

## May 2026

Dear Resident,

### Re: Bearded Theory Festival @ Catton Park

I am writing ahead of Bearded Theory Festival's return to Catton Park from **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026**. As in previous years, this letter sets out the main dates and the steps we are taking to minimise disruption from traffic and noise.

The site build will begin with fencing deliveries on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**. Equipment will continue to arrive in the lead-up to the festival, with final clearance expected by **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May**. Bearded Theory is an award-winning, family-friendly music event with several stages, international touring bands, DJs and a large children's activity area.

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### Key Dates

- **Site deliveries begin: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May** (fencing deliveries)
- **Early public entry: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May**
- **Main audience arrivals: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**
- **Live music:**
  - Begins at **6pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May**
  - Main stage finishes by **11pm** each night
  - Smaller stages continue at lower volume until **3am**
- **Festival closes: Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May**, with a short fireworks finale at around 11pm
- **Main departure day: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May** (expect traffic between **9am and 3pm**)

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### Traffic & Deliveries

We are working with national and local highways departments to minimise disruption with the ongoing restrictions on Chetwynd Bridge.

The vast majority of deliveries will arrive on smaller vehicles, either travelling over Chetwynd Bridge where suitable or approaching from the south, avoiding the nearby villages wherever possible.

Some HGV deliveries are still required. Due to highway weight and height restrictions, some HGVs must travel via **Walton on Trent**. We will aim for these HGVs to arrive between **9:30am and 4pm**, but there will be occasions when this is not feasible and some movements will take place outside those hours.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May** will be a particularly busy day for HGV movements due to significant fencing deliveries. Customer arrivals have again been spread over three days to help reduce congestion, with temporary traffic lights and marshals in place where required to keep vehicles moving.

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### **Noise Management**

We continue to work closely with South Derbyshire District Council to ensure noise levels remain within legal limits. Independent acoustic consultants dBx Acoustics will monitor sound levels both onsite and at various local locations.

Weather conditions such as wind direction and pressure can affect what can be heard in surrounding areas. If you experience disruptive noise, please call Event Control directly on **07301 004031** so we can investigate in real time.

When reporting a noise issue, it is helpful to include your **What3Words** location so we can respond as accurately as possible.

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### **Contact Information**

If you have any concerns or questions in the run-up to the event, please contact us at **residents@beardedtheory.com**. During the festival opening hours, our Event Control number **07301 004031** will be operational 24 hours a day for urgent issues.

We want to be good neighbours and are grateful for your continued support, patience and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

**Bob Bark**

Festival Director

**bob.bark@dhpfamily.com**