

## APPENDIX 5

Brian Whittal

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**From:** Wathes, Claire <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 11 April 2021 20:22  
**To:** Licensing Wycombe  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] comment on application Reference 21/00443/LAPREN  
**Attachments:** Wycombe DC planning\_April2021.pdf

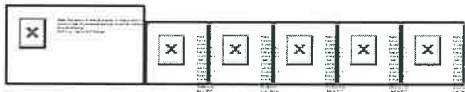
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Dear Mr Wittal,

Please find attached a letter containing my objections to a premises licence application at Henley Showground.  
Yours sincerely,

Claire Wathes

Mrs DC Wathes



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Mr Brian Wittal,  
Licensing Officer,  
Wycombe District Council,  
Queen Victoria Road,  
High Wycombe,  
Bucks,  
HP11 1BB

11 April 2021

**Re: Premises Licence Application Reference 21/00443/LAPREN**

Dear Mr Wittal,

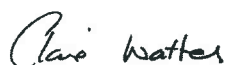
I am contacting you to raise concerns over the application by Starlit Concerts Live to hold outdoor performances on Henley Showground on three consecutive days (Friday to Sunday) from 12 noon until 23.00h on an unspecified date. I have just spent some time trying unsuccessfully to find more information on the Wycombe Council website, so I am uncertain if this is related to the five consecutive days of events currently being advertised at the same location for 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May (<https://thealfrescotheatre.seetickets.com/tour/the-alfresco-theatre-drive-in-henley-marlow/list/1/100>). It may therefore be additional to it. However both sets of planned activities sound similar, involving film, live music, recorded music and alcohol sales.

As you will see from my address, I live in a private property which is immediately adjacent to, and indeed sticks out into, the Henley show ground. While some of the events held there have previously passed relatively peacefully, I have in the past suffered severe disturbance by both Tough Mudder 2018 and 2019 and the Drive and Dine theatre held on 14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> July 2020. In both cases the events generated a totally unacceptable level of noise which could be clearly heard in my house with all the doors and windows shut. Tough Mudder set up their sound system within about 100 m of my garden boundary and broadcast continuously from 7.45 am until 18.50 on the Saturday, and again on Sunday until about 16.00. The Drive and Dine event involved a large number of cars parking in the field in front of the stage. The sound of the films and comedy acts was broadcast to their car radios, but the people attending were actively encouraged to honk their horns to signify laughter or appreciation. There were therefore several hundred car horns sounding off in close proximity to my property for several days, again an extremely unpleasant and intrusive noise. As the same organisers appear to be involved, I am expecting something similar again.

Past history therefore suggests that whatever is being planned for this summer will again make my life very unpleasant due to the noise pollution. The prolonged duration of the events over 3-5 days makes it unrealistic for me to go out to avoid it. As many thousands of people are also expected to go past my property, I also have security concerns to leaving the house unattended.

I think this is an unreasonable situation to expose me to. According to the Council website "Noise can be considered a statutory nuisance if it has a bad effect on you or your enjoyment of your home. The noise would also have to be persistent and regular.." The planned events will clearly fall into this category and I look forward to receiving your comments.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs DC Wathes

## Brian Whittal

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**From:** Wathes, Claire <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 27 April 2021 12:20  
**To:** Brian Whittal  
**Cc:** Helen Ashworth; David Ashworth  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Star light Concerts -Henley Show Ground RG9 3AS  
**Attachments:** Wycombe DC planning\_27April2021.pdf

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Dear Mr Whittal,

Further to the various emails etc, I do now have a better understanding of what is being planned for the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> of August. I have therefore updated my original letter for consideration by the Council.

Thank you for your continued assistance.

Kind regards

Claire Wathes

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**From:** David Ashworth <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 22 April 2021 11:07  
**To:** Wathes, Claire <[REDACTED]> Brian Whittal <Brian.Whittall@buckinghamshire.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Helen Ashworth <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Star light Concerts -Henley Show Ground RG9 3AS

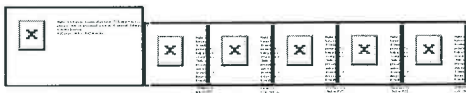
Thank you Claire for you comprehensive response. I apologise for not being able to discuss this with you but I am a bit snowed under at the moment.

Brian can I take this opportunity to introduce myself. Helen and I are neighbours of Claire's and support the concerns that she has raised in previous correspondence to you. We are concerned about the detrimental effect to the natural enjoyment of our properties due to the escalation of events on the Show Ground in relation to nuisance and noise pollution. Therefore, as Claire has eloquently expressed to you, we also support her concerns and wish to have ours listed alongside hers.

Many Thanks.

**David Ashworth MRICS, MRTPI**  
Associate Director (Development)  
Partnerships West London and Thames Valley  
Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd  
Aurora House, 71 – 75 Uxbridge Road, Ealing London W5 5SL.

M: 07554 115725 [www.countrysideproperties.com](http://www.countrysideproperties.com)



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Mr Brian Whittal,  
Licensing Officer,  
Wycombe District Council,  
Queen Victoria Road,  
High Wycombe,  
Bucks,  
HP11 1BB

27 April 2021

**Re: Premises Licence Application Reference 21/00443/LAPREN**

Dear Mr Whittal,

I am writing again to replace the original letter which I sent to you on 11 April 2021. This was written in response to the Notice of Application for a Premises Licence posted at the entry to Henley Showground and I had also looked at the relevant entry on the Buckinghamshire Council Website. At that time, however, neither provided any information as to actual event referred to. I am now aware that this is the Legends music festival <https://www.legendfestival.co.uk/henley-on-thames/>, due to take place over the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> August 2021. According to the licence application, this is to allow sale of alcohol and the provision of film, dance, live and recorded music between the hours of 12.00 to 23.00 each day with an attendance of up to 9,999 persons per day.

As you will see from my address, I live in a private property which is immediately adjacent to, and indeed sticks out into, the Henley show ground. I have in the past suffered severe disturbance by both Tough Mudder 2018 and 2019 and the Drive and Dine theatre held on 14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> July 2020. These previous events generated a totally unacceptable level of noise which could be clearly heard for hours at a time inside my house with all the doors and windows shut. I have also had people attending Tough Mudder trespassing into my garden to use it as a toilet and changing area. You will understand, therefore, that I am concerned at yet another event being planned for this summer which is likely to cause disturbance. According to the Buckinghamshire Council website "Noise can be considered a statutory nuisance if it has a bad effect on you or your enjoyment of your home. The noise would also have to be persistent and regular.." The planned event will clearly fall into this category. As many thousands of people are expected to go past my property, I also have security concerns at avoiding listening to the event by leaving the house unattended.

My previous letter has led Mr Conrad, Managing Director of Starlight Concerts, to contact me directly to try and allay my concerns. Regarding security, I appreciate his offer to ensure that the SIA security guards provided will include my property on their control round and that I will be provided with a site phone number in case any issues do arise.

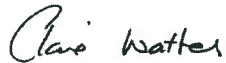
The sound, however, remains a concern. The Council have the authority to set both noise levels and time limits, and to ensure that these are monitored and adhered to. Mr Conrad has suggested that the noise level at my property should be allowed to reach 75db rather than the limit of 65db recommended by the World Health Organisation. I understand that, as sound levels are measured on a logarithmic scale, an increase of 10 dB equates to a 10x increase in the sound energy generated. Although this may not be perceived as 10x louder by the human ear, 75 db is variously described as equivalent to city traffic or a vacuum cleaner in the room. I think that most people would agree that having this level of noise ongoing for 11h per day on two consecutive days in what is otherwise a peaceful location would constitute a disturbance.

Another concern which I have raised with Mr Conrad was the absence of any information associated with the licence application on the Council website relating to COVID. He has informed me that he does indeed

have a COVID management plan, but that this is not publically available. There is also nothing relating to this that I could see mentioned on the event booking website. As the disease will certainly still be in circulation over the summer, I trust that this plan will be adequately scrutinised by the Safety Advisory Group and various other public bodies.

In summary, this event is likely to be added to the calendar of others planned for the summer of 2021 on Henley Showground, contributing to the steady increase in the number of days per year when I am unable to enjoy being in my house and garden. I hope that the Council will therefore review the conditions carefully in an attempt to reduce the amount of disturbance caused below that which is considered a statutory nuisance.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs DC Wathes

## Brian Whittal

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**From:** Wathes, Claire <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 21 April 2021 13:13  
**To:** Nick Conrad  
**Cc:** Helen Ashworth; David Ashworth; Brian Whittal  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Star light Concerts -Henley Show Ground RG9 3AS

Dear Mr Conrad,

I appreciate your offer to talk things through, but have decided that I would prefer to do this via Mr Whittal at a formal hearing. When I wrote my original letter of concern I only had the information provided on the licence application as posted at the site entrance and what was then available on the Council website, neither of which gave any detail as to the actual event planned or its date. This was why my letter referred to previous events held on Henley Showground which I have experienced. Now that I do know, this has increased my fears that there will be significant disturbance at my property over the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> August. The points you mention in your email below are clearly critical to how far this can be alleviated. However detail is still missing.

1. In your document Reference 21/00443/LAPREN Conditions offered it is stated that steps will be taken to ensure that there will be "reduction in noise level to a reasonable level" but it does not say what is considered reasonable in both my garden and indoors in the house. This needs to be properly defined and supported by calculations of what the anticipated sound levels are likely to be.
2. Regarding security, I have concerns based on previous experience of events at Henley Showground of people trespassing into my garden, as it is close to the route usually used from the car parking area to the event entrance. It has been used as both a toilet (to avoid queuing for the toilets on the site) and a changing area, with soiled clothing left in my garage. The car park is not shown on the site plan, and is more usually in the field to the east of Dairy Lane rather than in the main events field. I am therefore unclear as to the expected flow of people and the extent to which I will be protected by your proposed fencing. It would give me some reassurance to have a phone number available to enable me to contact your security people directly if trespass does occur.
3. Another issue I have now identified is that your document so far fails to mention anything in the section on public safety regarding COVID. It seems extremely unlikely that the risks of infection will be over by August, so I would have expected there to be some plan in place to indicate how such risks will be dealt with, given that you are hoping to have up to 10,000 people in a restricted space. Even though this will be based outdoors there are still going to be undercover areas associated with the toilets and bars.

I remain hopeful that answers to these questions will be built in to the planning. This cannot remove the expected disturbance but could at least reduce its impact somewhat.

Yours sincerely,  
Claire Wathes

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**From:** Nick Conrad <nick@starlightconcerts.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 20 April 2021 10:18  
**To:** David Ashworth <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Wathes, Claire <[REDACTED]> Helen Ashworth <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Star light Concerts -Henley Show Ground RG9 3AS

Hi David,

Thanks for your email and reaching out - it's really appreciated. I have called you and left a quick message.

I do appreciate your very legitimate concerns and we are keen to do whatever we can to mitigate the impact for local residents. I have included the response, below, I sent to Claire for your reference.

May I suggest we arrange a call, with Claire invited to, so I can talk through our plans and proposals? I'm on hand to answer any questions and I am very keen to listen to your previous experiences and concerns. That way, as we move forward, I can keep those issues at the centre of our planning.

With all good wishes,  
Nick Conrad  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

[www.starlightconcerts.co.uk](http://www.starlightconcerts.co.uk)  
[www.legendsfestival.co.uk](http://www.legendsfestival.co.uk) / [www.80vs90festival.co.uk](http://www.80vs90festival.co.uk)  
[nick@starlightconcerts.co.uk](mailto:nick@starlightconcerts.co.uk)

\*\* My email to Claire:

Dear Claire,

I am emailing to introduce myself. I am the Managing Director of Starlight Concerts. We are proposing the concert licence for the Henley Showground. I was given your email address by the Estate. I hope you do not mind me contacting you directly.

I read your objection to our Premises License Application with interest and sympathy. I wondered if you might be happy to have a quick conversation so I can better understand the problems you experienced in the past at this venue. It is really important for us to work closely with local residents and listen to any concerns.

I was hoping to listen to your views and experiences and then build some concrete conditions into our proposed licence. I hope this would go some way to appeasing your fears. Our licence application is for one single weekend's activity on the site. We aren't attached in any way to the other events you referenced in your objection, or the May event you cited.

We always take on board valuable feedback and I genuinely respect your concerns.

**In brief, I have proposed the following in the application:**

- Limited noise emission agreed with the Council's Environmental Health team ensuring that the volume is lower at your property.
- The mandated use of an intelligent amplification system, ensuring sound is pinpointed and lowered.
- SIA security across the whole site, maintaining security
- The use of Heras fencing around the arena, so our customers are restricted from wandering across the site.

In my experience, if we work together to mitigate the issues, we will achieve a licence which respects all parties. Initially, I would be really keen to hear your concerns and see if I can answer any questions.

We are a family event and often when people understand a little more about our operation, it appeases their concerns. I'd be very happy to offer you tickets as my guest for this summer (if we are successful in obtaining the licence) Here are further details of the proposed concert:

<https://www.legendsfestival.co.uk/henley-on-thames/>

Finally, it goes without saying we hugely respect your right to object. My email only serves to introduce myself and to see if I can better understand the issues raised, ensuring I keep them in mind when planning this concert.

With all good wishes,

Nick Conrad

On 20 Apr 2021, at 09:51, David Ashworth <[REDACTED]> wrote:



## Brian Whittall

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**From:** Mark Turner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 27 April 2021 16:33  
**To:** Brian Whittall  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] 21/00443/LAPREN Legends Festival

Dear Mr Whittall

Thanks for your reply.

Yes, we are formally objecting to this licence.

Best wishes

Mark Turner  
Fawley Parish Meeting

On 27 Apr 2021, at 08:32, Brian Whittall <[Brian.Whittall@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:Brian.Whittall@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)> wrote:

Mr Turner,

Thank you for your email.

May I just ask for clarification. Are the Parish council formally objecting to this application for a premises licence? If so, then I can validate your comments below as such.

Please advise.

Regards,

Brian Whittall

Licensing Officer

Communities Directorate

Buckinghamshire Council

Tel: 01494 421346

Email: [Brian.Whittall@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:Brian.Whittall@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

Address: Queen Victoria Road, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP11 1BB

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**From:** Mark Turner [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 23 April 2021 10:52

**To:** Licensing Wycombe <[licensing.wyc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:licensing.wyc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 21/00443/LAPREN Legends Festival

Dear Sir/Madam

Your ref: 21/00443/LAPREN Legends Festival

Our committee is very concerned that the 'Legends Festival' to be held on 7th -8th August 2021 at Henley Showground will create an unacceptable level of noise and nuisance in Fawley Village. Fawley Court Farm, within our parish, has 7 homes and is just a short distance away from the showground. A previous event, the open air cinema a year ago, during which people sitting in their cars were encouraged to hoot their horns, created a cacophony of unwelcome noise. There is also concern regarding the number of people going to the event causing congestion, and pollution on the A4155 Henley Road. Fawley Court Farm properties are adjacent to the Henley Road and suffer the fumes and noise of stationery traffic at such events.

It is also noted that the stage is directed up towards Fawley village. The noise will carry directly to Fawley. You may be aware of socially unwelcome noisy events previously held in Fawley by a landowner in the village which has required Stuart Goodbun to assess the levels

as it has ruined the peaceful amenity of residents. Music events now seem to be 'de rigueur' as we come out of lockdown and not enough is being thought about in terms of protecting residents from noise pollution.

The average noise level in Fawley village from after 7pm is usually below 30 dB LA90,T. and generally tranquil sounds of the countryside other than the odd car at 12 noon when the festival begins. Please can you confirm what will be done to mitigate and reduce to a minimum the potential adverse impacts resulting from noise which gives rise to significant adverse impacts on amenity enjoyment, health and quality of life, especially for our many elderly residents. Many residents would normally be enjoying the sound of birdsong and the peace and tranquility of their gardens during this August weekend which will be blighted. If the council feel this **has** to be permitted, then please can some action be taken to attenuate the noise impact, for instance, the stage be rotated to face out over the river and also test sound levels to ensure the sound does not impact Fawley. It seems to be 'fait accompli' however, as I see that tickets are already on sale.

Yours faithfully

Mark Turner

Chair

Fawley Parish Meeting

M: [REDACTED]



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**From:** Mark Turner <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 April 2021 10:52  
**To:** Licensing Wycombe  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 21/00443/LAPREN Legends Festival

Dear Sir/Madam

Your ref: 21/00443/LAPREN Legends Festival

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It is also noted that the stage is directed up towards Fawley village. The noise will carry directly to Fawley. You may be aware of socially unwelcome noisy events previously held in Fawley by a landowner in the village which has required Stuart Goodbun to assess the levels as it has ruined the peaceful amenity of residents. Music events now seem to be 'de rigueur' as we come out of lockdown and not enough is being thought about in terms of protecting residents from noise pollution.

The average noise level in Fawley village from after 7pm is usually below 30 dB LA90,T. and generally tranquil sounds of the countryside other than the odd car at 12 noon when the festival begins. Please can you confirm what will be done to mitigate and reduce to a minimum the potential adverse impacts resulting from noise which gives rise to significant adverse impacts on amenity enjoyment, health and quality of life, especially for our many elderly residents. Many residents would normally be enjoying the sound of birdsong and the peace and tranquility of their gardens during this August weekend which will be blighted.

If the council feel this **has** to be permitted, then please can some action be taken to attenuate the noise impact, for instance, the stage be rotated to face out over the river and also test sound levels to ensure the sound does not impact Fawley. It seems to be 'fait accompli' however, as I see that tickets are already on sale.

Yours faithfully

Mark Turner  
Chair  
Fawley Parish Meeting

M: [REDACTED]

**Brian Whittal**

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**From:** caroline ingram [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 27 April 2021 12:09  
**To:** Licensing Wycombe  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 21/00442/LAPREN LEGENDS FESTIVAL

This it to object to the likely noise nuisance that the Legends Festival will cause from lunchtime until far too late. Live music tends to be excessively amplified and past experience of Rewind Festival has shown the noise affects Fawley very badly.

Many residents will be at home enjoying their gardens this coming summer and will not want to hear other people's music.

Please ensure all speakers face AWAY from Fawley if it goes ahead.

Caroline Ingram  
[REDACTED] Fawley

Sent from Samsung Mobile on O2

## Brian Whittal

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**From:** David Ashworth <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 27 April 2021 12:56  
**To:** Brian Whittal  
**Cc:** Helen Ashworth  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] [REDACTED] HENLEY-ON-THAMES, RG9 [REDACTED]

Mr Brian Whittal,  
Licensing Officer,  
Wycombe District Council,  
Queen Victoria Road,  
High Wycombe,  
Bucks,  
HP11 1BB  
27 April 2021

**Re: Premises Licence Application Reference 21/00443/LAPREN**

Dear Mr Whittal,

I appreciate that you have received a letter from Our neighbour Mrs DC Wathes. Our house is next door to her at 5 Dairy Lane, Hambleden, RG9 3AS. Her helpful letter has raised a number of concerns that we share. This letter as hers has been, is written in response to the Notice of Application for a Premises Licence posted at the entry to Henley Showground. At that time, however, the information related to the event was very limited in relation to the actual event referred to. I am now aware that this is the Legends music festival <https://www.legendfestival.co.uk/henley-on-thames/>, due to take place over the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> August 2021. According to the licence application, this is to allow sale of alcohol and the provision of film, dance, live and recorded music between the hours of 12.00 to 23.00 each day with an attendance of up to 9,999 persons per day.

We live in a private property which is immediately adjacent to the Henley show ground. We have in the past suffered severe disturbance by both Tough Mudder 2018 and 2019 and the Drive and Dine theatre held on 14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> July 2020. These previous events generated a totally unacceptable level of noise which could be clearly heard for hours at a time inside our house with all the doors and windows shut. You will understand, therefore, that I am concerned at yet another event being planned for this summer which is likely to cause disturbance. According to the Buckinghamshire Council website "Noise can be considered a statutory nuisance if it has a bad effect on you or your enjoyment of your home. The noise would also have to be persistent and regular.." The planned event will clearly fall into this category. As many thousands of people are expected to go past my property, I also have security concerns at avoiding listening to the event by leaving the house unattended.

We have now been contacted Managing Director of Starlight Concerts, to contact me directly to try and allay my concerns. Regarding security, I appreciate his offer to ensure that the SIA security guards provided will include my property on their control round and that I will be provided with a site phone number in case any issues do arise. The sound, however, remains a concern. The Council have the authority to set both noise levels and time limits, and to ensure that these are monitored and adhered to. Mr Conrad has suggested that the noise level at my property should be allowed to reach 75db rather than the limit of 65db recommended by the World Health Organisation. I understand that, as sound levels are measured on a logarithmic scale, an increase of 10 dB equates to a 10x increase in the sound energy generated. Although this may not be perceived as 10x louder by the human ear, 75 db is variously described as equivalent to city traffic or a vacuum cleaner in the room. I think that most people would agree that having this level of noise ongoing for 11h per day on two consecutive days in what is otherwise a peaceful location would constitute a disturbance.

In summary, this event is likely to be added to the calendar of others planned for the summer of 2021 on Henley Showground, contributing to the steady increase in the number of days per year when we are unable to enjoy being

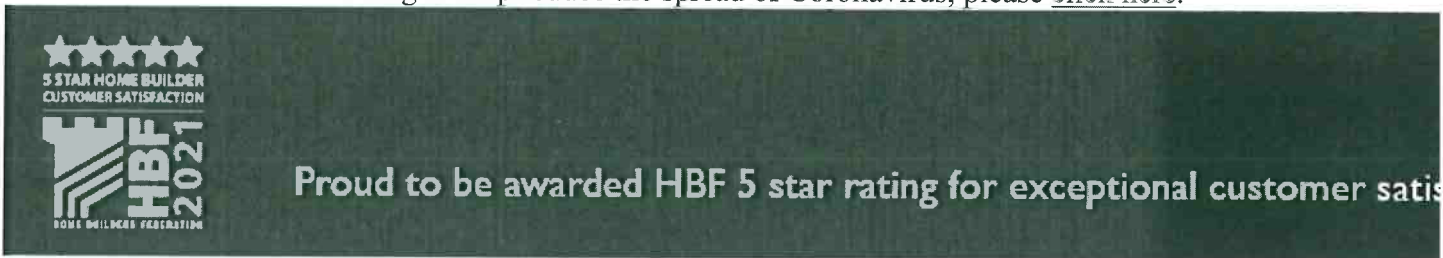
in our house and garden. In addition the Tough Mudder event occurs either during exam time or the revision period prior to exams. This has meant that we have had to relocate our children due to the noise and disturbance. I hope that the Council will therefore review the conditions carefully in an attempt to reduce the amount of disturbance caused below that which is considered a statutory nuisance.

Many Thanks.

David Ashworth MRICS, MRTPI  
Associate Director (Development)  
Partnerships West London and Thames Valley  
Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd  
Aurora House, 71 – 75 Uxbridge Road, Ealing, London W5 5SL.  
M: [REDACTED] [www.countrysideproperties.com](http://www.countrysideproperties.com)



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