

CARA

Circus Area Residents Association

4th June 2018.

Pub in the Park. Friday 8th – Sunday 10th June.

To all members and associate members of CARA

You may have seen this event publicised locally.

Your Chairman and one Committee member have been working since January with two other residents associations (Marlborough Lane & Buildings RA and the Royal Crescent Society) and with the Council to try to minimise the possible disturbance and disruption that may be caused by this event this weekend.

The event is scheduled to occur five times over the weekend, with up to 3,500 people attending each time. If you look at www.pubintheparkuk.com you will get some idea of the possible noise disturbance, and the times that it may occur. It will also be possible that if each time the event is staged is at capacity, there might be 300-500 cars trying to park locally.

It is a difficult balance between those local residents who want this kind of event to take place in Royal Victoria Park, and those local residents who do not want such an event to happen. The Council's process for approving events has been such that provisional approval is given before residents are consulted and before any due diligence, or health and safety checks are carried out. This makes it very hard for residents to have a material effect on the outcome of discussions. In this case, we met with the event organisers on 19th January, explained our concerns (from the three residents associations) – 12 points were made made - and yet, within a week, the organisers came back to the Council and said that it was too late to change any aspect of their plans for the event.

We have continued to lobby the Council, and very recently Cllr Tim Warren, the Leader of the Council has become involved. He fully understands our concerns, particularly over noise and the closing times. Cllr Warren has therefore insisted that there should be noise measurement staff and equipment available for the whole period of the five times the event is staged, and the noise exceeding ambient levels will need to be turned down and persistent excess noise may cause the event to be stopped. Whether this will happen, we wait to see.

Your Committee met on Friday to consider the situation, not least because the organisers are now offering free tickets to the event for members of the three local residents associations. Your Committee considered the options and decided that, whilst the event does not have our endorsement, we should not prevent our members from accepting the complimentary tickets if they wish to do so.

In conjunction with the Council, your Committee strongly recommend that if you have any issues – for example, noise, parking, state of Royal Victoria Park etc, - that you telephone the Council by ringing and asking for – Environmental Protection on 01225 477000 (out of office hours) or email environmental_protection@bathnes.gov.uk (please note the _ underscore symbol between the first two words) NB We are told that you may have to send any email a second time if advised by the Mail Administrator that your email has been held up until you confirm who your identity. You may also complain direct to Pub in the Park on 020 3728 6433 – Operations Hotline, or to Cheryl Carroll – 03300 555729 (PR Adviser). You may have to leave a message.

The Council have made it clear they will judge the reaction to any event by the volume of complaints at the time, so do not hesitate to call, even if you expect that someone else will also do so. As your Residents Association, we will support and follow up any complaints about which we are informed – so please copy in secretary@carabath.com to any complaints and let us know what reaction or outcome you experienced.

At the end of last week we were approached by Pub in the Park with an offer of a pair of free tickets to one of the five sessions for any members of any of the three residents associations. **To claim your free tickets (cost £25 Adult afternoon and £40 Adult evening, all as shown on the website) you should email info@pubintheparkuk.com quoting THE CIRCUS as the reference, and you will be added to the guest list.**

Please note this offer is for entry only and does not include any vouchers for food or drink, all of which are apparently at extra cost. This offer appears conciliatory, albeit right at the last moment, and therefore your Committee feel that any member who wishes to take up this offer should be able to do so. **However, please note that CARA is not in any way responsible for the offer or the event and that members apply and attend at their own risk.**

Barry Gilbertson
Chairman, CARA