

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 03-Apr-2019 17:11  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** Bluedot

Good afternoon,

I have been asked to send my experience and opinions to you about Bluedot,

I attended Bluedot this year for the first time with my children, I have to say how pleasantly surprised I was on how well organised the whole thing was.

I have been to many concerts and festival over the years, but never with my young children, I was impressed to see how much there was for young minds, a thought provoking experience for us all.

With travelling into the local village each day, I could see no major impact on the traffic, but what I did notice, was an influx of people spending money in our local villages Goostrey and Holmes Chapel, this can only be a good thing for the local community.

The atmosphere was very child friendly, I suppose the weather last year helped!

It would be a shame for this not to continue, as a safe, child friendly, close to home festival, where it is just beginning to get noticed on the music map, Bluedot could be the next BOOMTOWN!

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 03-Apr-2019 17:46

**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)

**Subject:** Comments on Blue Dot Festival

As a resident of Goostrey since 2017 I have lived in the village during two summers when the Blue Dot festival has been held. Whilst the festival causes some local disruption during the weekend in terms of road closures and traffic management and increases the ambient noise levels in the area for a couple of evenings, overall I think the effect the festival has on Goostrey and the surrounding area is positive for the following reasons:

- Having what appears to be becoming a well-known national music festival in the local area, and particularly at Jodrell Bank which benefits from the income, I think can only have a positive economic and reputational effect. In addition the opportunity for local businesses such as shops and hotels/B&Bs to gain additional income has to be a good thing.
- I have not been aware of any particular increase in crime or antisocial behaviour in the area during the festival, overall it seems pretty well contained and managed with minimal impact on the village of Goostrey.
- The festival appears to have a very good attitude to engaging with the local community, my family has for the last 2 years been able to earn extra income from distributing information flyers to the houses in Goostrey and the surrounding area. They offer preferential ticket rates to local residents and have on several occasions supported local charitable causes by providing free tickets to support fund raising.
- Finally I think the opportunity to have a well-organised music festival on our doorstep is a great thing for local residents.

Regards

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 03-Apr-2019 17:59  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** Blue Dot Festival

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to express my opinion about the Blue Dot Festival. I live approximately half a mile as the crow flies from the Lovell telescope at Jodrell Bank [REDACTED] and so I have first-hand experience of how the festival impacts the local community.

I feel I should be writing to say that the Blue Dot Festival is a disaster for local people and that noise pollution, litter, crime and anti-social behaviour increases significantly whilst the festival is on. However, this is far removed from reality. It's so well managed and organised that there is no impact on my family at all.

Traffic: we have no trouble commuting to work or leaving the village during the festival. The car park attendants are proactive about keeping the traffic flowing and are always polite and cheerful.

Litter: the lanes are cleaner after the festival than before. The lane that I live on is the shortcut from the station to Jodrell Bank, and could potentially be a litter hot spot, however, the route remains clean and no more littered than if a walking group has been down it.

Crime and antisocial behaviour: Blue Dot is a festival that attracts a diverse audience, but the majority are families and science geeks. I have attended the Blue Dot festival every year with my children and have never witnessed any criminal or antisocial behaviour. I wouldn't take my children to some festivals, but Blue Dot is a safe environment where we can listen to music and learn about science; not an environment that encourages antisocial behaviour!

The Blue Dot team hold events both before and after the festival to identify how they can improve the experience for the local community and they are highly responsive to suggestions. This festival has a national and growing global reputation for being a fantastic family-friendly event for music lovers, so to have this on our doorstep really is a high-profile win for Cheshire.

As you can tell, I am very pro-Blue Dot, but even my elderly neighbours enjoy the energy that the festival brings.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or require further information.

Best wishes



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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 03-Apr-2019 18:22  
To: LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
Subject: Bluedot 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

As a resident of Goostrey and a strong supporter of the ever popular family friendly festival I wish to make my support known and to say that the Bluedot organisers have been very good at letting residents know well in advance of road closures and alternative routes etc.

Last year was the first time I have taken my young daughters along and was slightly apprehensive about some of the drunken behaviour they might encounter. My concerns were not justified as everyone we met and saw were just there to enjoy the music and the science events.

The litter pickers have done a fantastic job of keeping the fields clean for everyone to enjoy both during and after the event. And the use of refillable beer glasses helped enormously last year.

According to the people I have talked to that have not been to Bluedot they find the Noise acceptable and does not go excessively late.

With the increasing popularity of the festival we inevitably see a sudden influx of people to Goostrey and the surrounding area.

It would help to reassure the older residents if they saw an increased police presence in the villages over the festival period.

Lastly I think that as long as Bluedot stick to the ethos that it's primarily a family science and music festival then I think the Majority of the local residents will continue to support this great venue that is on our doorstep

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**From** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08-Apr-2019 11:15  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** Bluedot festival

To who it may concern

I am writing in support of the Bluedot festival at Jodrell Bank.

I live in Goostrey and have attended this festival each year it has been on.

Living in the village closest to the event I have to say the impact on village life is minimal. Apart from seeing groups of happy people walking from the train station upto the event or into the village to use the shops there seems to be not disruption. The noise levels at the festival ensures that there isn't anything heard (so my neighbours tell me) in most parts of the village.

I cycle upto the event each day and never see any littler or antisocial behaviour at all.

I attend many festivals each year and I have to say Jodrell is the most family friendly and clean. All the volunteers are courteous and friendly.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 04-Apr-2019 04:08

To: LICENSING (Cheshire East)

Subject: Blue dot

To who it may concern

As a long term [REDACTED] resident of Goostrey I would like to give my view of the annual Blue dot festival .

I've nothing but praise for the positivity it brings to the area . There has never been (in my experience and knowledge) any local problems (traffic litter etc).

It's a wonderful family experience and should be granted a license to continue .

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 03-Apr-2019 16:23  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** Bluedot application

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wanted to write to you in support of the licence application for Bluedot Festival which I believe is currently under review.

The reason that I wanted to write in support of the application is because for the last five years I have witnessed first hand both the incredibly high standard of festival that Ground Control have sought to deliver, but also how incredibly hard they have worked to ensure that the festival is child-friendly and that it is an active partner to Goostrey and the surrounding areas rather than an unwanted visitor. For the avoidance of doubt I would point out that I am a journalist for The Guardian and The Telegraph and I'm not employed by Bluedot or Ground Control.

My first awareness of Bluedot came about before the festival really existed when the Jodrell site was used to stage a number of one-off events. I was bringing home my son from an event he had attended in Manchester when we passed a small number of people on the roads - which I belatedly realised were possibly attendees of the first of these gigs, which I believe was The Flaming Lips back in 2011. A number of these (mostly) young people were walking on the roadsides towards Chelford and as there are no pavements or pedestrian lighting I was concerned for their safety. It struck me that it would have been better for the attendees to be directed towards Goostrey station where they could then connect with the excellent Northern Rail service. As a lifelong busybody and an active member of the Goostrey Footpaths group who work to maintain and publicise the footpaths in the area, I contacted Ground Control to highlight the issue but also to suggest some alternative routes and pathways. The response was nothing short of stellar. I was invited to a meeting with the organisers of the festival to share ideas and I found them to be incredibly and sincerely interested in hearing local feedback and to act on it. I volunteered to work with the festival organisers to publicise a walking path to the festival site for their next event which I believe was Elbow in 2012.

The Elbow concert also gave me the opportunity to see the festival myself and I was stunned at how different it was to the other music festivals I had been to. There was a whole field of activities for children, with really engaging content which drew inspiration from the location and sought to present it to a range of ages (literally from babies upwards) in a way that would inspire and engage. I was honestly blown away. Most festivals pay lip service to providing something for all the family - Bluedot delivers. At every Bluedot festival since I have taken my three children and have seen their interest in science grow as a result - whether it was being exposed to a clean room environment from the Royce Institute, talking about time travel with world-leading physicists or just laughing at a children's puppetry act. It's not hyperbole to say that Bluedot has been among our favourite family activities for years.



Since my introduction to the team behind the event they have continued to reach out to Goostrey and the local areas to seek ways that they can build long-term connections with the area. I submitted the names and details of a number of local suppliers from local farmers and businesses and this was taken up and used as widely as possible by the event team. I have attended a number of the local meetings that the team have put on to learn from local residents what their concerns are and how they can be the best possible neighbour. They have actively tried to recruit people from the local area to work at the festival and this has given a number of young people some incredible experience of helping to stage these events. Ground Control have also been very supportive of important local fundraising campaigns and have donated weekend passes to local causes such as the new scout hut. Not inconsequentially I have also seen some of the world's great music acts rise to putting on a show at this unique venue leading to a series of unforgettable gigs which have helped to further enhance the reputation of Jodrell Bank and our local area.

We are exceptionally lucky to have Jodrell Bank in our area and I truly believe that Bluedot is the celebration of the science and cultural history that this great site deserves. I would ask in the strongest possible terms that the licence is granted for an extended period so my family and I can continue to enjoy this unique and welcoming event. If you require any further information then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.