

Application for a premises licence

Your Details

Your Details	
First name	James
Last name	Gander

Premises

Premises Information	
Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description	The Clay Pit - a wooded area of land at Chiddinglye Estate, Selsfield Road, East Grinstead, RH19 4QS. OS Map Reference TQ 35128 32517.
Postcode	RH19 4QS
Phone	
Email	
Non-domestic rateable value of premises.	£0 - £4300

Applicant Type

Please state whether you are applying for a premises licence as:	a person other than an individual - i) as a limited company
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Applicant Type

Please confirm one of the following	I am carrying on or proposing to carry on a business which involves the use of the premises for licensable activities
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Applicants

Other Applicants

Other 1.0 Applicants	
Applicants first name	Firestory Events Ltd
Applicants last name	Firestory Events Ltd

Registered number (where applicable)	17065750
Description of applicant	Private Limited Company

Operating Schedule

Operating Schedule	
When do you want the premises licence to start?	2026-06-25

Description of Premises

Operating Schedule	
Describe the premises	<p>The premises comprises a natural woodland amphitheatre setting located within the Chiddinglye Estate, used for small-scale, curated outdoor live music and cultural events. It is situated in a rural location and accessed by vehicle via private estate tracks, and by public footpaths. The premises will operate as a seasonal outdoor event space and will be used for licensable activities on no more than 20 days in any calendar year, with dates primarily consolidated between May - September. This reflects the intended low-impact, temporary nature of the operation. The operating days and times within this application relate only to these 20 days, and not a regular weekly operating schedule.</p> <p>The site is an informal natural bowl-shaped area surrounded by woodland and earth banks, which provides a naturally contained performance and audience space. A temporary covered stage / performance area will be installed within the site for events, with the audience positioned within the natural amphitheatre. Event infrastructure will be temporary and modular in nature and will include a stage, bar area, toilet facilities, lighting, and associated welfare provision, the positioning of which will vary depending on the specific requirements of each event. The site will be managed as a controlled, ticketed event space with a defined entry point and designated audience areas. Capacity and layout will be managed in accordance with event-specific safety management planning, with a maximum of 500 members of the public present at any time.</p>

Activities Guidance

Which types of licensable activity will you be provisioning?	Live Music, Recorded Music, Supply of alcohol
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Activities

Activity #1.0	
Live Music	
Type of Activity	Live Music
Activity Verb	performance of live music
Please indicate standard days of Live Music	Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Please indicate the standard days and timings. Provide times using the 24 hour clock.	
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Wednesday from	17:00

Wednesday to	22:30
Thursday	
Thursday from	17:00
Thursday to	22:30
Friday	
Friday from	17:00
Friday to	23:00
Saturday	
Saturday from	14:00
Saturday to	23:00
Sunday	
Sunday from	14:00
Sunday to	21:00
Where will the performance of live music take place? Indoors may include a tent.	Outdoors
Please state type of activity to be authorised, if not already stated, and give relevant further details.	Outdoor amplified live music performances within a natural woodland amphitheatre setting, using a covered stage/performance area. The stated hours refer to the performance of licensable activities, with setup and sound checking managed in a controlled manner in advance of performances.

Activity #2.0

Recorded Music	
Type of Activity	Recorded Music
Activity Verb	playing of recorded music
Please indicate standard days of Recorded Music	Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Please indicate the standard days and timings. Provide times using the 24 hour clock.	
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Wednesday from	17:00
Wednesday to	23:00
Thursday	
Thursday from	17:00
Thursday to	23:00
Friday	
Friday from	17:00
Friday to	23:00
Saturday	
Saturday from	12:00
Saturday to	23:00
Sunday	

Sunday from	12:00
Sunday to	21:30
Where will the playing of recorded music take place? Indoors may include a tent.	Outdoors
Please state type of activity to be authorised, if not already stated, and give relevant further details.	Recorded music will be used in an ancillary capacity to live music events, including background music before and between performances and during changeover periods. Recorded music will not be the primary focus of events at the premises. The use of recorded music may also include playlists to support atmosphere and assist with managed dispersal of patrons at the end of events. Occasional DJ-style performances may take place, although these will not form a core part of the premises' operation.

Activity #3.0

Supply of Alcohol

Type of Activity	Supply of Alcohol
ActivityVerb	supply of alcohol
Please indicate standard days of Supply of Alcohol	Wednesday,Thursday,Friday,Saturday,Sunday
Please indicate the standard days and timings. Provide times using the 24 hour clock.	
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Wednesday from	17:00
Wednesday to	22:30
Thursday	
Thursday from	17:00
Thursday to	22:30
Friday	
Friday from	17:00
Friday to	23:00
Saturday	
Saturday from	12:00
Saturday to	23:00
Sunday	
Sunday from	12:00
Sunday to	21:00
Where will the supplied alcohol be consumed?	On the premises

Activity #4.0

Hours premises is open to the public

Type of Activity	Hours premises is open to the public
Please indicate standard days of Hours premises is open to the public	Wednesday,Thursday,Friday,Saturday,Sunday
Please indicate the standard days and timings. Provide times using the 24 hour clock.	
Monday	

Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Wednesday from	17:00
Wednesday to	23:00
Thursday	
Thursday from	17:00
Thursday to	23:00
Friday	
Friday from	17:00
Friday to	23:00
Saturday	
Saturday from	12:00
Saturday to	23:00
Sunday	
Sunday from	12:00
Sunday to	21:30

Premises Supervisor

Premises Supervisor	
First name	James
Last name	Gander

Adult Entertainment

Adult Entertainment	
Please highlight any adult entertainment or services, activities, or other entertainment or matters ancillary to the use of the premises that may give rise to concern in respect of children.	None.

Objectives

Licensing Objectives	
Please list here steps you will take to promote all four	The premises will operate as a professionally managed seasonal outdoor event space hosting small-scale, curated live music and cultural events. All licensable activities will be conducted in a manner that promotes the licensing objectives, with appropriate management controls in place to ensure the safety and comfort of patrons, staff, and the local community (including other businesses and residents on the Chiddinglye Estate, and neighbours). The licence holder will implement proportionate event management procedures, including risk assessments and event management planning, tailored to the size and nature of each event. An Event Safety Management Plan (ESMP) will be prepared ahead of each event or event series, proportionate to their scale and nature. Events at the premises will be appropriately staffed by trained personnel, including security, stewards and medical staff where required based on risk assessment, audience numbers

licensing objectives together.	and nature of the event. The premises will operate in accordance with relevant guidance and best practice, and the licence holder will work proactively with responsible authorities to promote and uphold the licensing objectives.
The prevention of crime and disorder	The premises will operate as a controlled, ticketed event space and right of access will be restricted to those in possession of a valid ticket. SIA-registered security staff will be employed where appropriate, in accordance with a risk assessment taking into account the nature of the event and audience profile. Wristbands, handstamps or a similar identifying mark will be used to identify valid ticket holders and restrict access, ensuring capacity limits are adhered to. An incident log will be maintained and made available to responsible authorities upon request. A refusals log will be maintained in respect of alcohol sales. A Challenge 25 age verification policy will be in place for all alcohol sales. Alcohol will only be sold to customers attending the event. Alcohol consumption will be monitored and managed by staff to prevent disorderly behaviour.
Public safety	The total number of persons on the premises, including staff and performers, will not exceed 550 at any one time (maximum 500 members of the public). A documented ESMP will be prepared and implemented for all events, proportionate to their scale and nature. Suitable and sufficient risk assessments will be undertaken and regularly reviewed. Adequate stewarding and staffing levels will be maintained at all times. First aid provision will be in place at all events in accordance with risk assessment. All temporary structures will be installed by competent persons and certified where required. Emergency procedures, including evacuation plans, will be in place and communicated to staff and contractors. Clearly defined ingress and egress routes will be maintained, monitored and kept unobstructed. Suitable lighting will be provided to ensure safe access and egress during hours of darkness, including back-up lighting in case of power failure. A suitable and sufficient fire risk assessment will be carried out and appropriate control measures implemented. Fire safety equipment will be provided and maintained as required, and staff will be trained in basic fire safety procedures. Suitable access will be maintained for emergency vehicles at all times. Final positioning of facilities (including bars, toilets, and welfare areas) will be determined per event and detailed within the Event Safety Management Plan. Adequate water supply will be available on site for welfare and emergency purposes, including provision of drinking water.
The prevention of public nuisance	A Noise Management Plan will be implemented for all live music events. Sound levels will be monitored where appropriate at the site boundary and controlled to minimise disturbance to nearby residents. Speakers will be positioned and directed away from neighbouring properties and make use of the natural features of the site (e.g. sloped earth banks) to effectively minimise noise spill. Live music will cease by 22:30 (Wed/Thu), 23:00 (Fri/Sat) and 21:00 (Sun). The dispersal of patrons will be managed to minimise noise, including staff supervision at exit points where appropriate. Clear signage will be displayed requesting patrons to respect local residents and neighbours and leave the area quietly. A contact phone number will be made available for local residents to raise any concerns during events. Any complaints received will be recorded and responded to appropriately. Generators will be suitably silenced and positioned to minimise noise impact.
The protection of children from harm	A Challenge 25 policy will be implemented for all alcohol sales. An age verification system will be operated at entry, with ID checks and the issue of non-transferrable wristbands to persons aged 18 and over. Bar staff will be trained to check for valid wristbands and may request ID where appropriate. A refusals log will be maintained. Children will be expected to be accompanied by a responsible adult at the premises and this will be a condition of entry. The premises may operate minimum age restrictions for events (e.g. 12+, 14+, 16+, or 18+), which will be clearly communicated in advance. The premises will operate primarily as a small-scale, seasonal, cultural event space with content suitable for a general audience. Appropriate safeguarding awareness will be maintained among staff.

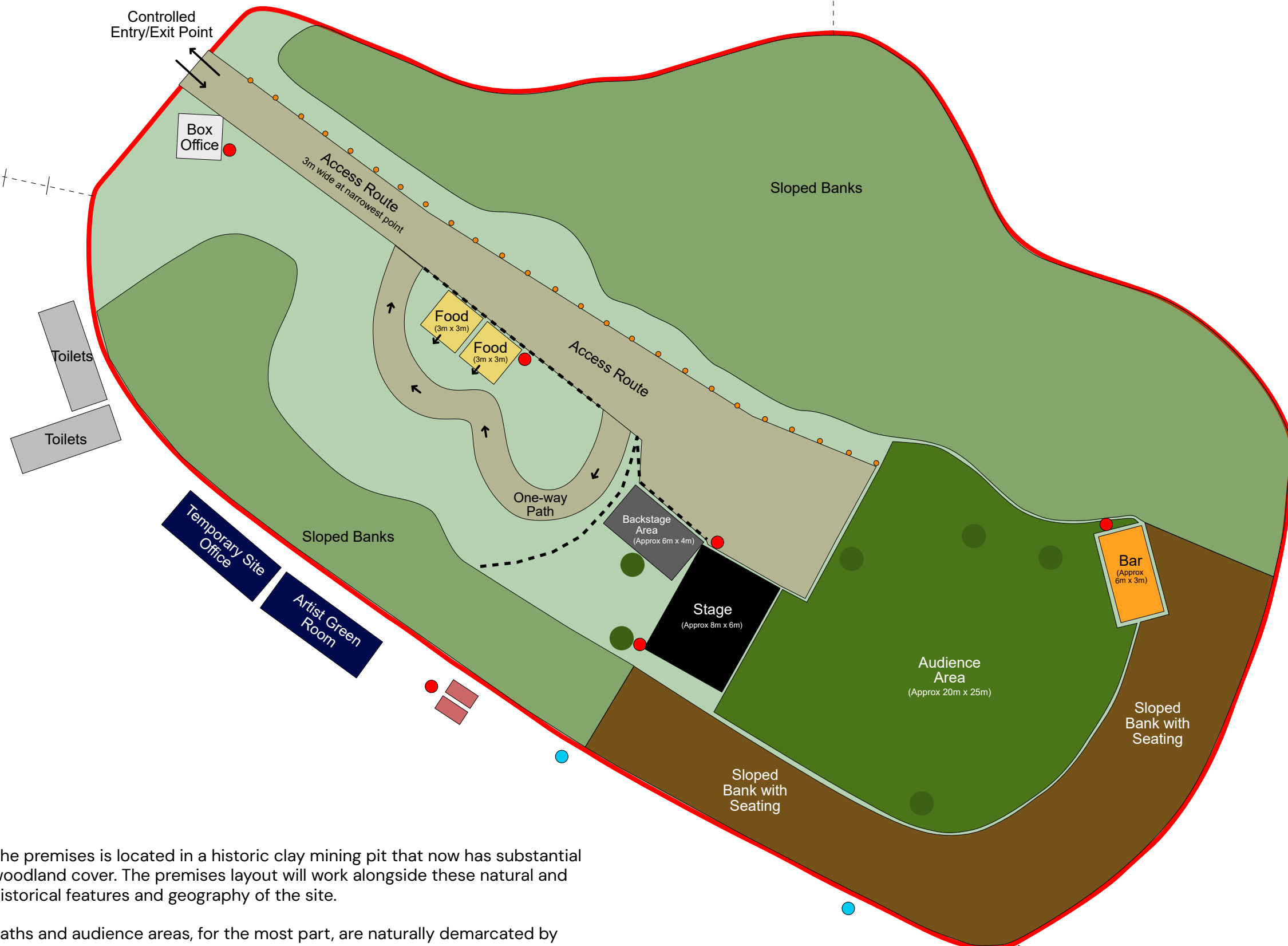
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Proposed Premises Licence Plan

In relation to an application for a premises licence at Chiddinglye Estate by Firestory Events Ltd

This plan represents the area and proposed layout of the premises, a woodland area found at OS grid reference TQ 35128 32517.



Layout

- Licenced area boundary and fence
- Woodland Areas
- Pathways/Access
- Internal Fence
- External Fence (field boundaries)
- Main Audience Area
- Additional Sloped Audience Area

Infrastructure

- Raised stage area at a max height of 1m
- Backstage area
- Temporary toilet facilities
Numbers per event in accordance with the Purple Guide or greater
- Shipping container buildings
Temporary space for staff/welfare/artists
- Silenced generators
- Fire fighting equipment
- Mains water access point
Connection for toilets & handwashing, drinking water subject to testing or bottled/canned supply as an alternative
- Festoon pathway lighting
With battery backup in-case of generator failure

Food and Drink

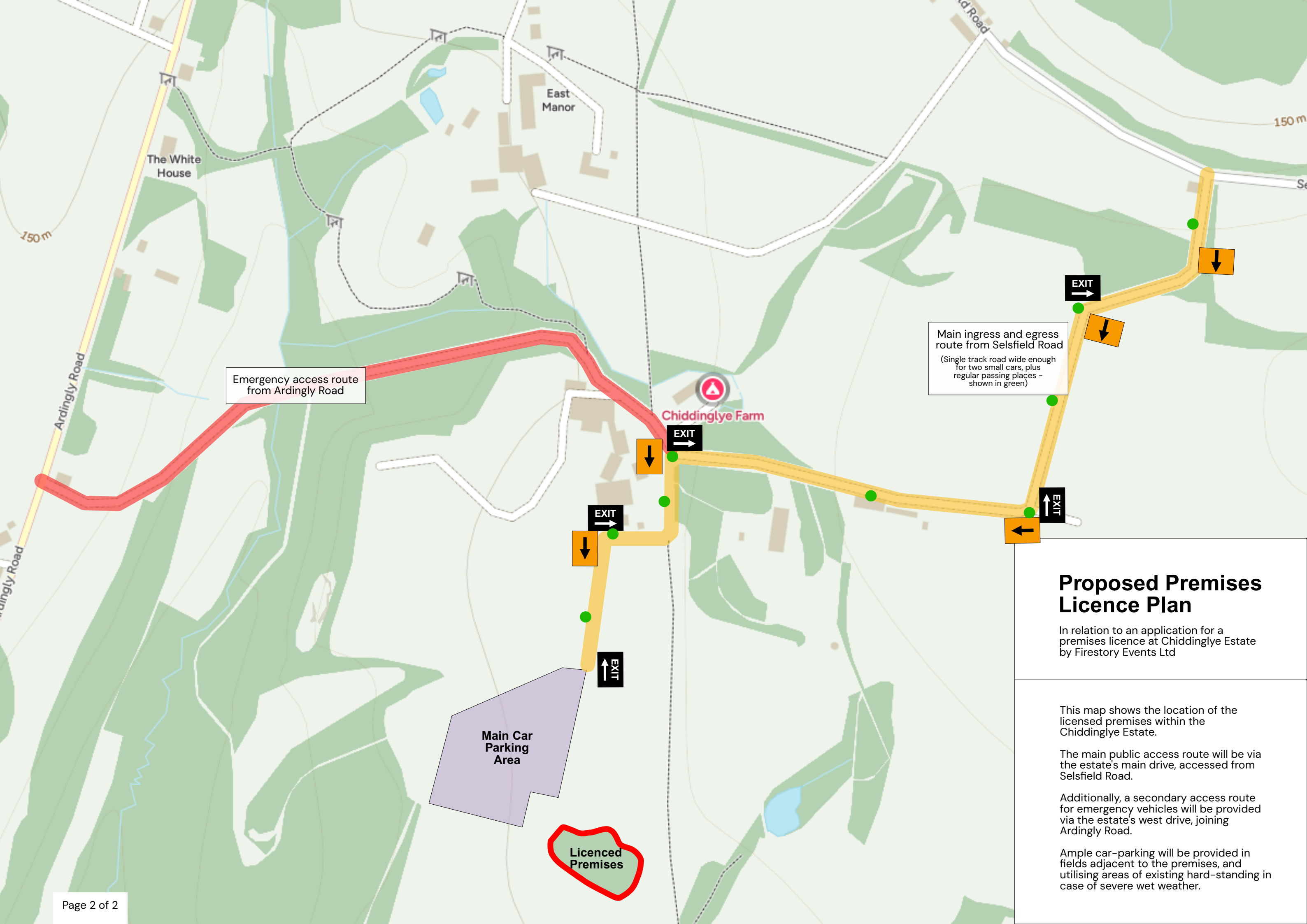
- Food concessions
Food concessions located in a woodland clearing with one-way access path with separate entry/exit, queuing space and fence separating main access route.
- Bar
Bar located at back of audience area in a wooden gazebo/shed style structure with serving hatch/side. Ample queuing space provided (separated with crowd/tensa barriers if required).

The premises is located in a historic clay mining pit that now has substantial woodland cover. The premises layout will work alongside these natural and historical features and geography of the site.

Paths and audience areas, for the most part, are naturally demarcated by clearings in the trees and the slope of the ground. In a few places, additional fencing will be installed to ensure clear, unobstructed access is maintained on the main access path and to restrict unauthorised backstage access.

Car parking will be provided in adjacent fields (see page 2) and emergency vehicle access is possible to the full perimeter of the licenced premises.

Note: This plan shows indicative locations and key dimensions, but is not to scale. Final positioning of infrastructure for each event at the premises to be included in per-event ESMPs.



Emergency access route from Ardingly Road

Main ingress and egress route from Selsfield Road
(Single track road wide enough for two small cars, plus regular passing places - shown in green)

Proposed Premises Licence Plan

In relation to an application for a premises licence at Chiddinglye Estate by Firestory Events Ltd

This map shows the location of the licensed premises within the Chiddinglye Estate.

The main public access route will be via the estate's main drive, accessed from Selsfield Road.

Additionally, a secondary access route for emergency vehicles will be provided via the estate's west drive, joining Ardingly Road.

Ample car-parking will be provided in fields adjacent to the premises, and utilising areas of existing hard-standing in case of severe wet weather.