

REPRESENTATION FORM

OTHER PERSON (Person/Body)

Your Name/Company Name/Name of Body you represent	Laura Steuart Fotheringham
Postal and email address	
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	Farleigh House
Address of the premises you are making a representation about	Farleigh Hungerford BA2 7RW

The recently implemented Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 has removed the term '*interested party*' from the Licensing Act 2003 '*the Act*', to be replaced by the term Other Person.

Other persons

An other person for the purposes of the 2003 Act means the following (as per section 13 of the 2003 Act):-

- (a) *persons who live, or are involved in a business, in the relevant licensing authority's area*
- (b) *a body representing persons who live in the relevant licensing authority's area*
- (c) *a person involved in a business in the relevant licensing authority's area*
- (d) *a body representing persons involved in such businesses,*
- (e) *a member of the relevant licensing authority.*

Furthermore the 'vicinity' test has also been removed from 'the Act'. It is for the objector to evidence how they would be affected by the presence of the trading of the business in question. The terms vicinity and interested persons are still referred to within the Mendip District Council Statement of Licensing Policy and should be disregarded.

Please detail the approximate distance between yourself and the premises applying for a licence	270m from Farleigh House, with direct line of sight to/from the main house and the proposed marquee area
Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives. Please detail	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation and the reason for your representation. (Please use separate sheets if necessary)
TO PREVENT CRIME AND DISORDER	Risk of drunk driving – Bath Rugby are proposing hosting large events with alcohol potentially available between 10am and 11pm/1am. There is no public transport available in or near Farleigh Hungerford so it seems fair to assume that a significant number of guests would arrive and depart in their own vehicles. Unfamiliar

	<p>country lanes and large numbers of people who have potentially consumed alcohol seem a dangerous mix. These events will not necessarily be late at night when there are fewer other cars on the road, as again the terms of the license would allow consumption of alcohol from 10am.</p> <p>Disorderly behaviour off the premises - Additionally, there's not likely to be much preventing drunken guests wandering away from or off of the premises, and potentially engaging in disorderly conduct near other properties in the village.</p>
PUBLIC SAFETY	<p>High volume of new traffic and speeding on narrow country lanes - Access to Farleigh House is via the lane through the upper half of the village, running from the A366 and connecting the villages of Farleigh Hungerford, Tellisford and Rode. It is a narrow country lane with multiple residences just off it. However, it has a 60mph speed limit (as do the surrounding lanes), which some people take full advantage of, particularly coming down the hill towards East Lodge and Farleigh House. As you come down the hill you cannot see around the corner (including our driveway). The existing volume of traffic on these lanes has been an ongoing concern for many of us, especially as quite a few families in the village have young children and there are no walkways or bike paths.</p> <p>Other road users - Many people besides the locals use the lane leading to Farleigh House; it's part of the MacMillan Way and a very regular route for many walkers, cyclists and horse riders, including many young families. Our house is very close to the road so we're quite aware of how well used it is!</p> <p>People attending events at Farleigh House would necessarily be arriving by private transport, causing an influx of drivers at certain times. The prospect of large numbers of people arriving and departing for events who are unfamiliar with the village, the roads and the fact that it's a regular walking, cycling and riding route is a huge safety concern, not just for those of us who live here but for other users of the road as well.</p> <p>Unclear access - the fact that many people get confused as to how to access Farleigh House exacerbates the situation; if people are using sat nav, it often takes them in a different direction to the signage, so they end up using other small lanes around the area as well.</p> <p>Large vehicles on country lanes - On the Farleigh House website they are advertising availability not just for weddings, but private and corporate parties and events, and filming. Any number and type of cars and lorries could be involved in these events, driving through the village at all times of day and night, potentially getting lost, as they set up and then decamp.</p> <p>We have a front row seat to all the comings and goings at Farleigh House given the location of our house, and can confidently say that the concerns mentioned above are not just hypothetical issues. That Bath Rugby's presence has already contributed to a significant increase in the amount of traffic through the village is undeniable. Besides the regular traffic associated with the many people onsite when the team is training, we always know when they are having an event or training camps for young people because of the very noticeable pickup in the number of cars, many of whom don't know where they're going and are going too fast down a narrow lane. BR are now proposing to greatly multiply these issues with no particular</p>

	<p>plan as yet as to how to mitigate them.</p>
<p>TO PREVENT PUBLIC NUISANCE</p>	<p>Traffic - The large increase in traffic would definitely be disruptive as well as unsafe. Most of the houses in the village are very close to the lanes, and again the many other people who visit Farleigh Hungerford and use these lanes would feel the effects.</p> <p>Noise – we can certainly hear the rugby players when they're training, so live or recorded music being played on the lawn at Farleigh House would definitely be very clearly audible from our house and others in the village. The noise of music and numerous cars is extremely likely to disrupt our family's sleep and that of our neighbours, as well as our weekends. The peace and quiet of Farleigh Hungerford are integral to its identity – it's why we love living here, why others come walking here, why we have so much wildlife. Introducing the kind of noise generated by events such as Bath Rugby are proposing would be not just a nuisance but have a significant impact on the very character of this place.</p> <p>Taxi drop-off and pick-up - We're particularly concerned about use of the area just outside our house as a layby and pick-up/drop-off spot. This is already something that occurs regularly, with cars sitting just outside our sitting room window. Visitors to Farleigh House are often directed by the postcode up the lane across from our house rather than continuing on to the actual entrance. If 200 people were attending an event at Farleigh House, the area outside our home could become a virtual taxi stand, which would be a significant disturbance and invasion of our privacy, and again a safety concern for other road users.</p> <p>Impact on rural area and wildlife - Farleigh Hungerford has a long history and identity of its own which should be respected as much as the wishes of its current residents. That's why it's so popular with others, who come to enjoy its peace and beauty. And not only people but various types of wildlife are drawn here, and would be disturbed by the increase in traffic, noise and people. We regularly see deer, muntjac, hares, birds of prey, and bats, and know (though don't often see) that there are local owls and badgers.</p> <p>Respect for neighbours - Bath Rugby have as much a right to be here as anyone else, but they are also under just as much obligation, if not more, to be good neighbours. However, in the past and on this occasion, BR have not always shown themselves to be particularly concerned with the needs of the village and those of us who actually make our homes here. They have previously breached planning conditions, and attempted to introduce late evening/weekend training sessions and loud horns during training.</p> <p>In this instance, there was no mention of their plans or consultation with the village prior to beginning the licensing process. Yet on the Farleigh House website they already claim to be a licensed venue and they have already taken a number of bookings for this year. On the website they seem to promise the sky to anyone willing to pay enough, whether that's a samba band at midnight, or the bridal party arriving by helicopter. However, at a recent meeting when asked about noise and traffic considerations they had not made any plans to address these – they appeared not to have given any thought to attempting to reduce the impact of these events on those of us that live nearby.</p> <p>Consequently, we are concerned that should they be allowed this license, their interest will lie primarily with making money by pleasing</p>

	<p>their customers rather than respecting their neighbours and this village. We're left with the strong impression that Farleigh House presents BR with a good business opportunity, which they plan to take full advantage of regardless of the impact on the local environment and the people who live here.</p>
<p>THE PREVENTION OF HARM TO CHILDREN</p>	<p>Resident and other children using the lanes - drunk driving can happen any time of day or night and it seems likely there could be some incidence of it in a rural location like this. There are also the safety concerns posed above by general increased traffic.</p> <p>Sleep disturbance - the noise caused not just by music but drunk and disorderly behaviour is likely to disrupt the sleep of young children nearby. I really don't want to be kept up until 1am because of noise, but it's unacceptable that any children should be.</p> <p>NB there are a few families with young children living on the Farleigh House estate, very close to the house itself; they are very unlikely to submit representations as they're connected with BR but I would not assume that means they don't object. These young children and others who live on the estate will be very directly impacted by the noise and disruption of late night events just outside their homes.</p>

<p>Suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy your representation, or other suggestions you would like the Licensing Sub Committee to take into account</p>	<p>I feel that Bath Rugby holding large events for members of the public with the current access situation is untenable, and firmly believe this should not be permitted until they have obtained alternative access other than through the village.</p> <p>Any events would have to be for a much smaller number of people to mitigate the traffic concerns.</p> <p>Music to be kept indoors to limit noise disturbance to the village and wildlife.</p> <p>More specific and visible signage, particularly across from East Lodge, would help with access. For example a sign saying 'Farleigh House - all visitors 200 yards' and one in the other direction saying 'No access to Farleigh House.' There is currently a sign saying 'Private no entry' but as Farleigh House is a private property people trying to access it may not see that as a deterrent. And many of us are so reliant on our sat nav these days we'll follow it anywhere!</p> <p>Guests could be required to use pre-arranged group transport, or specific taxi companies familiar with the area to arrive and depart.</p> <p>Any vehicles waiting to collect guests do so at Farleigh House, not anywhere else in the village.</p>
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Generally if there is to be hearing to determine the premises licence (or club premises certificate) application, the Councillors will only be able to consider matters that have been previously disclosed. No new evidence can be introduced at the hearing. It is therefore

imperative that you detail all matters that you wish to be considered on this initial representation.
(Please attach additional sheets if necessary).

If you do make a representation you will be expected to attend the Licensing Sub Committee and any subsequent appeal proceeding.

All representations in their entirety, including your name and address, will be disclosed to the applicant for the premises licence.

Signed: Laura Steuart Fothringham

Date: 21 May 2023

Please return this form along with any additional sheets to: The Licensing Department, Mendip District Council, Cannards Grave Road, Shepton Mallet. BA4 5BT. Or email to licensing@mendip.gov.uk

This form must be returned within the Statutory Period, which is generally 28 days from the date the notice was displayed on the premises or the date specified in the Public Notice in the newspaper. Please contact the Licensing Department to confirm this date.