen.Wells@bromley.gov.uk>]

**Sent:** 28 March 2022 18:11

**To:** Zip Mail Ltd; Licensing

**Cc:** Licensing

**Subject:** RE: Objection to Variation application PL1294 and Application 1376

Dear Lewisham Licensing,

Can I fully endorse the comments of my Ward colleague, Cllr. Mike Tickner, I too represent Beckenham Town and Copers Cope Ward on the London Borough of Bromley.

The issue of noise from these events adversely impacted probably thousands of my residents over the two weekends last year. I think it is clear there needs to be a fundamental rethink as to whether these events can take place at all and certainly where they do, that the sound systems need to be reduced in amplified volume. There is a directionality to all sound systems and said direction needs to be INTO the park and away from residential areas.

I would add a point to those of my colleague, there needs to be far stricter marshalling of any event in the Park. This would particularly be around stopping excessive littering, damage to private property, inappropriate sexual behaviour and urination and defecation in residents gardens. Far more Portaloos need to be made available in addition to the marshalling in order to address the latter points.

Any increase in the licensable number of those attending these events will only exacerbate all of the above issues and certainly make worse the inadequate parking provided at the venue.

Regards

Cllr. Steve Wells

Beckenham Town and Copers Cope Ward

London Borough of Bromley

## **Objection 8**

**From:** Zip Mail Ltd [<mailto:michael.tickner@zip-mail.co.uk>]

**Sent:** 24 March 2022 14:13

**To:** Licensing

**Cc:** Wells, Stephen, Cllr; [licensing@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@bromley.gov.uk)

**Subject:** Objection to Variation application PL1294 and Application 1376

Dear Lewisham Licensing

## **Objection to Variation application PL1294 and Application 1376**

I write in my capacity as an elected Councillor for Copers Cope Ward, which directly borders Beckenham Place Park, the venue for the above Applications.

These Applications propose to increase the capacity of the licence by 50% to 12,000 persons attending, and to have these events on consecutive weekends of unspecified dates annually between May and September.

My first objection relates to **INADEQUATE CAR PARKING** both at the venue and in surrounding residential roads.

As evidenced from last year's Krankbrother Productions event, those attending for a weekend bring with them considerable baggage and equipment. This is overwhelmingly brought by car and not by public transport. Even with extended temporary parking in fields on site, there is extreme pressure on parking in all residential roads within half a mile of Beckenham Place Park. This causes unacceptable disruption to my constituents and, were numbers attending to be allowed to be increased by 50% as proposed, would cause traffic gridlock and obstruction of access to property.

My second objection is to **EXCESSIVE NOISE AND DIRECTION OF AMPLIFIED NOISE**.

There needs to be stricter control of the decibel levels of amplified noise. At the last event the sound system could be clearly heard over a mile away and for residents living near the Park the sound level caused serious disruption to their lives. Complaints included children unable to sleep, bass vibration dislodging masonry structures, residents forced to leave their homes in order to concentrate, headaches, sickness, etc. If the events continue, all stage configurations must focus the amplified sounds away from nearby residential roads and face into the Park. The sound levels must be reduced and a more reasonable decibel limit set and enforced by Lewisham Council.

I urge you to refuse these Applications. Please acknowledge receipt of this Objection.

**Michael Tickner**

Councillor Michael Tickner

Copers Cope Ward, Beckenham  
London Borough of Bromley

## **Objection 9**

Dear Sirs

We wish to oppose the increase from 5000 to 12000 people to the events held in Beckenham Place Park, on safety, security and noise levels, if this is agreed to how long before the number becomes 20000?

## **Objection 10**

I wish to object the license 1376 & 1294

The reasons for my objection in no particular order are

- Damage to Beckenham Place Park following the event. More people = more damage to the park. Longer recovery period and more cost to Lewisham to rectify.
- Restriction of using BPP whilst building/decommissioning the event. More people = bigger space
- Lack of facilities within BPP to cope with thousands of people. More people = more pressure on the limited park and the surrounding neighborhood.
- Extra noise
- Impact on car parking in neighboring area
- Impact on public transport
- Extra people = extra nuisance for local residents

### **Objection 11**

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Our family live as far as BR1 still last summer when these festivals took place we could barely sleep because of the noise. The only way our 1 year old could sleep was with shut windows which you can imagine created an incredibly hot room causing another reason for sleep issues. But even with closed windows the beat of the music felt like someone was drumming inside our heads.

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