



The Town and Country Planning Act 1990
Refusal of Full Planning Permission
Application Reference Number: PL/2026/01809
Decision Date: 17/06/2026

Applicant:	Jarboom 8 Merlin Way, Bowerhill, Melksham, Wiltshire, United Kingdom, SN12 6TJ
Particulars of Development:	To enable the area of land known as Melksham Rugby and Football clubs, to hold a Music Event and festival
At:	Melksham Football and Rugby Club, Eastern Way, Melksham, SN12 7GU

In accordance with paragraph 39 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), this planning application has been processed in a proactive way. However, due to technical objections or the proposal's failure to comply with the development plan and/or the NPPF as a matter of principle, the local planning authority has had no alternative other than to refuse planning permission.

In pursuance of their powers under the above Act, the Council hereby **REFUSE TO GRANT PERMISSION** for the development referred to in the above application and plans submitted by you, for the following reason(s):

Refusal Reason

- 1 The proposed development, by reason of insufficient submitted information, fails to demonstrate that impacts on protected species and ecologically sensitive habitats can be adequately avoided or mitigated. In particular, the absence of a robust assessment of disturbance effects arising from noise, lighting and activity, a clear and enforceable lighting strategy (including retention of dark corridors), and sufficient detail regarding the protection of sensitive boundary habitats means the Local Planning Authority cannot be satisfied that the proposal would not result in harm to biodiversity. The proposal is therefore contrary to Core Policy 50 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework, which require the protection of ecological interests and state that development should be refused where significant harm cannot be adequately avoided or mitigated.

Refusal Reason

- 2 The proposed development fails to demonstrate, through robust and proportionate evidence, that noise impacts arising from the event can be satisfactorily controlled so as to protect residential amenity. In particular, the absence of baseline noise data, predictive noise modelling, and a robust assessment of all relevant receptors means the Local Planning Authority cannot be satisfied that residential amenity would be protected. The reliance on reactive mitigation measures further fails to demonstrate that noise impacts can be effectively controlled. The proposal is therefore contrary to Core Policy 57 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy and paragraph 135 of the National Planning Policy Framework, which seek to safeguard the amenity of existing occupants.

Nic Thomas - Director of Planning, Economy and Regeneration

NOTES

1. **Appeals.** If the applicant is aggrieved by the decision of the local planning authority to refuse permission, they may appeal to the Secretary of State for the Environment in accordance with Section 78(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 within six months of the date of this decision. (Information and forms relating to the appeals process can be found at the Planning Portal - [Appeal a planning decision: Overview - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appeal-a-planning-decision-overview)).