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I would like to make representation regarding the application being made by Walesby Forest for an increase of capacity and late-night refreshment for up to 5 non scouting events per year.

We have experienced difficulties with the existing activities previously organised at Walesby Forest, with increased traffic, noise, anti-social behaviour and litter. We have previously had to complain directly with Walesby Forest with limited success. The following points represent our concerns ;-

1. Noise.

The noise of the festivals/events run by Walesby Forest have always affected us, regardless of which way the wind is blowing, with no attempt being made to lessen the impact. A noise meter was provided on one occasion but all that seemed to do was to ensure that the event finished on time! Any event that involves people being able to walk in means that they have to walk past our house, no problem on the way in, but on the way home we have shouting, swearing, anti-social behaviour and damage to our property.

2. Traffic.

There has always been some form of traffic management system that seems to make sense to organisers but not to anyone else, previous events have resulted in our having to detour through Ollerton or Bothamsall in order to return to our property. Those attending the events have little consideration to locals, they are either in a hurry to get there or a hurry to return home, either way it means we have trouble leaving or returning to our home and even crossing the road means waiting for someone to give way. This means that problems have occurred with the current level of attendees, doubling the numbers is guaranteed to make things worse. Perhaps it should be noted that the Activity Centre is that is trying to outgrow its premises?

3. Alcohol.

The mix of increased hours, increased numbers and the effect of alcohol is only going to exacerbate the problems we are already experiencing. The thought of people leaving at gone 2am behaving in a manner that they currently due post 11pm is horrifying. It must be noted that properties around here have been found to have covenants on the deeds that exclude the sale of alcohol, I assume that the necessary checks have been taken?

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