

**From:** [kimrowley](#)  
**To:** [Licensing Com](#)  
**Subject:** M215705 complaint re: extended license hours  
**Date:** 05 March 2024 17:15:25  
**Attachments:** [EEGfkeD9Li7Jhd6uhrvaJtJUXstXamMD-1699288390.jpeg](#)

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Complaint - M215705 Grooves on the Green extension request to extend license till 9pm

I have just come across a small notice in our little park at Ashley Cross saying that The Grooves on the Green event is now requesting a longer license until 9pm. I strongly object to any extension, in fact, I would like to object to the event altogether. This little 'green' at Ashley Cross is far too close to residential buildings which surround all 3 sides of the park including a large sheltered housing building for elderly residents. There must be far better suited sites in and around Poole, Bournemouth or Christchurch where people can actually *choose* to go to a festival if they want to, rather than have it *imposed* upon them?

Some 20 years ago, Grooves on the Green started off as a 1 day event finishing at 6pm.....at some point this stretched to 7pm. About 10 years ago the event organiser, Ms Jan Crump, saw an opportunity to double her revenue and applied to increase the event to a full 2 days (Sat & Sun). Today, we are now at 3 full days (Fri, Sat & Sun) with a further request to extend the license from 7pm to 9pm!!! To be honest, it feels more like 5 days because they spend a day erecting noisy clanging, metal fencing which surrounds and cordons off the park to regular users/dog walkers.....then they spend another day, clanging and banging when they dismantle the fence. Where is this ever going to end?

**Nuisance and noise factor:** The loud booming music all day is too much. You can actually feel the base vibrating in your chest, it can make you feel sick. It is too loud to be able to listen to the radio or tv or even allow you the simple pleasure of enjoying a good book. Please look at the attached photo of the park. It shows clearly this very small patch of green where this festival is squeezed onto - it is bang slap in the middle of a very built up area! This is not the correct place to have a loud and noisy festival.

**Criminal damage:** Last year at the Grooves on the Green event, someone thought it would be great fun to remove the sign post in the park which read 'Ashley Cross Green'. It remains missing, no one has bothered to replace it. Also, whilst the event has cleaners that tidy the park afterwards, the event organisers do nothing for the state of the immediate local area in the wake of 3 days of mayhem.

**Safety factor:** As this event draws on, you see more and more people just walking into the road, stopping traffic, they think they are invincible. I certainly do not feel that having this event right in the midst of this built up residential area is safe. I certainly don't feel okay taking my dog for a walk whilst this event is on. For 3 days, it is like living in the middle of a pub. It is only a matter of time before someone really gets hurt due to drinking and partying all day long. I feel that many people are making a small fortune out of this festival but the ones that really pay the highest price are the immediate, local residents who have to endure this madness every single year. It really is intolerable.

I understand that the 'Party in the Park' event which used Poole Park was shut down because it was too close to residents.....I ask you again to look at the attached photo, we are FAR closer to the festival than residents at Poole Park ever were and yet we are still tormented with this festival year after year. Please put a stop to this.

People turn up at this event laden with their own cool boxes on wheels, stuffed to the brim full of booze. By lunchtime most are drunk and falling about and stumbling into the road to get to one of the many bars BCP has granted licenses to in Ashley Cross of which there are now a great many. They are loud and rude. Many have been seen urinating in the gardens and car park of the sheltered housing for elderly residents. I have personally had to clear the entrance to my own building where someone had thrown up and on another occasion, I had to confront a man that was urinating right in the entrance of my building. Clearing up broken glass and picking up half eaten take away food boxes and other rubbish is a given. The crowds become louder and more intimidating as the day grows long - extending the hours to 9pm will only worsen our purgatory.

I would like to add, when this little piece of land was gifted to the council, it was done so on the basis that the land should never be built upon - just as important that it would always remain free and accessible to the general public for their leisure time and for their well being . So how then, does fencing off 100% the park and denying access to anyone who refuses to pay £10, £20 or £30 at their makeshift entrance work? It is quite unlawful to charge people to walk in this park and just as unlawful to deny local people access to this park.....FREE of charge! So who is liable for these breaches,..... BCP council or the events person Ms Jan Crump?

Please stop this event.

Kim Rowley  
Commercial Road  
Ashley Cross