

OBJECTOR 1**From:****Sent:** 19 March 2026 12:55**To:** Licensing Section**Subject:** Representation objecting to application 26/00171/PREMGR**Representation objecting to application 26/00171/PREMGR****Premises:** Alresford Hall, Ford Lane, Alresford, Colchester, CO7 8AY**Applicant:** Susie Marsden

I write to make a formal objection to application 26/00171/PREMGR. I am a resident of estate, approximately 200 metres from the application site, and directly affected by the proposed licensable activities.

The Application

This application seeks a time-limited premises licence (21 to 25 May 2026) for rural estate land at Alresford Hall. The applicant's own event website confirms that approximately 1,000 re-enactors will attend, in addition to members of the public admitted by ticket. The licensable activities sought include:

- (a) A battle re-enactment (classified by the applicant as a "performance of a play") involving cavalry, muskets, pikes and live cannon with blank gunpowder firing, between 14:00 and 16:00 on Sunday 24 and Monday 25 May;
- (b) Live amplified music in the re-enactors' bar tent from 19:00 to 23:00 on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 May;
- (c) Late night refreshment in the re-enactors' area from 23:00 to midnight on Saturday and Sunday;
- (d) Alcohol sales for re-enactors from Thursday 21 May (18:00 to 22:00), with extended hours through to midnight on Saturday and Sunday; and a public bar on Sunday and Monday (10:00 to 17:00);
- (e) On-site camping for re-enactors throughout the licence period.

The site plan shows a dispersed outdoor layout including the battlefield, public viewing area, public bar area, re-enactors' bar, food area and camping field. The applicant's own statement identifies nearby residential receptors including Hall Cottage and West Cottage at approximately 220 metres from the battlefield and Lodge Cottage at approximately 400 metres. Four further residential properties are identified beyond the estate boundary to the south and south-east.

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It should be noted that this is a five-day licence period, not merely a two-day public event. The re-enactors' bar and camping area will be operational from Thursday evening, meaning that activity, noise, vehicle movement and alcohol consumption will be taking place on the estate for the duration.

Note: the application form gives the postcode as CO7 8AY. The event website gives CO7 8AP. The Sub-Committee may wish to satisfy itself that the application documents are accurate and consistent.

Basis of Objection

This representation is made on the basis that the application, as drafted, fails to adequately promote the licensing objectives of the prevention of public nuisance, public safety, the prevention of crime and disorder, and the protection of children from harm. Tendring's Licensing Policy 2022-2027 makes clear that applicants must positively demonstrate that appropriate and proportionate measures will be implemented and maintained to promote those objectives, and that stricter conditions, including controls on hours, may be applied where premises are in residential areas and relevant representations are received.

This is not a case where the Sub-Committee is being presented with a fully evidenced, tightly managed temporary event. It is being asked to license cannon fire, amplified music, bars, late-night refreshment and camping in a quiet rural residential location without the core independent evidence that should justify those activities. The licensing objectives require prevention, not optimism.

1. Live cannon fire should be refused

Live cannon fire is not a necessary prerequisite to the event. The historical reenactment could proceed without it. The Sub-Committee is not being asked to judge whether the event is historically purist; it is being asked whether the licensable activities, as proposed, promote the licensing objectives. Where one element creates a disproportionate nuisance or safety concern in a residential location, it is entirely legitimate for that element to be removed, relocated or replaced with a lower-noise alternative.

To be clear, this objection targets cannon fire specifically and does not seek to prevent the use of blank-firing muskets as part of the re-enactment display. The acoustic distinction between the two is significant. A musket produces a relatively sharp, short-duration crack at modest energy levels. A cannon produces a substantially louder, deeper report with far greater acoustic energy and low-frequency content that propagates over considerably greater distances. The applicant's materials group the two together, but they are not comparable in terms of noise impact on nearby

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residential receptors. It is the cannon element, specifically, that is incompatible with this location and should be refused or removed.

The applicant's own material compares the acoustic profile of black-powder cannon to shotgun discharge, asserting it is "broadly comparable to the impulsive noise associated with rural sporting activities such as shotgun discharge." Even on the applicant's own chosen analogy, the separation distances here are dramatically below a recognised noise-control benchmark. The CIEH Clay Target Shooting: Guidance on the Control of Noise (January 2003), hosted on the government's own publishing service, advises a noise buffer zone of at least 1.5 kilometres in the general direction of shooting and not less than 1 kilometre in the rearward arc on mainly flat open land, and states that shooting should not normally take place at less than 1 kilometre in the direction of shooting except under very exceptional circumstances agreed with the local authority and affected residents. On the applicant's own figures, Hall Cottage and West Cottage are approximately 220 metres from the battlefield and Lodge Cottage approximately 400 metres. No independent acoustic evidence has been produced to justify that departure.

The Sub-Committee should also note the CIEH guidance's observation that trees generally offer little sound attenuation unless belts are sufficiently deep to give reduction due to distance, and can be responsible for undesirable echoes and sound scattering effects. The applicant's reliance on "natural woodland screening" should be treated with considerable caution.

In the absence of a robust pre-application acoustic assessment, the live cannon element is incompatible with the prevention of public nuisance. The Essex Environmental Health guidance for licensees expressly states that public nuisance includes noise, odour and general disturbance, and that applicants must consider the proximity of noise-sensitive dwellings, the nature of the activity and the prevailing background noise. In a quiet rural setting, background sound levels are low. That makes impulsive cannon fire more, not less, intrusive. Residents should not be subjected to repeated cannon reports and black-powder smoke in or around their homes and gardens over a Bank Holiday weekend.

Where activities involve black powder, weapons displays and large family crowds, the Sub-Committee should require a high evidential standard and should not fill gaps by assumption. Documented incidents at comparable events, including cannon-related fires and injuries to participants, demonstrate that these risks are real and that safety and nuisance controls must be evidence-based, not aspirational.

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2. Late-night live music and refreshment are incompatible with this rural residential setting

The application seeks live amplified music in the re-enactors' tent until 23:00 on Saturday and Sunday, followed by late night refreshment until midnight. That is a recipe for late-evening and near-midnight noise from music, voices, congregation and general activity in a quiet rural area. The applicant may contend that this element is confined to re-enactors who are camping on site and therefore does not generate vehicle movements. Even if that is accepted, it does not resolve the nuisance concern. A large group of people socialising outdoors with amplified live music, alcohol and late-night food service in an open field, in a quiet rural residential setting, will generate noise that carries to nearby homes regardless of whether those people arrived by car or on foot from a neighbouring field. The licensing question is not how patrons arrived but whether the activity, at the times and in the location proposed, is compatible with the prevention of public nuisance.

This directly conflicts with recognised best practice. The Essex Environmental Health guidance for licensees states that outside areas where noise disturbance may arise should normally cease at dusk or 21:00, whichever is earlier, and that in the majority of cases amplified music or voices should be restricted to indoor activities only. The guidance also specifically says applicants should consider proposals to erect or use marquees and tents for entertainment purposes. A tent is not an acoustically robust building. Saying that music is "inside a tent" is not a meaningful answer in a quiet rural setting.

Tendring's Licensing Policy specifically identifies the hours 23:00 to 07:00 as especially relevant when assessing public nuisance. It also identifies the location of the premises, proximity to residential receptors, the availability of public transport, a wind-down period between the end of licensable activities and closure, and a last admission time as key considerations. None of these has been adequately addressed in the application.

In truth, this proposal has no genuine wind-down period. Music is proposed to continue until 23:00, alcohol until late evening, and late night refreshment until midnight. That is precisely the kind of pattern that risks disturbing residents' sleep.

3. The live music element requires full scrutiny and should not be treated as deregulated

If the applicant later seeks to argue that the live music is effectively deregulated, the Sub-Committee should be aware that the relevant deregulation provisions under the Live Music Act 2012 and subsequent amendments suspend certain specific live-music conditions only where the audience is 500 or fewer. The applicant's own event website confirms approximately 1,000 re-enactors will be present. The application does not state the maximum audience capacity of the re-enactors' music tent. Absent a hard cap

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demonstrably below 500, the Sub-Committee should proceed on the basis that this is a substantial amplified-music element requiring full scrutiny. In any event, general nuisance-management conditions continue to apply regardless of audience size, and the Section 182 Guidance is clear that the prevention of public nuisance retains its broad common law meaning, focused on the effect of licensable activities on those living and working nearby.

4. The application lacks a noise assessment, noise management plan and enforceable acoustic controls

This is the most serious deficiency in the application. There is no independent noise assessment, no stated noise limits, no finalised noise management plan, no speaker specification, no bass control detail, no perimeter monitoring regime, no noise log, no meaningful complaints protocol, and no clear explanation of whether announcements, commentary, live music or other sound across the site will be amplified. The applicant's own operating schedule states that a Noise Management Plan "will be submitted" and that the Event Management Plan "is being updated." In other words, the technical evidence that should underpin the application is being promised after the event, rather than produced before it.

That omission is serious. The Essex Environmental Health guidance states that where there is potential for public nuisance, applicants will be expected to submit a noise assessment demonstrating that appropriate measures have been or will be introduced. It also states that as a general rule, noise monitoring should be carried out prior to a licence application. It further says that licensees may be expected to put in place monitoring arrangements and keep records in a log-book, and specifically refers to noise-limiting devices connected to all permanent music and public address equipment. Tendring's Licensing Policy likewise expects applicants to demonstrate that appropriate and proportionate measures have been identified and will be implemented and maintained, and identifies the adoption of best practice guidance as among the most essential control measures.

This site obviously has potential for nuisance: outdoor battlefield activity, live cannon, a rural low-background setting, nearby homes, a bar tent with amplified live music, late-night food, camping, and dispersed outdoor areas. In those circumstances, the absence of proper acoustic evidence is a major flaw. A promise to submit a plan later, or to monitor noise during the event, is reactive rather than preventative. It is not what the policy or the guidance requires.

Note: The applicant's "Consideration of Residents" document (included in the application pack) is a self-assessment by the event organiser, not an independent acoustic or environmental report. The Sub-Committee should give it appropriate weight accordingly.

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5. This is a quiet rural residential locality with no established licensing history for this type of event

This site is not a town-centre late-night economy location. It is a quiet rural residential setting. Tendring's Licensing Policy expressly says that the authority may apply stricter conditions, including on hours, where premises are in residential areas and relevant representations are received. It also recognises the importance of balancing leisure opportunities with the protection residents need and expect, and acknowledges residents' Article 8 right to respect for their home and private life.

The Essex guidance treats locality, background noise and premises history as central considerations. So far as residents are aware, there is no comparable premises-licence history for this sort of event at this location. That means there is no proven operational track record demonstrating that late-night music, alcohol service, public bar operation, camping and cannon fire can be managed here without nuisance. The authority should be cautious, not permissive, in the face of that uncertainty.

It is also worth noting that regardless of how the applicant has categorised the battle reenactment (as a "performance of a play"), the Sub-Committee should assess the actual character and impact of what is proposed: an outdoor military display involving live cavalry, firearms and cannon in a rural residential area. The label does not determine the licensing analysis.

6. The application does not adequately justify capacity and should not proceed without a firm conservative cap

The applicant's own event website confirms that approximately 1,000 re-enactors will attend. In addition, members of the public will be admitted by ticket (adults and children at GBP 15 each, families of four at GBP 55). The publicly available materials do not provide any convincing basis for a total attendance figure tied to ingress and egress, stewarding, toilets, parking, traffic, acoustics, public safety or dispersal. Tendring's Policy makes clear that occupancy capacity is an essential factor in promoting the licensing objectives and expects it to be addressed in the operating schedule, especially for special events.

If this is a first-time event on this site, in a constrained rural location, with alcohol, camping, a public element and weapons-based live displays, the absence of a hard, justified occupancy cap is a real weakness. Any event of this kind should, at the absolute minimum, be subject to a conservative hard cap of 2,500 persons total on site at any one time, including participants, staff, contractors, traders and members of the public.

OBJECTOR 1**7. Containment, crowd management and the risk of disorder are insufficiently addressed**

The site plan shows a wide outdoor spread of activities including public viewing areas, battlefield, public bar, re-enactors' bar, food area, crafts village and camping. Yet the application gives no satisfactory, enforceable detail as to physical containment, stewarding ratios, boundary control, last admission, patrol routes, segregation of public and participant areas, or how people will be prevented from wandering around the estate and into sensitive areas near private homes. The applicant refers in general terms to stewards and marshals, but broad assurances are not the same as a robust operating schedule.

Tendring's Policy treats occupancy capacity as an essential factor for events, and identifies crowd management, management of people and traffic arriving and leaving, and last admission times as relevant measures. The Essex guidance highlights the need to manage patrons and staff, car parks and access roads, congregations and late-night departures. In a rural estate setting with nearby dwellings and no proven licence history, a loosely defined event footprint with inadequate physical controls creates obvious risks of trespass, disturbance, antisocial behaviour and disorder.

8. Traffic routing commitments must be made enforceable conditions

The applicant's Consideration of Residents document states that all event traffic will enter via the Wyvernwood main entrance gates, follow a one-way internal traffic system along estate tracks that do not pass directly by any residential properties, and that no event traffic will pass by Lodge Cottage, West Cottage or Hall Cottage. That commitment is welcome, but it is not reflected as a binding condition in the operating schedule and is therefore unenforceable.

If the Sub-Committee is minded to grant any part of the application, this commitment must be made a formal condition of the licence, supported by a requirement for trained marshals to be positioned at all junctions between event routes and residential access points throughout operating hours, with clear directional signage preventing event-related traffic from using residential lanes. This is necessary for the prevention of public nuisance and public safety for the following reasons:

(a) The access to residential properties on the estate is via a single-vehicle-width track. If event-related traffic, whether from the public, re-enactors, traders, contractors or service vehicles, were to use that lane, it would obstruct and potentially sever residents' access to their own homes, creating obvious safety risks from opposing vehicle movements on an unlit rural track.

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(b) Late-night arrivals, departures and servicing along residential lanes would generate noise and disturbance at the doorstep of the properties the applicant claims to be protecting.

(c) Uncontrolled pedestrian and vehicle access near residential boundaries creates a risk of trespass, disturbance and disorder.

A voluntary undertaking in a supporting document is not sufficient. Enforceable conditions, physical barriers and marshalled control are required.

9. Alcohol sales to re-enactors should cease at 21:00 and are otherwise incompatible with weapons safety

The application proposes alcohol sales to re-enactors from 11:00 to midnight on both Saturday and Sunday. This is not a normal low-risk hospitality setting. The applicant's own materials confirm the event involves a battle re-enactment using cavalry, muskets, pikes and live cannon with blank gunpowder. Late drinking by participants in such an event is the opposite of the cautious safety culture that should be required.

Tendring's Policy requires applicants to demonstrate appropriate measures for public safety, including suitable and sufficient risk assessments, effective management, sufficient staffing and crowd management, and adoption of best practice guidance. For an event involving black powder, cannon fire and historical firearms displays, best practice should include a clear written rule that nobody involved in cannon, firearms, powder handling, firing supervision or safety-critical operational roles may consume alcohol before or during duties, with a meaningful cut-off and enforcement protocol. From the material publicly available, that does not appear to have been spelled out as a licensing control.

Alcohol service to re-enactors should cease no later than 21:00 on any evening. That is consistent with the Essex Environmental Health guidance benchmark that outside areas where disturbance may arise should normally cease activity at dusk or 21:00, whichever is earlier. A 21:00 cessation allows a natural wind-down before people settle into their camping area, reduces noise from late socialising, and provides a full 14 or more hours before anyone is required to handle weapons or gunpowder the following day. By contrast, midnight service, as proposed, leaves only 8 to 9 hours, which is wholly inadequate given the safety-critical nature of the following day's activities.

Even if firing activity takes place on the following day, the licensing authority should not endorse a regime that normalises late alcohol consumption among participants involved in a high-risk operational event over a multi-day period. Fatigue, hangover, impaired judgement and poor discipline are obviously incompatible with safe handling and supervision in a weapons-based live re-enactment environment. No competent

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Event Management Plan or risk assessment has been provided to the public to demonstrate how alcohol consumption and weapons safety are reconciled.

10. Late servicing, deliveries and Bank Holiday operations will add to the nuisance

The Essex Environmental Health guidance states that deliveries and collections should, where possible, be restricted to the normal working day and exclude weekends and Bank Holidays, and that the handling of kegs, bottles and similar items outdoors near noise-sensitive premises should be avoided late at night and in the early morning. Once the application involves bar trading, late night refreshment, camping and multi-day operation, those concerns become very real. There is no indication in the application of any controls on servicing times, refuse collection, generator operation, or other support activities that will inevitably accompany a five-day event with camping and alcohol provision.

Conclusion

For all of these reasons, this application should be refused in its current form. The applicant has not demonstrated, as the legislation and policy require, that the licensing objectives will be positively promoted at this quiet rural residential site. The deficiencies are not minor. They go to the heart of nuisance, safety and control.

If the Sub-Committee is nevertheless minded to grant any part of the application, then the grant should be subject to very substantial reduction and stringent conditions, including at minimum:

1. A hard cap of 2,500 people total on site at any one time, including public, re-enactors, staff, contractors and traders.
2. Removal of late night refreshment altogether.
3. No live music beyond 21:00, and no outdoor amplified music or speech at any time.
4. No amplified sound anywhere on the licensed site unless governed by an independent acoustic assessment, calibrated noise limiter, perimeter monitoring and written log.
5. No cannon fire. The re-enactment may proceed with blank-firing muskets, but live cannon discharge should be refused entirely unless supported by a specific independently assessed acoustic management plan satisfactory to Environmental Health, demonstrating compliance with analogous impulsive noise best practice and including separation distances, orientation controls and monitoring.
6. Robust physical containment of the site with barriers, fencing and marshalled control at residential interfaces and access points.

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7. A clear last admission time, dispersal plan, resident complaint line and named duty manager contactable throughout operating hours.
8. A written alcohol and firearms/gunpowder safety policy, including a prohibition on any person involved in weapons, cannon or gunpowder operations consuming alcohol before or during duty, and no sale of alcohol to re-enactors after 21:00 on any evening, consistent with the Essex Environmental Health guidance on the cessation of activity in outside areas.
9. After 21:00, no external bar service, amplified sound, catering service, waste handling, generator refuelling, vehicle movement other than emergency access, or use of any outdoor social area shall take place within the licensed site.
10. Any bar or external activity to close early enough to protect residents' sleep, with a genuine wind-down period of at least 30 minutes between the end of all entertainment and the closure of bar service.
11. No deliveries, collections, refuse handling, generator start-up or other servicing operations between 21:00 and 08:00.
12. A pre-event noise assessment and finalised Noise Management Plan to be submitted, approved by Environmental Health and made available to affected residents before the licence takes effect.
13. All traffic routing commitments in the applicant's Consideration of Residents document to be made formal conditions of the licence, with trained marshals positioned at all junctions between event routes and residential access points throughout operating hours, clear directional signage, and physical measures to prevent any event-related traffic from using the single-vehicle-width residential access lane.
14. The applicant to confirm and the licence to state the maximum audience capacity of the re-enactors' music tent, such that the Sub-Committee can assess whether live music deregulation thresholds are engaged; absent a hard cap demonstrably below 500, full conditions on amplified music to apply.

On the present material, however, the correct decision is refusal



19th March 2026

From: Licensing Section

Sent: 20 March 2026 12:41

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Alresford Hall Event – Request for Full Application Documents

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received on 18 March 2026 at 1017 hrs in respect of the application for the grant of a premises licence for Alresford Hall.

I can confirm that we have not received the Event Management Plan (EMP) from the event organisers. Please be aware that it is not a requirement under the Licensing Act 2003 for this to be submitted as part of the application pack. However, the production of an EMP may become a condition of the licence should the application be granted.

Regarding the information you have requested relating to noise management and control measures, traffic routing and access arrangements and the site layout, including the location of camping areas and key activity zones, I can confirm that the relevant information submitted as part of the licensing application has already been passed to you in the email sent on 18 March 2026 at 1004 hrs. The plan submitted with the application clearly shows the extent of where the licensable activities are proposed to take place.

At the present time there is no further information we can give you as you are in receipt of all documents which have been submitted to the Licensing Authority and required under the Licensing Act 2003.

I note that you have submitted an objection to the Licensing Authority in respect of the application on 19 March 2026 at 1255hrs and confirm that this has been received and accepted. Therefore, the application will be determined by Members of the Premises/Personal Licences Sub-Committee, and you will be notified of the date and time in due course and an invitation for you to attend and speak in relation to your objection and concerns.

Kind regards

Emma King
Licensing Officer

Democratic Services and Elections, Governance | Tendring District Council

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licensingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk



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Licensing Section, Tendring District Council, Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton on Sea, Essex CO15

1SE

OBJECTOR 1

From:

Sent: 20 March 2026 12:45

To: Licensing Section

Subject: Re: Alresford Hall Event – Request for Full Application Documents

Dear Emma,

Thank you for your email.

It is very surprising that no Event Management Plan has been submitted for an event of this scale. That in itself raises serious questions, particularly given the nature of the activities proposed and the number of attendees anticipated.

I appreciate that the Licensing Act 2003 does not require an EMP to be submitted with the application. However, the absence of one means that residents and the Sub-Committee are being asked to consider the application without sight of the key operational document that would ordinarily explain how issues such as noise, traffic, access, public safety and site management are to be controlled in practice. I would be grateful if that point could be noted.

[REDACTED]

Thank you again for your help.

Best,

[REDACTED]

OBJECTOR 1

From:

Sent: 20 March 2026 13:26

To: Licensing Section

Subject: Supplementary Representation - Application 26/00171/PREMGR

Dear Emma,

Please see below a supplementary representation in relation to application 26/00171/PREMGR. I would be grateful if this could be added to my original representation and placed before the Sub-Committee.

Best,



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Dear Sir or Madam,

Supplementary Representation - Application 26/00171/PREMGR

Premises: Alresford Hall, Ford Lane, Alresford, Colchester, CO7 8AY

I write to submit this supplementary representation for the Sub-Committee's consideration.

It is, in my view, very surprising that no Event Management Plan or equivalent operational document has been submitted for an event of this scale, character and sensitivity. I appreciate that an EMP is not a prescribed document under the Licensing Act 2003. However, that does not answer the central problem: the Sub-Committee is being asked to determine this application without the operational detail needed to assess properly how the licensing objectives will be promoted in practice.

At present, important matters appear either absent or materially unclear, including:

- the detailed event layout, including camping areas, bars, battle and activity zones, amplified sound areas, parking, ingress and egress, and stewarding points
- traffic routing, marshalling and access management in practice
- noise management, monitoring and complaint response arrangements
- security and stewarding numbers, deployment and responsibilities
- medical, emergency and evacuation arrangements

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- dispersal arrangements at the end of licensable activities
- realistic capacity and attendance assumptions, and how those are to be managed on site

For an event of this nature, those are not peripheral matters. They go directly to public safety and the prevention of public nuisance.

Tendring District Council's own adopted Licensing Policy 2022-2027 is explicit on these points. At paragraph 2.6, it states that the Licensing Authority considers the effective and responsible management of the premises, instruction, training and supervision of staff and the adoption of best practice to be "amongst the most essential control measures for the achievement of all the licensing objectives" and that "these elements should be specifically considered and addressed within an applicant's operating schedule." At paragraph 2.4, it states that the selection of control measures "should be based upon a risk assessment of the premises, events, activities and the customers expected to attend" and considers documented risk assessments to be good practice. At paragraph 2.5, it states that additional measures may be necessary for special events intended to, or likely to attract, larger audiences, and that if these are not referenced in the operating schedule "it is more likely that the application or event may receive closer scrutiny from Responsible Authorities as a result." On the present application, these requirements have not been met.

The Council's own Policy is equally clear on capacity. At paragraph 2.7, it states that occupancy capacity is "an essential factor in the achievement for the positive promotion of the four licensing objectives" and that the Licensing Authority "will expect the issue of occupancy capacity to be considered and addressed, where appropriate, within an applicant's operating schedule." I understand that the applicant has engaged with the Council's Safety Advisory Group, which is welcome. However, the output of that engagement does not appear to have been incorporated into the application materials before the Licensing Authority or made available to those making representations. The applicant's own website confirms approximately 1,000 re-enactors will attend, in addition to public ticket-holders. There does not appear to be any evidence before the Sub-Committee confirming that a total site capacity has been assessed and justified by reference to ingress, egress, stewarding, sanitary provision, parking, emergency access or dispersal.

More broadly, the absence of this material at this stage raises a real question as to whether the necessary planning and risk assessment is sufficiently advanced to run the event in a manner consistent with the licensing objectives. If the operator has not adequately developed and documented these matters before tickets are marketed and sold, and only shortly before the event itself, that gives little confidence that the

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necessary control measures are properly in place.

The timing is also troubling. The application has been brought forward very late in the day for an event of this scale, while tickets are already on sale. That gives the impression that the process is being approached on the assumption that a licence will simply be granted, with the important operational detail to follow later. That is not, in my respectful submission, a satisfactory basis on which residents or Members should be asked to assess the application.

The Council's Policy further states at paragraph 1.43 that for new businesses and developments involving licensable activities, the Licensing Authority welcomes an early opportunity to offer advice and guidance, and that at an early stage "it is often easier and more cost effective to integrate issues such as crime and disorder, transport and public safety into the early design stages." It also notes at paragraph 1.44 that once an application has been lodged, "there are statutory timescales imposed upon the application and determination process, which restrict the opportunity for such discussions, liaison and mediation." The late submission of this application, apparently without the core operational documentation that would ordinarily accompany an event of this scale, compounds the concern that the operational planning is not sufficiently advanced.

On public nuisance specifically, the Council's own adopted Policy at paragraph 5.5 expects applicants to "demonstrate in their operating schedule that appropriate and proportionate measures have been identified and will be implemented and maintained to prevent public nuisance, relevant to the individual style and characteristics of their premises and events." At paragraph 5.6, the factors that applicants should demonstrate they have considered include: the location of premises and proximity to residential and other noise-sensitive premises; the hours of operating, particularly between 23:00 and 07:00; the nature of activities, including whether they are to be held inside or outside; the design and layout of premises including noise-limiting features; the occupancy capacity; the availability of public transport; a wind-down period between the end of licensable activities and closure; and a last admission time. On the present application, the overwhelming majority of those factors have not been addressed in any meaningful, enforceable or evidenced way within the operating schedule.

My concern is therefore not simply that an EMP has not been filed as a matter of form. It is that the material presently before the Licensing Authority appears insufficient to enable proper scrutiny of the likely real-world effects of the application, particularly in relation to public nuisance and public safety.

I would be grateful if this supplementary representation could be placed before the Sub-Committee.

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If further operational material is submitted by the applicant, I ask that it be circulated to all objectors as soon as possible so that there is a fair opportunity to review and comment on it before the hearing. If substantial further material is only produced late, I reserve the right to request that the hearing be adjourned so that it can be considered properly.

Yours faithfully

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the objector.

OBJECTOR 1

From:

Sent: 12 April 2026 13:09

To: Licensing Section

Cc: Grant Fenton-Jones

Subject: Re: Further evidence - application 26/00171/PREMGR

Reattaching video, as not sure previous version worked.

Thanks

On Sun, 12 Apr 2026 at 13:04, [REDACTED]

Dear Licensing Section,

Please find attached a short video recording which I ask be added to my representation in relation to application 26/00171/PREMGR and placed before the Sub-Committee.

The recording is submitted as further evidence relevant to the prevention of public nuisance. It shows amplified music from the site / estate being clearly audible from a nearby residential location and illustrates the type of noise intrusion that residents are concerned may arise if this application is granted.

I appreciate that this is not a formal acoustic measurement. However, it is relevant real-world evidence of how amplified sound carries into nearby residential areas. In my submission, it reinforces the need for any acoustic assessment relied upon by the applicant to demonstrate clearly that amplified sound associated with the event will not cause undue disturbance at the closest residential receptors, and for that assessment to be shared with affected residents.

I would be grateful if this material could be added to the application file and placed before the Sub-Committee.

I have copied Environmental Health given that this material is directly relevant to the prevention of public nuisance, in particular the effect of amplified sound on nearby residential receptors.

Best,

[REDACTED]



VIDEO-2024-01-05-
22-33-27.mp4

OBJECTOR 2

From:

Sent: 19 March 2026 13:51

To: Licensing Section

Subject: Representation objecting to application 26/00171/PREMGR

**Subject: Representation – Premises Licence Application 26/00171/PREMGR
(Alresford Hall)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally object to the premises licence application (Ref: 26/00171/PREMGR) for the proposed historical re-enactment event at Alresford Hall over the May Bank Holiday weekend.

My objections relate primarily to **the prevention of public nuisance and public safety**

.I am the owner of [REDACTED], which is located on the estate.

No event of this nature has ever taken place here before, and I am very concerned that insufficient security and control measures have been put in place. The estate has many access points, and it is currently very easy to move freely across different parts of the land. In our specific case, the fence separating our property from Alresford Hall is partially down, meaning that anyone could easily wander directly into our garden.

Given the scale of the event, including alcohol, camping, and large numbers of attendees, I am extremely concerned about members of the public wandering freely without clear boundaries, supervision, or guidance. This raises both safety concerns and a significant risk of public nuisance for nearby residents.

I am also concerned about noise levels. To my knowledge, no proper testing or independent assessment has been carried out in relation to amplified music or musket and cannon fire. This is a small, rural estate with multiple residential properties, where residents have, for generations, enjoyed a peaceful, quiet, and tranquil environment. This type of event is wholly out of keeping with that setting.

Access is another serious concern. The main track serving the estate is in very poor condition, with numerous potholes, and it is the only access route for all properties. It is unclear how residents will be able to safely enter or exit their homes if there are potentially large volumes of traffic — possibly over one thousand visitors — using the same single-track road.

More broadly, I believe that events of this scale and nature are wholly inappropriate for this location. The commercialisation of the land in this way does not reflect the character of the estate or its long-standing residential use.

OBJECTOR 2

Finally, I would also like to highlight the potential impact on the natural environment. This is a biodiverse area with rich wildlife and it is concerning that no apparent consideration has been given to the effect this event may have on the local ecosystem.

For all of the above reasons, I strongly object to this application.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

OBJECTOR 2

From:

Sent: 21 March 2026 07:39

To: Licensing Section

Subject: Re: Representation objecting to application 26/00171/PREMGR

Subject: Representation – Premises Licence Application 26/00171/PREMGR

Dear Emma,

Thank you for the additional information provided in relation to the above application.

Having reviewed the document, I would like to clarify that my previous concern regarding access along the main estate track has been alleviated, as it appears that event traffic will instead be directed via the Wyvernwood entrance.

However, I wish to confirm that my objections remain, particularly in relation to **the prevention of public nuisance and public safety**.

While the information provided focuses largely on the short-duration noise associated with cannon and musket fire, it does not adequately address the **overall noise and general disturbance** that will inevitably arise from an event of this scale. The presence of large numbers of people (potentially over a thousand), combined with amplified music, alcohol, camping, and general activity, will create a level of noise and disruption that is wholly out of keeping with what is normally a quiet, rural and residential estate.

I do not accept that this can be considered minimal or sufficiently mitigated simply because the battle re-enactments themselves are time-limited.

In addition, I remain concerned about the **lack of clarity around event management and control measures**. There is no clear detail provided regarding:

- marshalling or on-the-ground supervision
- how movement across the estate will be controlled
- whether camping areas will be properly contained or ring-fenced
- what measures will be in place to prevent people from wandering freely beyond designated areas

From our own experience, since the introduction of the Wyvernwood play park, there have already been instances of individuals entering and moving through the surrounding woodland areas close to our property. Given this, it is difficult to see how a significantly larger event involving alcohol and camping would not lead to increased uncontrolled movement across the estate.

OBJECTOR 2

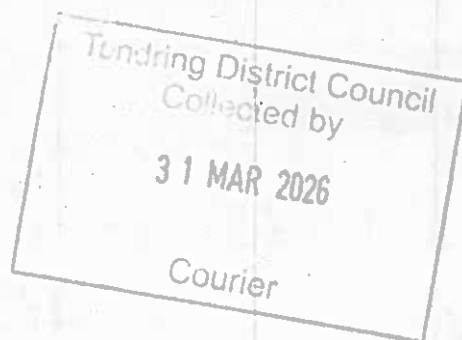
Without clear and robust management, this risks creating a situation that could easily become, in effect, an uncontained and unsupervised environment.

For these reasons, I remain concerned that the event will result in **general disturbance, loss of amenity, and potential safety issues** for residents, and I therefore maintain my objection to the application.

Yours faithfully

A black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the objector.

Tending District Council Licensing Section
Town Hall
Station Road
Clacton on Sea



Dear Sir/Madam

Recreation / Renactment of Siege of Colchester.

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed event 21st - 25th May 2026 at Alresford Hall, Ford Lane Alresford CO7 8AY.

The Renactment Event, - Performance of Play, Live Music & camping on Ford Lane Alresford is likely to cause excessive disruption & disturbance to the village, occupants, livestock and wildlife. These events are notoriously noisy with cannons being fired. Wyvern Wood advertise the event on their website: "Step back in time this Late May Bank Holiday as 1,000 reenactors, roaring cannons and thundering cavalry... spectacular full-scale battles, complete with muskets, artillery & mounted troops"

The area surrounding Wyvern Wood is full of nesting & breeding wildlife. Many people have horses in the fields within

OBJECTORY

Last November Alresford Hall held a fireworks display and this caused neighbouring houses and their owners to be ~~put~~ put at significant risk as they reacted to the very loud event.

If the proposed "Play" of the event does get approval, please consider the option of ensuring the organisers meet the financial costs of local horse owners to relocate their animals to an alternative safe venue. I would suggest the costs of transportation and livery would be in the region of £200 per horse.

Ford Lane is a very quiet lane and the plan to site a large camping event there, will put residents at risk. Many people use the lane to access the Creek, the Church and surround countryside. It is a single track road with no footpath. Wyvern Wood has alternative access from the main road which would be much safer.

Yours faithfully

OBJECTOR 4

From: PublicAccess.Comments@tendringdc.gov.uk
 <PublicAccess.Comments@tendringdc.gov.uk>
Sent: 08 April 2026 15:21
To: Licensing Section <licensingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk>
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 26/00171/PREMGR



Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 08/04/2026 3:21 PM from 

Application Summary

Address:	Ford Lane Alresford Colchester Essex CO7 8AY
Proposal:	Premises Licence Grant
Case Officer:	Kim Black

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	
Email:	clerk@alresfordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Address:	The Pavilion Fird Lane Alresford

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Parish or Town Council
Stance:	Customer objects to the Licensing Application
Reasons for comment:	- Noise Disturbance - Opening Hours - Public Nuisance - Public Safety and Public Nuisance
Comments:	08/04/2026 3:21 PM Alresford Parish Council has already objected to the holding of large-scale events at Alresford Hall due to safety issues relating to highways matters and access problems. In addition, unlike many other stately home venues where such events take place, there are private homes very close to Alresford Hall itself. Some of these properties are of an equestrian nature and the large event would be detrimental to these residents and their livestock.

OBJECTOR 4

To offer alcohol for four days seems excessive as the planned event appears to be scheduled for two days, whilst offering alcoholic beverages to participants in mock battles prior to their activities with weapons would seem questionable.

Alresford Parish Council in line with previous decisions, objects to the alcohol licence and any licensable activity that creates undue noise and disruption to nearby residential properties and residential amenity.

Kind regards

OBJECTOR 5

From:

Sent: 08 April 2026 22:05

To: Licensing Section <licensingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk>

Subject: 26/00171/PREMGR - OBJECTION

Re: 26/00171/PREMGR - Alresford Hall, Ford Lane, Alresford, Colchester, CO7 8AY

Applicant - Susie Marsden

Objection from - [REDACTED]

I am writing to make a formal objection to application 26/00171/PREMGR. My cottage is directly opposite the re enactors camp and approx 400 metres from the main event site. Even with the very small exclusion zone outlined I am judging the nearest camper to be less than 50 metres from the cottage.

The application seeks a licence between 21-25th May. The number of re enactors, confirmed by the applicant themselves is approximately 1000, in addition to those people who have purchased tickets (up to 4500 per day).

The event is over two days yet the licence period is required for 5 days. The re enactors bar and camping area are expected to be in full flow from Thursday evening. As the whole field opposite the cottage and in very close proximity to my residence is packed full of re enactors camping it is unacceptable on many levels to expect tolerance of noise, comings and goings of vehicles, alcohol consumption, music and general high spirits to be acceptable to anybody living in such close proximity. I have horses on the premises who are sensitive to noise and disruption and will inevitably be extremely distressed by the level of noise, not to mention the lights which will be on in all the tents or caravans directly opposite their stables.

Live cannon fire is absolutely not an essential requisite to this event. The re enactment could take place perfectly well without it. The noise level even over a limited period each day represents an avoidable nuisance. The applicant likens a cannon to shotgun fire. The separation distances of all residential homes fall well short of a recognised

OBJECTOR 5

noise control benchmark (Clay Target Shooting). Such a departure from a recognised society cannot be justified without independent acoustic evidence. The trees mentioned as a buffer are very sparse and could result in totally the opposite effect and actually disperse the noise over a larger area.

THE LIVE CANNON FIRE CANNOT IN ANY WAY BE JUSTIFIED - IT IS A PUBLIC NUISANCE FOR ALL SURROUNDING RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES - NOISE, GENERAL DISTURBANCE - THIS IS A QUIET RURAL SETTING WITH VERY LITTLE BACKGROUND NOISE - IN ADDITION THIS IS A BANK HOLIDAY WHEN WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO ENJOY OUR HOMES WITH MINIMAL DISTURBANCE.

THERE IS AN 89 YEAR OLD RESIDENT IN THE COTTAGE AND TO EXPECT HER TO HAVE HER QUALITY OF LIFE DISRUPTED TO SUCH AN EXTREME EXTENT IS WHOLLY UNACCEPTABLE.

The requirement for late night live music and refreshments in the tents of the re enactors is unnecessary and incompatible with the rural estate setting. There could be up to 1000 people participating in late night revelries based upon the applicants own figures. The comings and going's, music, general increased loud activity which goes with live music and alcohol so close to not just my property, but surrounding properties presents a very real public nuisance element. Music will go on until 23.00, alcohol and refreshments until 23.00 - 24.00 this is in direct conflict with recognised best practice.

The whole event represents a considerable public nuisance to all local residents. The cannon fire, outdoor battlefield re enactments, bar tents, late night amplified live music, late night food, camping all of these represent a public nuisance.

THE APPLICANT HAS PROVIDED NO INDEPENDENT ACOUSTIC OR ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT AND HAS ONLY PROVIDED THEIR OWN SELF ASSESSMENT WHICH OF COURSE WILL BE IN THEIR FAVOUR AND PROVIDE A BIASED VIEW POINT.

The whole site for this event is unsuitable and an unacceptable setting for such a large scale event. This type of event is traditionally held on large non residential estates or vast open spaces not a small limited "estate" having an immediate impact on all adjoining property owners. It cannot be compared to Burghley House, or Hartlebury Castle to name a few of the Sealed Knots other locations. There can be absolutely no comparison.

The applicant describes the re enactment as a performance of a play!!! An open air , display consisting of gun fire, live cavalry, cannons and guns can in no way be considered a play.

The applicant provides no concrete evidence of sufficient stewarding and marshalling of the activities as a whole. The plan provided is very vague with no strong operating schedules provided. Everything is just too vague and sounds like platitudes not

OBJECTOR 5

assurances. No numbers of stewards or marshals are mentioned, no ratios outlined, no boundary controls. How are the public being prevented from encroaching on to private homes? The risk of trespass, public nuisance and disorder are extremely likely given the numbers of visitors expected.

IT MUST BE A CONDITION SHOULD ANY PART OF THE LICENCE BE GRANTED THAT ABSOLUTELY NO TRAFFIC WHATSOEVER BE PERMITTED ON THE PRIVATE ESTATE TRACK OVER WHICH ALL RESIDENTS HAVE A RIGHT OF WAY AND LIVE DIRECTLY NEXT TO. THIS WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THE FULL 5 DAY DURATION AND INCLUDE RE ENACTORS, TRADERS, CONTRACTORS, SERVICE VEHICLES, ANY EVENT RELATED TRAFFIC.

A voluntary assurance is insufficient. It must be binding and enforceable.

The sale of alcohol for re enactors from 11:00 to midnight is highly irregular and unnecessary. The event involves cavalry, muskets, pikes, live cannon fire. Late night drinking by any participant is reckless and shows absolutely no caution for general health and safety. NOBODY TAKING PART IN ANY MILITARY ACTIVITY SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO CONSUME ALCOHOL AT ANY TIME BEFORE OR DURING THEIR PERFORMANCES. AT THE VERY LEAST THE CUT OFF NEEDS TO BE AT 21:00 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ESSEX ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDANCE BENCHMARK FOR WHERE A DISTURBANCE MAY ARISE.

THE APPLICATION HASN'T PROVIDED SUFFICIENT CONCRETE ASSURANCES THAT THIS EVENT CAN BE MANAGED ON A PROFESSIONAL AND SAFETY BASED BASIS. THE OVERRIDING DISRUPTION TO LOCAL RESIDENCES IS UNACCEPTABLE AND MEETS THE CRITERIA OF AT THE VERY LEAST A PUBLIC NUISANCE. THE IMPACT OF THE NOISE WILL BE OF GREAT HEALTH CONCERNS TO ALL RESIDENTS, NOT LEAST MY 89 YEAR OLD MOTHER WHO LIVES WITH ME AND IS IN VERY POOR HEALTH.

Please find attached a map showing the proximity of the re enactors camp to my property which is home to not just humans, but also dogs, cats, chickens, guinea fowl, peacocks and horses all of which will be affected. PLEASE ALSO NOTE THE LOCATION OF POWDER.....HOW IS THIS BEING SECURED AND KEPT SAFE. THE WHOLE AREA IS ACCESSIBLE FROM THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY BY ANYBODY CHOOSING TO VENTURE FROM THE LANE TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON. THIS MAP IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT AFTER A FOI REQUEST WHERE I WAS DENIED ACCESS TO A MAP, SHOULDN'T BE AVAILABLE FOR ANYBODY TO SEE, LET ALONE THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

If this is how the event organisers/applicant operate before the actual event, it doesn't bode well for them adhering to any restrictions or requirements imposed on them for

OBJECTOR 5

the duration of the event. Whilst not entirely relevant it needs to be noted the number of retrospective planning applications submitted by Susie Marsden (Wyvernwood) evidencing a lack of respect for the adherence of basic requirements. THE VERY FACT THAT SUSIE MARSDEN HAS ADVERTISED THIS EVENT (with alcohol etc), AND GONE LIVE WITH THE TICKETS IN THE ABSENCE OF OBTAINING THE REQUIRED LICENCES GOES TO REINFORCE, EITHER A LACK OF RESPECT FOR FOLLOWING AND ADHERING TO THE CORRECT CHANNELS OR THAT THE APPLICATION IS JUST A PAPER EXERCISE AND THAT SHE HAS BEEN ASSURED THAT THE APPLICATION IS JUST A FORMALITY AND THE OUTCOME IS GUARANTEED.

IT IS MY CONSIDERED OPINION BASED ON SOME IF NOT ALL THE ABOVE THAT THIS APPLICATION BE REFUSED.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted Signature]



OBJECTOR 6

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 12 April 2026 22:13

To: Licensing Section

Subject: 26/00171/PREMGR - Alresford Hall, Ford Lane, Alresford, Colchester, CO7 8AY

Application 26/00171/PREMGR - Alresford Hall, Ford Lane, Alresford, Colchester, CO7 8AY

The Applicants - Mrs Susan Marsden and Mr William Marsden

Objections to a time limited premises alcohol licence from [REDACTED]



An Application for a Time Limited premises alcohol licence

The Application seeks a time-limited premises licence from Thursday 21 May 2026 through to Monday 25 May 2026 for previously quiet Rural Estate lands at Alresford Hall.

The Applicant's own events website (www.alresfordhall.com) confirms that approximately one thousand (1,000) re-enactors will attend, in addition to an anticipated two to four thousand and a half thousand (2,000 - 4,500) members of the public admitted by ticket.

Conversely, the **Visit Colchester** website

(<https://www.visitcolchester.com/event/colchester-living-history-festival/248369101/>) confirms two thousand (2,000) re-enactors will attend:

- Feel the Thunder of Muskets & Hooves
- Step back in time this Late May Bank Holiday as **2,000 re-enactors, roaring cannons, and thundering cavalry come to Alresford Hall**, near Colchester, for the **largest English Civil War re-enactment Essex has ever seen!** [emphasis added]
- On Sunday 24th and Monday 25th May 2026, history comes vividly to life with spectacular **full-scale battles, complete with muskets, artillery, and mounted**

OBJECTOR 6

troops charging across the field in a dramatic recreation of 17th-century warfare.

[emphasis added]

- Beyond the battlefield, immerse yourself in a bustling living-history village where traders, craftspeople, and historical interpreters demonstrate period skills, including blacksmithing, weaving, cooking, music, and more. Wander the encampments, talk to soldiers, and experience life during the siege firsthand.
- Make a day of it with our food and drink festival, showcasing local produce, street food, historic ales, sweet treats, and family-friendly refreshments. With activities for all ages, demonstrations, and opportunities to learn, discover and explore, it's the perfect way to enjoy an early summer weekend.
- Whether you're a history enthusiast, a family looking for a unique day out, or simply curious to **see cannons fire and horses charge once more across Colchester's fields, this is history brought to life, louder and more thrilling** than ever. *[emphasis added]*
- A weekend of smoke, steel, and living history — don't miss it!

The **Sealed Knot's** own events website

<https://www.thesealedknot.org.uk/event/alresford-hall/> confirms, amongst other things, the following:

- Join The Sealed Knot as we explore what it was like to live, and fight during the English Civil War.
- Spend the day exploring our Living history encampment and taking part in our activities and arena displays including the grand battle finale.
- Witness the spectacle of a battlefield complete **with hundreds of infantry, artillery and cavalry troops** *[emphasis added]* as the Parliament army attempts to take this Royalist stronghold.
- Location: Alresford Hall, Nr Colchester, Essex Public entrance: **CO7 8AP**

Licensable activities sought by the Applicant includes:

- A battle re-enactment, classified by the Applicants as a "Performance of a Play", involving cavalry, muskets, pikes and live cannon with blank gunpowder firing, between 14:00 and 16:00 on both Sunday 24 May and Monday 25 May 2026.
- Live amplified music in the re-enactors' bar tent from 19:00 to 23:00 on Saturday 23 May 2026 and Sunday 24 May 2026.
- Late night refreshment in the re-enactors' area from 23:00 to midnight on Saturday and Sunday.

OBJECTOR 6

- Alcohol sales for re-enactors from Thursday 21 May 2026 (18:00 until 22:00), with extended hours through to midnight on Saturday and Sunday, and a public bar on Sunday and Monday (10:00 until 17:00).
- On-site camping for re-enactors throughout the licence period.

The Application **Site Plan submitted** by the Applicants shows a dispersed outdoor layout including the battlefield, public viewing area, public bar area, re-enactors' bar, food area and camping field.

The Applicants statement also identifies nearby residential receptors including Hall Cottage and West Cottage at approximately two hundred and twenty (220) metres from the battlefield and Lodge Cottage at approximately four hundred (400) metres/ four hundred and thirty-seven (437) yards.

The TDC Sub-Committee should note there are **four (4) further residential properties in close proximity to the proposed Sealed Knot battle re-enactment**, namely:

- **The Quarters House** - a distance of three hundred metres from the cannon firing positions and the Quarters Woods are only two hundred (200) metres from the cannon firing positions.
- **The Quarters Cottage** - a distance of three hundred (300) metres from the cannon firing positions and the Quarters Woods are only two hundred (200) metres from the cannon firing positions.
- **Wood Cottage** - a distance of three hundred and twenty (320) metres from the cannon firing positions
- **Stable Cottage** - a distance of two hundred and ninety (290) metres from the cannon firing positions and Stable Cottage Woods are only one hundred and twenty (120) metres from the cannon firing positions.

The above-named Privately-Owned Residential properties on the "Estate" are identified as being to the South and South-East of the proposed battle re-enactment activities on the Applicants Site Plan map and three (3) of these four (4) properties (Stable Cottage is currently empty and is up for sale) will most certainly be impacted by the proposed event, and should, under no circumstances, be dismissed as unaffected due to either the driveway length or the Applicants dis-acknowledgement as to privately-owned Residential property proximity.

This is a five (5) day licence period, not merely a two (2) day public event.

The re-enactors' bar and camping area will be operational from Thursday 21 May 2026 evening, meaning that activity, noise, vehicle movement and alcohol consumption will be taking place on the Estate for the duration.

The Applicant's Form states the postcode as CO7 8AY.

OBJECTOR 6

The event website (provided above) states CO7 8AP.

The TDC Sub-Committee may wish to satisfy itself the Application documents are accurate.

Our Objection to the Application

This Objection is made on the basis the Application fails to adequately promote the licensing objectives of the prevention of public nuisance, public safety, the prevention of crime and disorder, and the protection of children from harm.

The Objection is also made in that the Application fails to state that any granting of a premises licence by Tendring District Council (TDC) would establish a precedent for this type of activity at this location.

In this regard the TDC Licensing Policy 2022-2027 -

<https://legacy.tendringdc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/business/licensing%20%26%20legislation/alcohol%2C%20entertainment%20and%20late%20night%20refreshments/Licensing%20Policy%202022-2027%20%28Adopted%2022%20November%202022%29%20acc.pdf>

makes it clear that all Applicants must positively demonstrate that appropriate and proportionate measures will be implemented and maintained to promote those objectives, and that stricter conditions, including controls on hours, may be applied where premises are in residential areas and relevant representations are received.

This is not a case where the Sub-Committee is being presented with a fully evidenced, tightly managed temporary event.

It is being asked to license cannon fire, amplified music, bars, late-night refreshment and camping in a quiet rural residential location without the core independent evidence that should justify those activities.

The licensing objectives require Prevention.

1. Prevention of Public Nuisance

- Activity on the Alresford Hall Estate for a period of five (5) days from Thursday 21 May 2026, not just the two (2) public event days from 9.00 to 18:00 on Sunday 24 and Monday 25 May 2026.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents.
 - Information as to Indoors/ Outdoors Capacity has been determined by the Applicants in their Application as "Not Available".

OBJECTOR 6

- The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated the extent of the proposed venue Capacity giving rise to concerns for management against the containment of public nuisance.
- Performance of Live Music from 12:00 (noon) until 23:00 on Friday 21 May 2026 (although the Location column confusingly states "Licence time limited to 21.05.26 - 25.05.26 Re-enactors bar area only") in a tent in a quiet rural area where background noise is, to date, very low.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents.
 - Information as to Indoors/ Outdoors Capacity and Capacity has been determined by the Applicants in their Application as "Not Available".
 - The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated the extent of the proposed Capacity giving rise to concerns for management against the containment of public nuisance.
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to extend/ misrepresent the actual intended time period for Live Music.
- Late-night refreshment, bar activity and congregation until midnight.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents.
 - Information as to Alcohol Consumed has been determined by the Applicants in their Application as "Not Available".
 - Information as to Alcohol Consumed and Capacity has been determined by the Applicants in their Application as "Not Available".
 - The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated the extent of the proposed venue Capacity and Alcohol Consumed giving rise to concerns for management against the containment of public nuisance.
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to extend/ misrepresent the actual intended time period for alcohol to be consumed.
- Noise from generators, waste handling, deliveries and servicing across the event period.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents.

OBJECTOR 6

- No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated provision for Noise Management giving rise to concerns of public nuisance.
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to interfere with Estate resident rights for the enjoyment of peace and tranquility in their houses and outside spaces.
- No independent Noise Assessment or finalised Noise Management Plan has been submitted.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated provision for Noise Management giving rise to concerns of public nuisance.
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to interfere with Estate resident rights for the enjoyment of peace and tranquility in their houses and outside spaces.
- Repeated cannon fire and black-powder smoke affecting nearby homes at distances of two hundred and twenty (220) to four hundred (400) metres.
 - No enforceable controls on amplified sound, speaker orientation, bass levels or monitoring.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to interfere with Estate resident rights for the enjoyment of peace and tranquility in their houses and outside spaces free from air pollutants caused by cannon fire.

2. Public Safety

- Live cannon, muskets and black-powder weapons used in proximity to a public audience including children.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".

OBJECTOR 6

- Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations pertaining to Public Safety and welfare.
- Alcohol sold to re-enactors handling weapons and gunpowder the following day, with bar service proposed until midnight.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to Public Safety and welfare.
- No published Event Management Plan or risk assessment available for scrutiny.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations pertaining to Public Safety and welfare.
- Adequacy of crowd management, stewarding ratios and emergency access on a rural estate.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations pertaining to Public Safety and welfare.
- Residential access by car and on foot via a single-track lane at risk of obstruction and/ or conflict with pedestrians by Event Traffic.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations pertaining to Public Safety and welfare.

3. Prevention of Crime and Disorder

- Alcohol service until midnight combined with large-scale unsupervised camping.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Prevention of Crime and Disorder.

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- No clear physical containment, boundary fencing or enforceable segregation between event areas and residential properties.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Prevention of Crime and Disorder.
- Risk of trespass, antisocial behaviour or disorder near homes, particularly late at night.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Prevention of Crime and Disorder.

4. Protection of Children from Harm

While the proposed event is currently stated as a single weekend event (during the local Primary School half-term holiday), the granting of a premises licence would establish a precedent for this type of activity and others (including, amongst other things, public attendance at outdoor concerts and theatre, shows and fairs etc. - as per the Alresford Hall website) at the Hall and as such the School is a mere eight hundred (800) metres (approx. half a mile) away from Alresford Hall.

- A public event marketed to families with children involving live cannon fire, cavalry charges and weapons displays.
 - Re-enactment cannon fire produces between one hundred and fifty (150) and one hundred and seventy (170) decibels.
 - There will be hundreds of muskets each producing between one hundred and twenty (120) to one hundred and thirty (130) decibels.
 - Re-enactment cannon can often be heard from five (5) to ten (10) miles away.
 - Whilst the Sealed Knot advises that their displays feature loud noises from muskets and cannons and strongly recommend bringing ear defenders for individuals sensitive to loud noises, as well as for small children and dogs, no information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and

OBJECTOR 6

regulations as to the Protection of Children (and relevant others) from Harm.

- Adequacy of physical separation between the public viewing area and the battlefield.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Protection of Children from Harm.
- No detail on safeguarding measures, lost-child procedures or arrangements for a large outdoor site.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Protection of Children from Harm.

5. Conclusion for refusal of the Application as it currently stands

For reasons stated above, this Application from Mrs Susan Marsden and Mr William Marsden of Alresford Hall should be refused as it stands.

The Applicant has not clearly or concisely demonstrated, as UK legislation and policy requires, that licensing objectives will be positively promoted at this quiet rural residential site.

The deficiencies are not minor: they are at the heart of public nuisance, prevention of crime and disorder, safety and control.

If the Sub-Committee is minded to grant any part of the Application, the grant should be the subject of a substantial reduction and of stringent conditions, including:

1. On the basis of prevention of **Public Nuisance and noise amplification, pollution and disturbance** to elderly and other residents within immediate and wider proximity to the re-enactment area:

- the Applicants must confirm and any granted licence should state the maximum audience capacity of the re-enactors' music tent, such that the Sub-Committee can assess whether live music deregulation thresholds are engaged; absent a hard cap demonstrably below five hundred (500), full conditions on amplified music to apply.

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- a pre-event Noise Assessment and finalised Noise Management Plan to be submitted by the Applicants, approved by Environmental Health and made available to affected residents before the licence takes effect.
- including Crestland Wood into which the cannons will be fired, and all surrounding adjacent woodlands, disturbing nesting birds and other wildlife and residential properties in that direction, no cannon fire.
- blank cannon fire and discharge should be refused entirely unless supported by a specific independently assessed Acoustic Management Plan satisfactory to Environmental Health, demonstrating compliance with analogous impulsive noise best practice and including separation distances, orientation controls and monitoring.
- blank cannon fire and discharge should be refused entirely unless supported by a specific independent Impact Assessment pertaining to wildlife and nesting birds so as to ensure there will be no harm to wildlife and nesting birds in the re-enactment vicinity and in Crestland Woods and other close proximity neighbouring woods, thus demonstrating compliance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- a clear last admission time, dispersal plan, resident complaint line and named duty manager contactable throughout operating hours.
- no external bar service, amplified sound, catering service, waste handling, generator refuelling, vehicle movement other than emergency access, or use of any outdoor social area shall take place within the licensed site after 21:00.
- no deliveries, collections, refuse handling, generator start-up or other servicing operations between 21:00 and 08:00.
- any bar or external activity to close early enough to protect residents' sleep, with a genuine wind-down period of at least half an hour (30 minutes) between the end of all entertainment and the closure of bar service.

2. On the basis of Public Nuisance and the prevention of crime and disorder with respect to the effects on elderly and other residents within immediate and wider proximity to the camping areas:

- the removal of late night refreshment plan.
- no live music beyond 21:00, and no outdoor amplified music or speech at any time.
- no amplified sound anywhere on the licensed site unless governed by an independent (performed by persons not related or otherwise connected to the Applicants) acoustic assessment, calibrated noise limiter, perimeter monitoring and written log.

3. On the basis of Public Safety and the disruption and inconvenience to Estate property owning and other residents who otherwise enjoy and have rights to an uninhibited Right of Way to access residential property:

OBJECTOR 6

- all traffic routing commitments in the Applicants Consideration of Residents document to be made formal conditions of the licence, with trained marshals positioned at all junctions between event routes and residential access points throughout operating hours, clear directional signage, and physical measures to prevent any event-related traffic from using the single-vehicle-width residential access lane.

4. On the basis of **Public Safety and the disruption and inconvenience to Estate property owning and other residents** who otherwise enjoy and have rights to an uninhibited Right of Way to access residential property:

- all traffic routing commitments in the Applicants Consideration of Residents document to be made formal conditions of the licence, with trained marshals positioned at all junctions between event routes and residential access points throughout operating hours, clear directional signage, and physical measures to prevent any event-related traffic from using the single-vehicle-width residential access lane.

5. On the basis of **Public Safety and the area in which the proposed re-enactment is to take place**, a maximum cap of two thousand (2,500) people total at any one time, to include the public, re-enactors, staff, contractors and traders.

6. On the basis of the **Prevention of Crime and Disorder and trespass onto adjoining separately owned Estate lands** (a nuisance already suffered by The Quarters House and Wood Cottage occurring when the Applicants rented out the Hall to paying guests):

- a robust physical containment of the proposed Site with screened barriers, fencing and marshalled control at residential interfaces and access points.

7. On the basis of **Prevention of Crime and Disorder**:

- a written alcohol and Firearms and Gunpowder Safety Policy, including a prohibition on any person involved in weapons, cannon or gunpowder operations consuming alcohol before or during duty, and no sale of alcohol to re-enactors after 21:00 on any evening, consistent with the Essex Environmental Health guidance on the cessation of activity in outside areas.

8. On the basis of **Protection of Children from Harm**:

- as a minimum, there should be published safeguarding measures for harm to children arising from, amongst other things, decibel levels and impact upon hearing, lost-child procedures and adequate arrangements for the supervision, well-being and safety of children for a large outdoor site.

OBJECTOR 6

On the basis of the information provided by the Applicants the correct decision in the below-named Objectors opinion is refusal of the Application.



11 April 2026



OBJECTOR 7

From:

Sent: 27 April 2026 22:33

To: Licensing Section <licensingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk>

Cc: Licensing Section <licensingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Application 26/00171/PREMGR - ALRESFORD HALL, CO7 8AY

Application 26/00171/PREMGR - Alresford Hall, Ford Lane, Alresford, Colchester, CO7 8AY

The Applicants - Mrs Susan Marsden and Mr William Marsden

Objections to a time limited premises alcohol licence from xxxxxxxxxxxx and an addendum to objection already lodged by xxxxxxxxxxxx



An Application for a Time Limited premises alcohol licence

The Application seeks a time-limited premises licence from Thursday 21 May 2026 through to Monday 25 May 2026 for previously quiet Rural Estate lands at Alresford Hall.

The Applicant's own events website (www.alresfordhall.com) confirms that approximately one thousand (1,000) re-enactors will attend, in addition to an anticipated two to four thousand and a half thousand (2,000 - 4,500) members of the public admitted by ticket.

Conversely, the **Visit Colchester** website

(<https://www.visitcolchester.com/event/colchester-living-history-festival/248369101/>)

confirms two thousand (2,000) re-enactors will attend:

- Feel the Thunder of Muskets & Hooves
- Step back in time this Late May Bank Holiday as **2,000 re-enactors, roaring cannons, and thundering cavalry come to Alresford Hall**, near Colchester, for the **largest English Civil War re-enactment Essex has ever seen!** [emphasis added]

OBJECTOR 7

- On Sunday 24th and Monday 25th May 2026, history comes vividly to life with spectacular **full-scale battles, complete with muskets, artillery, and mounted troops charging across the field** in a dramatic recreation of 17th-century warfare. *[emphasis added]*
- Beyond the battlefield, immerse yourself in a bustling living-history village where traders, craftspeople, and historical interpreters demonstrate period skills, including blacksmithing, weaving, cooking, music, and more. Wander the encampments, talk to soldiers, and experience life during the siege firsthand.
- Make a day of it with our food and drink festival, showcasing local produce, street food, historic ales, sweet treats, and family-friendly refreshments. With activities for all ages, demonstrations, and opportunities to learn, discover and explore, it's the perfect way to enjoy an early summer weekend.
- Whether you're a history enthusiast, a family looking for a unique day out, or simply curious to **see cannons fire and horses charge once more across Colchester's fields, this is history brought to life, louder and more thrilling** than ever. *[emphasis added]*
- A weekend of smoke, steel, and living history — don't miss it!

The **Sealed Knot's** own events website

<https://www.thesealedknot.org.uk/event/alresford-hall/> confirms, amongst other things, the following:

- Join The Sealed Knot as we explore what it was like to live, and fight during the English Civil War.
- Spend the day exploring our Living history encampment and taking part in our activities and arena displays including the grand battle finale.
- Witness the spectacle of a battlefield complete **with hundreds of infantry, artillery and cavalry troops** *[emphasis added]* as the Parliament army attempts to take this Royalist stronghold.
- Location: Alresford Hall, Nr Colchester, Essex Public entrance: **CO7 8AP**

Licensable activities sought by the Applicant includes:

- A battle re-enactment, classified by the Applicants as a "Performance of a Play", involving cavalry, muskets, pikes and live cannon with blank gunpowder firing, between 14:00 and 16:00 on both Sunday 24 May and Monday 25 May 2026.
- Live amplified music in the re-enactors' bar tent from 19:00 to 23:00 on Saturday 23 May 2026 and Sunday 24 May 2026.
- Late night refreshment in the re-enactors' area from 23:00 to midnight on Saturday and Sunday.

OBJECTOR 7

- Alcohol sales for re-enactors from Thursday 21 May 2026 (18:00 until 22:00), with extended hours through to midnight on Saturday and Sunday, and a public bar on Sunday and Monday (10:00 until 17:00).

- On-site camping for re-enactors throughout the licence period.

The Application **Site Plan submitted** by the Applicants shows a dispersed outdoor layout including the battlefield, public viewing area, public bar area, re-enactors' bar, food area and camping field.

The Applicants statement also identifies nearby residential receptors including Hall Cottage and West Cottage at approximately two hundred and twenty (220) metres from the battlefield and Lodge Cottage at approximately four hundred (400) metres/ four hundred and thirty-seven (437) yards.

The TDC Sub-Committee should note there are **four (4) further residential properties in close proximity to the proposed Sealed Knot battle re-enactment**, namely:

- **The Quarters House** - a distance of three hundred metres from the cannon firing positions and the Quarters Woods are only two hundred (200) metres from the cannon firing positions.

- **The Quarters Cottage** - a distance of three hundred (300) metres from the cannon firing positions and the Quarters Woods are only two hundred (200) metres from the cannon firing positions.

- **Wood Cottage** - a distance of three hundred and twenty (320) metres from the cannon firing positions

- **Stable Cottage** - a distance of two hundred and ninety (290) metres from the cannon firing positions and Stable Cottage Woods are only one hundred and twenty (120) metres from the cannon firing positions.

The above-named Privately-Owned Residential properties on the "Estate" are identified as being to the South and South-East of the proposed battle re-enactment activities on the Applicants Site Plan map and three (3) of these four (4) properties (Stable Cottage is currently empty and is up for sale) will most certainly be impacted by the proposed event, and should, under no circumstances, be dismissed as unaffected due to either the driveway length or the Applicants dis-acknowledgement as to privately-owned Residential property proximity.

OBJECTOR 7

This is a five (5) day licence period, not merely a two (2) day public event.

The re-enactors' bar and camping area will be operational from Thursday 21 May 2026 evening, meaning that activity, noise, vehicle movement and alcohol consumption will be taking place on the Estate for the duration.

The Applicant's Form states the postcode as CO7 8AY.

The event website (provided above) states CO7 8AP.

The TDC Sub-Committee may wish to satisfy itself the Application documents are accurate.

Our Objection to the Application

This Objection is made on the basis the Application fails to adequately promote the licensing objectives of the prevention of public nuisance, public safety, the prevention of crime and disorder, and the protection of children from harm.

The Objection is also made in that the Application fails to state that any granting of a premises licence by Tendring District Council (TDC) would establish a precedent for this type of activity at this location.

In this regard the TDC Licensing Policy 2022-2027 -

[https://legacy.tendringdc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/business/licensing%20%26%20legislation/alcohol%2C%20entertainment%20and%20late%20night%20refreshments/Licensing%20Policy%202022-](https://legacy.tendringdc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/business/licensing%20%26%20legislation/alcohol%2C%20entertainment%20and%20late%20night%20refreshments/Licensing%20Policy%202022-2027%20%28Adopted%2022%20November%202022%29%20acc.pdf)

[2027%20%28Adopted%2022%20November%202022%29%20acc.pdf](https://legacy.tendringdc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/business/licensing%20%26%20legislation/alcohol%2C%20entertainment%20and%20late%20night%20refreshments/Licensing%20Policy%202022-2027%20%28Adopted%2022%20November%202022%29%20acc.pdf)

makes it clear that all Applicants must positively demonstrate that appropriate and proportionate measures will be implemented and maintained to promote those objectives, and that stricter conditions, including controls on hours, may be applied where premises are in residential areas and relevant representations are received.

This is not a case where the Sub-Committee is being presented with a fully evidenced, tightly managed temporary event.

It is being asked to license cannon fire, amplified music, bars, late-night refreshment and camping in a quiet rural residential location without the core independent evidence that should justify those activities.

OBJECTOR 7

The licensing objectives require Prevention.

1. Prevention of Public Nuisance

- Activity on the Alresford Hall Estate for a period of five (5) days from Thursday 21 May 2026, not just the two (2) public event days from 9:00 to 18:00 on Sunday 24 and Monday 25 May 2026.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents.
 - Information as to Indoors/ Outdoors Capacity has been determined by the Applicants in their Application as "Not Available".
 - The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated the extent of the proposed venue Capacity giving rise to concerns for management against the containment of public nuisance.
- Performance of Live Music from 12:00 (noon) until 23:00 on Friday 21 May 2026 (although the Location column confusingly states "Licence time limited to 21.05.26 - 25.05.26 Re-enactors bar area only") in a tent in a quiet rural area where background noise is, to date, very low.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents, and in the field directly opposite our residential property which has an elderly vulnerable resident.
 - Information as to Indoors/ Outdoors Capacity and Capacity has been determined by the Applicants in their Application as "Not Available".
 - The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated the extent of the proposed Capacity giving rise to concerns for management against the containment of public nuisance.
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to extend/ misrepresent the actual intended time period for Live Music.
- Late-night refreshment, bar activity and congregation until midnight.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents, and in the field directly opposite our residential property which has an elderly vulnerable resident .
 - Information as to Alcohol Consumed has been determined by the Applicants in their Application as "Not Available".

OBJECTOR 7

- Information as to Alcohol Consumed and Capacity has been determined by the Applicants in their Application as "Not Available".
 - The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated the extent of the proposed venue Capacity and Alcohol Consumed giving rise to concerns for management against the containment of public nuisance.
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to extend/ misrepresent the actual intended time period for alcohol to be consumed.
- Noise from generators, waste handling, deliveries and servicing across the event period.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents and in the field directly opposite our residential property which has an elderly vulnerable resident.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated provision for Noise Management giving rise to concerns of public nuisance.
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to interfere with Estate resident rights for the enjoyment of peace and tranquility in their houses and outside spaces.
- No independent Noise Assessment or finalised Noise Management Plan has been submitted.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - The Applicants have not satisfactorily demonstrated provision for Noise Management giving rise to concerns of public nuisance.
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to interfere with Estate resident rights for the enjoyment of peace and tranquility in their houses and outside spaces.
- Repeated cannon fire and black-powder smoke affecting nearby homes at distances of two hundred and twenty (220) to four hundred (400) metres.
 - No enforceable controls on amplified sound, speaker orientation, bass levels or monitoring.
 - Noise amplification and light and other pollution/ disturbance to the wider Alresford Hall private property owning Estate residents.

OBJECTOR 7

- No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".

- Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to interfere with Estate resident rights for the enjoyment of peace and tranquility in their houses and outside spaces free from air pollutants caused by cannon fire.

2. Public Safety

- Live cannon, muskets and black-powder weapons used in proximity to a public audience including children.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations pertaining to Public Safety and welfare.
- Alcohol sold to re-enactors handling weapons and gunpowder the following day, with bar service proposed until midnight.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to Public Safety and welfare.
- No published Event Management Plan or risk assessment available for scrutiny.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations pertaining to Public Safety and welfare.
- Adequacy of crowd management, stewarding ratios and emergency access on a rural estate.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations pertaining to Public Safety and welfare.
- Residential access by car and on foot via a single-track lane at risk of obstruction and/ or conflict with pedestrians by Event Traffic.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".

OBJECTOR 7

- Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations pertaining to Public Safety and welfare.

3. Prevention of Crime and Disorder

- Alcohol service until midnight combined with large-scale unsupervised camping in the field directly to our residential property.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Prevention of Crime and Disorder.
- No clear physical containment, boundary fencing or enforceable segregation between event areas and residential properties.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Prevention of Crime and Disorder.
- Risk of trespass, antisocial behaviour or disorder near homes, particularly late at night.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Prevention of Crime and Disorder.

4. Protection of Children from Harm

While the proposed event is currently stated as a single weekend event (during the local Primary School half-term holiday), the granting of a premises licence would establish a precedent for this type of activity and others (including, amongst other things, public attendance at outdoor concerts and theatre, shows and fairs etc. - as per the Alresford Hall website) at the Hall and as such the School is a mere eight hundred (800) metres (approx. half a mile) away from Alresford Hall. PLEASE SEE THE DETAILS ON THE BRENTWOOD MAC WEBSITE FOR 12th SEPTEMBER 2026 ALREADY ADVERTISING A LICENSED BAR AT ALRESFORD HALL (WALLED GARDENS) - GATES AND LICENSED BAR OPEN AT 6.15pm. Whilst the September event is outside school hours it shows that a precedent is presumed by the applicants and that further licenses are assumed to be a foregone conclusion.

OBJECTOR 7

- A public event marketed to families with children involving live cannon fire, cavalry charges and weapons displays.
 - Re-enactment cannon fire produces between one hundred and fifty (150) and one hundred and seventy (170) decibels.
 - There will be hundreds of muskets each producing between one hundred and twenty (120) to one hundred and thirty (130) decibels.
 - Re-enactment cannon can often be heard from five (5) to ten (10) miles away.
 - Whilst the Sealed Knot advises that their displays feature loud noises from muskets and cannons and strongly recommend bringing ear defenders for individuals sensitive to loud noises, as well as for small children and dogs, no information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Protection of Children (and relevant others) from Harm.
- Adequacy of physical separation between the public viewing area and the battlefield.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Protection of Children from Harm.
- No detail on safeguarding measures, lost-child procedures or arrangements for a large outdoor site.
 - No information has been provided by the Applicants in their Application in this regard and therefore is deemed "Not Available".
 - Under no circumstances should any Application ambiguity be allowed to circumvent the laws and regulations as to the Protection of Children from Harm.

5. Conclusion for refusal of the Application as it currently stands

For reasons stated above, this Application from Mrs Susan Marsden and Mr William Marsden of Alresford Hall should be refused as it stands.

The Applicant has not clearly or concisely demonstrated, as UK legislation and policy requires, that licensing objectives will be positively promoted at this quiet rural residential site.

OBJECTOR 7

The deficiencies are not minor: they are at the heart of public nuisance, prevention of crime and disorder, safety and control.

If the Sub-Committee is minded to grant any part of the Application, the grant should be the subject of a substantial reduction and of stringent conditions, including:

1. On the basis of prevention of **Public Nuisance and noise amplification, pollution and disturbance** to elderly and other residents within immediate and wider proximity to the re-enactment area:

- the Applicants must confirm and any granted licence should state the maximum audience capacity of the re-enactors' music tent, such that the Sub-Committee can assess whether live music deregulation thresholds are engaged; absent a hard cap demonstrably below five hundred (500), full conditions on amplified music to apply.
- a pre-event Noise Assessment and finalised Noise Management Plan to be submitted by the Applicants, approved by Environmental Health and made available to affected residents before the licence takes effect.
- including Crestland Wood into which the cannons will be fired, and all surrounding adjacent woodlands, disturbing nesting birds and other wildlife and residential properties in that direction, no cannon fire.
- blank cannon fire and discharge should be refused entirely unless supported by a specific independently assessed Acoustic Management Plan satisfactory to Environmental Health, demonstrating compliance with analogous impulsive noise best practice and including separation distances, orientation controls and monitoring.
- blank cannon fire and discharge should be refused entirely unless supported by a specific independent Impact Assessment pertaining to wildlife and nesting birds so as to ensure there will be no harm to wildlife and nesting birds in the re-enactment vicinity and in Crestland Woods and other close proximity neighbouring woods, thus demonstrating compliance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- a clear last admission time, dispersal plan, resident complaint line and named duty manager contactable throughout operating hours.
- no external bar service, amplified sound, catering service, waste handling, generator refuelling, vehicle movement other than emergency access, or use of any outdoor social area shall take place within the licensed site after 21:00.

OBJECTOR 7

- no deliveries, collections, refuse handling, generator start-up or other servicing operations between 21:00 and 08:00.

- any bar or external activity to close early enough to protect residents' sleep, with a genuine wind-down period of at least half an hour (30 minutes) between the end of all entertainment and the closure of bar service.

2. On the basis of **Public Nuisance and the prevention of crime and disorder with respect to the effects on elderly and other residents within immediate and wider proximity to the camping areas:**

- the removal of late night refreshment plan.
- no live music beyond 21:00, and no outdoor amplified music or speech at any time.
- no amplified sound anywhere on the licensed site unless governed by an independent (performed by persons not related or otherwise connected to the Applicants) acoustic assessment, calibrated noise limiter, perimeter monitoring and written log.

3. On the basis of **Public Safety and the disruption and inconvenience to Estate property owning and other residents** who otherwise enjoy and have rights to an uninhibited Right of Way to access residential property:

- all traffic routing commitments in the Applicants Consideration of Residents document to be made formal conditions of the licence, with trained marshals positioned at all junctions between event routes and residential access points throughout operating hours, clear directional signage, and physical measures to prevent any event-related traffic from using the single-vehicle-width residential access lane.

4. On the basis of **Public Safety and the disruption and inconvenience to Estate property owning and other residents** who otherwise enjoy and have rights to an uninhibited Right of Way to access residential property:

- all traffic routing commitments in the Applicants Consideration of Residents document to be made formal conditions of the licence, with trained marshals positioned at all junctions between event routes and residential access points throughout operating hours, clear directional signage, and physical measures to prevent any event-related traffic from using the single-vehicle-width residential access lane.

OBJECTOR 7

5. On the basis of **Public Safety and the area in which the proposed re-enactment is to take place**, a maximum cap of two thousand (2,500) people total at any one time, to include the public, re-enactors, staff, contractors and traders.

6. On the basis of the **Prevention of Crime and Disorder and trespass onto adjoining separately owned Estate Owners**.

- a robust physical containment of the proposed Site with screened barriers, fencing and marshalled control at residential interfaces and access points.

7. On the basis of **Prevention of Crime and Disorder**:

- a written alcohol and Firearms and Gunpowder Safety Policy, including a prohibition on any person involved in weapons, cannon or gunpowder operations consuming alcohol before or during duty, and no sale of alcohol to re-enactors after 21:00 on any evening, consistent with the Essex Environmental Health guidance on the cessation of activity in outside areas.

8. On the basis of **Protection of Children from Harm**:

- as a minimum, there should be published safeguarding measures for harm to children arising from, amongst other things, decibel levels and impact upon hearing, lost-child procedures and adequate arrangements for the supervision, well-being and safety of children for a large outdoor site.

On the basis of the information provided by the Applicants the correct decision in the below-named Objectors opinion is refusal of the Application.

xxxxxxxxxxxx and addendum to objection already lodged by xxxxxxxxxxxx



A.2 - APPENDIX B