# Police clamp down quickly on illegal rave near Horton-Cum-Studley



# Police Act Quickly to Disperse Rave in Oxfordshire Village

Thames Valley Police responded swiftly to reports of a suspected illegal rave in a woodland area near Horton-Cum-Studley on the morning of May 4. Witnesses reported incidents of anti-social behaviour and a fire being lit, prompting a prompt police response to disperse the gathering.

According to the police, one man, a 19-year-old from Abingdon, was arrested at the scene but has since been released under investigation. The police issued a stern warning to potential organisers of similar events, emphasising that the force would respond vigorously, stating that “we will seize sound equipment, and your event will be closed down.” They further appreciated the public for their vigilance and reporting of the incident.

This isn't the first instance of illicit gatherings in the region. Historical data reveals a pattern of incidents involving illegal raves, with Thames Valley Police previously dealing with similar situations over the years. In May 2011, a rave in Catmore, Berkshire, attracted about 350 attendees, leading to a confrontation that resulted in injuries to 13 officers. The police faced considerable hostility, and six individuals were subsequently arrested.

A larger assembly in May 2015 in Twyford Wood, Lincolnshire, drew nearly 1,000 participants, resulting in 21 officers being injured during attempts to break up the event. Bottles and other missiles were thrown at responding officers, illustrating the potential dangers of such gatherings. The Financial implications of these events are also concerning, with the Forestry Commission complaining about the burden placed on taxpayers due to damage and disruption caused by unauthorized raves.

In a similar vein, Chelsea Harvey was sentenced to 12 months in prison in May 2016 after she drove her car at a police officer during a rave in Lincolnshire, demonstrating the severe risks associated with these gatherings, which extend beyond mere property damage to personal safety.

As warmer weather approaches, Thames Valley Police have reiterated calls for landowners in areas like Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and Buckinghamshire to remain vigilant. The police advised landowners to routinely inspect their properties for signs of unauthorized events, particularly during bank holidays or weekends when such gatherings typically escalate. Reports from previous years indicate that police successfully shut down nine similar events in the South East during a single bank holiday weekend, an effort aimed at maintaining public safety and order.

The recent incident near Horton-Cum-Studley underscores the ongoing challenges local law enforcement faces in managing illegal raves, with the police emphasizing a proactive stance against future occurrences.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/25144758.police-update-forest-rave-oxfordshire-village/?ref=rss)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/25144758.police-update-forest-rave-oxfordshire-village/?ref=rss), [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-berkshire-13116737)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lincolnshire-32883052), [[4]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lincolnshire-36105917)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://www.newburytoday.co.uk/news/police-urged-vigilance-to-prevent-weekend-raves-9164048/), [[6]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-22411118)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/25144758.police-update-forest-rave-oxfordshire-village/?ref=rss), [[7]](https://www.newburytoday.co.uk/news/police-break-up-massive-illegal-rave-9273712/)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/25144758.police-update-forest-rave-oxfordshire-village/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-berkshire-13116737> - In May 2011, Thames Valley Police responded to an illegal rave in Catmore, Berkshire, where approximately 350 people had gathered. Officers attempted to disperse the crowd at 4 am, but were met with resistance, including missiles being thrown. Thirteen officers and a police dog were injured. Six individuals were arrested on suspicion of organizing the event and assaulting police officers. A significant amount of sound equipment was seized during the operation.
3. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lincolnshire-32883052> - In May 2015, an illegal rave in Twyford Wood, Lincolnshire, attracted about 1,000 attendees. When police intervened to shut down the event, they faced hostility from the crowd, resulting in injuries to 21 officers and a police dog. Bottles and other items were thrown at police, and one officer was struck by a car. A total of 48 people were arrested, with 13 charged and 26 released on bail. The Forestry Commission emphasized the financial burden of unauthorized events on taxpayers.
4. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lincolnshire-36105917> - In May 2016, Chelsea Harvey, 21, from Norfolk, was sentenced to 12 months in prison for dangerous driving after she drove her car at a police officer during an illegal rave at Twyford Wood, Lincolnshire. The officer was thrown onto the bonnet and carried for 350 meters at speeds up to 30 mph. Harvey collided with a camper van but continued driving with the officer still on the bonnet. The officer sustained minor physical injuries, but the psychological impact was significant.
5. <https://www.newburytoday.co.uk/news/police-urged-vigilance-to-prevent-weekend-raves-9164048/> - In May 2012, Thames Valley Police urged landowners and farmers in Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and Buckinghamshire to remain vigilant against illegal raves, especially during bank holidays and warmer weather. The force had previously shut down nine such events in the South East. Landowners were advised to inspect their properties for unauthorized gatherings and to report any suspicious activity to prevent potential disruptions and damage.
6. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-22411118> - In April 2013, Thames Valley Police warned farmers and landowners in Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and Buckinghamshire about the risk of illegal raves being organized on their properties during the Bank Holiday and warmer weather. The force had previously shut down nine such events in the South East. Landowners were advised to check farm gates, access points, and outbuildings for potential unauthorized gatherings and to report any suspicious activity to prevent disruptions and damage.
7. <https://www.newburytoday.co.uk/news/police-break-up-massive-illegal-rave-9273712/> - In September 2022, Thames Valley Police intervened to disperse a large illegal rave near West Ilsley, Berkshire, attended by hundreds of people. The event, held near the A34 underpass on Bury Lane, was shut down by police, who seized sound and stage equipment. Approximately 350 attendees were dispersed without any arrests or injuries reported. The operation aimed to prevent further disturbances and maintain public order in the area.