

NOTES FROM THE MEETING OF WORKING GROUP – WORCESTER PARK CONCERTS

DATE 20TH MARCH 2023

PRESENT: Cllrs S Hewlett, J Hammond
Apologies from: Cllr H Turner, J Pearce
Officer: Clerk Fiona Thornton
Badminton Estate: Mr S Dring, Ms K Harris

Mr S Dring advised that they had reflected on the issues raised to date and provided the following feedback.

- Badminton Estate has no intention of ever having festivals on this site.
- There is only a 1-year contract signed with the event organisers Robomagic.
- It is the Estate's intention and preference to only have concerts on one weekend per year. (This year cannot be changed. It originally was to have been one weekend but The Who changed their date.)
- Robomagic also have the preference of one weekend per year. (The Working Group asked for a 'target' weekend so that people would know when it was on a yearly basis.)
- Discounted tickets – to recognise the anxiety felt by some, for this year **only** there would be 2 for 1 tickets available for every household in Didmarton and Sopworth villages. The fine details have yet to be agreed but it is likely to be a maximum of 4 tickets per household, with the discount issued via an online code.
- Free tickets – for the small number of houses more effected than others there would be free tickets. There would need to be an objective selection system. Further information is awaited.
- Security and Stewards – there should be certainty and comfort that Didmarton and Sopworth would see a) security to deter nuisance and b) stewards directing traffic. These measures will be all night i.e., until the site and the car parks have emptied, and all concert goers have been dispersed from the area. Further details regarding Didmarton are awaiting confirmation.
- Stringed verges will be centered upon Didmarton and will cordon off all verges in the surrounding areas. Working Group asked to see details when available.

Mr S Dring was asked 'Would the Estate move the location of the Concerts?'

Answer- No.

Reason – Alternative sites were offered to the event organisers (including the airfield) but the organisers preference was the current site. They wish to hold an arena type event and showcase both the Estate and the Concerts. Outside Badminton House was not viable due to the closeness of the Horse Trials grounds and the roaming deer.

The Working Group addressed the points previously raised.

- Entrance to main car park should be from A433 (gate where point to point horse boxes etc use) and not from Oldbury Lane.
Mr S Dring advised that the parking plan has been drawn up but that it still needs approval from the licensing panel, Highways and Police. If approved there will be 4 different car parks. The postcodes of the ticket purchasers, having been analysed, have provided estimates of traffic flow and more importantly direction.
2 car parks will be on the P2P field.
The 'red' car park (field closest to A433) is where vehicles will enter by the top gate at the junction of Oldbury Lane, will park facing away from the village and will exit by the horsebox gate. This will be a one-way car park and will cater for the traffic from Tetbury direction.
The 'yellow' car park (main P2P field) will be fed from cars coming on A46A433 and will enter via a track on Starveal Lane and past Tump Barn. No exit of cars will be allowed onto Oldbury Lane. The 'yellow' car park will also receive any overflow cars from the 'red' car park via the bottom connecting gate.
The 'Blue' car park will be in Worcester Lodge field itself in the area down to Badminton Lane, will be for cars and for coaches drop off and accessibility needs. Vehicles would access this car park from Sopworth Lane/Badminton Lane. This entrance will be on Badminton Lane, and the Working Group recommended that the gateway used for cars at the Boxing Day meet be used. The Working Group are also concerned that the details regarding coaches, the numbers, drop off, parking and pick up were not clear. Mr S Dring agreed to obtain further

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details. It was made clear by the Working Group that use of the gate closest to the houses and vehicle access from The Street should be avoided.

The 'Green' car park on the opposite side of Badminton Lane, close to Bull Park, and will act as an overflow and also an assembly point.

- Parked cars should be a minimum of 100 metres from Oldbury Lane and adjacent housing. Mr S Dring agreed the need for a dead zone in Red and Yellow car parks but could not agree the meterage until the site is measured.

- Parked cars should be facing A46 to prevent light pollution into housing backing onto Oldbury Lane (especially as the events are a Sunday night and residents will have work the following day)
Agreed. The red car park will be one way with parked cars facing the A46.

- Pedestrians should be directed towards Worcester Lodge Venue and not towards Oldbury Lane or Badminton Lane. It was agreed there will be one managed crossing point opposite Worcester Lodge.
Entrance for all pedestrians, both walking to the venue and exiting car parks, will be via Worcester Lodge. This is where the ticket accreditation will take place.

- Ropes to be in place on all road verges including through the village as necessary.
Agreed and details of the routes covered will be provided.

- Controlled access from A433 to St Arilds Road and to Creephole.
The whole of the village will be a no waiting zone from the A46/A433 Didmarton fork to Oldbury Garage. Residents Access Only signs to be erected at Leighterton Lane/Joyces Pool, St Arilds Road and other agreed/identified locations along The Street. There was not considered the need to use barriers. The Working Group suggested that such signage should be used for Sopworth Lane.

- Traffic order on A433 from A46 (county boundary) to Knockdown (Sherston turning)
Not necessary as other measures will be in place.

- No access to Badminton Lane - but need to secure Village Hall access and access for cricket matches.
Access for matches agreed and will be as normal.

- Security patrols within the village with a permanent presence 3.30pm to close.
Stewards/Security will be in the Village until the finish of the concerts.

- Confirmation of license agreement.
Submitted and awaiting determination. Traffic Management and Event Management plans yet to be finalised and submitted.

- Confirmation of any public rights of way (7 mile walk maybe affected).
None affected.

- Environmental Health check on sound.
During the event this will be monitored and organisers will have to declare measured levels.

- Adequate protected access for emergency vehicles (especially within the village)
Subject to the license and security approval, within the Safety Advisory Group details.

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- Litter collection and cleaning arrangements.
This is arranged by Robomagic and will be all areas including the village.
- Donation to Parish Council to further fund community projects.
A number of tickets will be donated to the DVHCC, Cricket Club and St Lawrence's PCC for fund raising by raffle or auction.

Setting up of the event and car parks, including lighting is yet to be confirmed pending the license approval.

Further details will be made available once they are known.

Finally, Badminton Estate were reminded about villages experiences regarding traffic both travelling to and leaving Westonbirt Concerts, the time taken to clear that site, and that the Worcester Lodge concerts will be twice the size with twice the volume of traffic. The traffic management plan was key, especially in directing traffic flows from the wider environment and trying to minimise the impact on the surrounding areas, including Tetbury.

It was agreed to meet again when further details could be confirmed.