

4th May 2026

Dear Maya Cullen,

Re: Planning Application 3/2025/0683 – Proposed Temporary Wedding Venue at Bowland Wild Boar Park

I am writing to formally object to the above application. The proposal seeks permission for the temporary use of five tipis and associated infrastructure to operate as a wedding and events venue accommodating up to 146 guests, approximately [REDACTED], within a quiet rural area of the Forest of Bowland.

This is a nationally protected landscape where great weight must be given to conserving natural beauty and tranquillity. The introduction of a large-scale events venue represents a significant intensification of use that is fundamentally at odds with the character of the area. The scale, frequency, and nature of events would erode the peace and rural qualities that the designation seeks to protect.

The proposed use would result in unacceptable noise impacts. Based on direct experience, when weddings have previously been held at the site, amplified music has been clearly audible from my property throughout the evening and into the night until events finish. This demonstrates that noise travels significantly in this quiet rural setting and already causes disturbance.

The proposal to host events until 11:00pm, with guest departures up to midnight, would lead to repeated and prolonged disruption, particularly during evenings and weekends. In a location with very low background noise levels, such impacts are especially intrusive and harmful to residential amenity.

The area is valued for its dark skies. Events of this nature inevitably require lighting for safety, access, and atmosphere. Even relatively modest lighting can have a disproportionate effect in such a sensitive location, introducing light pollution and undermining the character of the night environment.

The surrounding road network consists of narrow rural lanes that are unsuitable for the volume of traffic associated with events of this scale. The site is in a remote location with limited access to public transport, meaning a heavy reliance on cars. Increased movements from guests, staff, and suppliers would create safety risks and disturbance on roads not designed for such use.

Despite being described as ancillary, a venue for up to 146 guests hosting weddings and large events is clearly a primary commercial use. It represents a substantial

intensification compared to the existing petting farm and holiday accommodation and is not a small-scale rural diversification.

The application attempts to justify the proposal as “temporary”; however, a consent running until 2028 would result in several years of recurring impact. The harm caused by each event cannot be considered temporary in practice.

The fundamental issues identified in the refusal of the previous application remain unchanged. The site is still in an unsustainable location, reliant on private vehicles, and the scale of the development remains inappropriate. Claims that traffic impacts will be minimal due to on-site accommodation are unconvincing, given the number of guests, evening visitors, and service vehicles required.

Similarly, the submitted noise and lighting assessments do not reflect real-world conditions. The existing use of the site for events has already demonstrated that noise travels over considerable distances and affects nearby residents.

The retrospective nature of the application is also concerning, as the site has been operating beyond permitted limits and only seeks approval following enforcement action.

In conclusion the proposal would result in significant harm to the character, tranquillity, and environmental quality of this protected rural area, as well as causing unacceptable impacts on residential amenity. It fails to address the key concerns previously identified and remains unsuitable for this location.

I respectfully request that Ribble Valley Borough Council refuses planning application 3/2025/0683.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature block]