



Colne Town Council

The Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival 2026

August Bank Holiday weekend

28th – 30th August 2026

www.bluesfestival.co.uk

MOBILE CATERING APPLICATION FORM

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS XXXXXX

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1. Introduction to Festival

The Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival has been held in Colne for 35 years, and in 2017 Colne Town Council took on the responsibility to deliver the festival rather than see it come to an end.

The festival consists of a weekend of Blues music across three ticketed venues along with various other free venues across the town that will also feature Blues genre music. The free official fringe venues will be programmed and managed by Colne Blues Society, a group of Colne Blues lovers and local creative professionals. For more information visit www.bluesfestival.co.uk

The event like many in the UK can be weather dependent, and in previous years we have seen many thousands of visitors to the Town Centre through the streets each day of the festival.

The number of visitors to the event will vary, and the weather no doubt plays a significant part, but with good weather, over the last few years, we have seen around 10,000 visitors per day. The 2024 Festival was a finalist in the Lancashire Tourism Awards and also won the award for the UK Blues Based Festival of the Year at the UK Blues Awards.

2. Locations of pitches and trading times

Pitch One and Two

Taxi Lay by, Albert Road Colne – opposite the Venue (Between Tubbs of Colne and The Crown Roadhouse) – set your postcode for BB8 0BS

Pitch Three – Taxi lay by outside Colne Muni

Exact location can be agreed with successful caterer. Space available for supporting vehicle

Pitch Four – The Town Hall

Located in the area opposite the Town Hall where the flags are situated.

Pitch Five – The Duke of Lancaster

Located in the taxi bay outside the Duke of Lancaster.

Ice Cream Van Pitch – Location to be agreed with successful applicant

Exact location can be agreed (This will be trading on Saturday and Sunday)

**Applicants should be aware that under normal Street Trading Licenses, if another ice cream van attends the event but doesn't enter the event area (road closure) and trades from the side street, there is nothing Colne Town Council can do. This is not illegal, therefore we cannot prevent this. Applicants submitting are on the clear understanding such competition may arrive.*

Trading Times

Friday midday until 1am, Saturday and Sunday 11 am to 1am.

Music Venue opening Times

Official Venues

Pendle Hippodrome - Friday evening until midnight Saturday and Sunday midday until midnight.

The Exchange Project – Friday evening until 10pm / Saturday & Sunday from midday until 10pm

The Little Theatre – Timings to be confirmed

Pubs/Official Fringe Venues

Generally, over this weekend most stay open until midnight and or the early hours of the morning.

Colne Town Council Festival Bar – Town Hall

Friday 28th August – 18:00 to 00:00

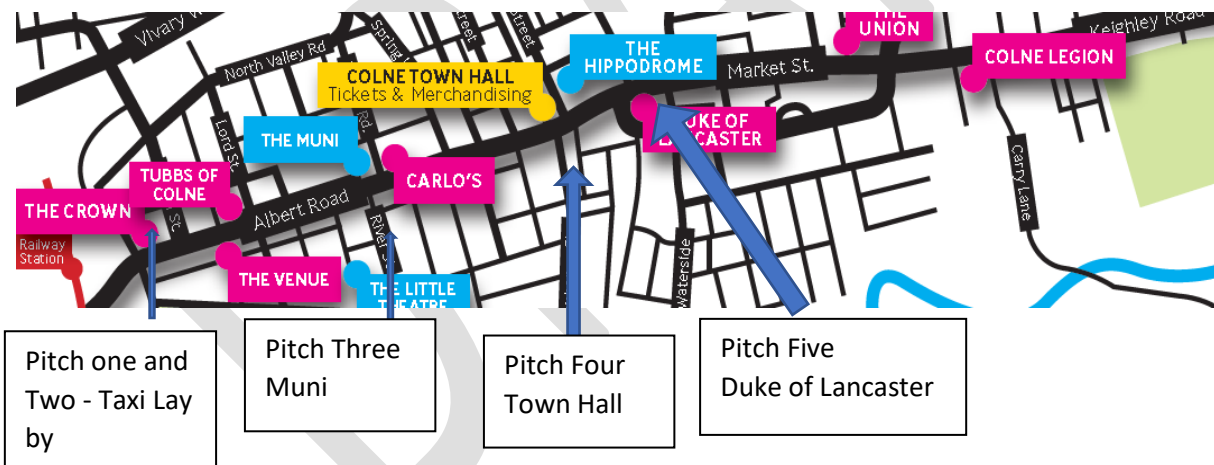
Saturday 29th August – 12:00 to 00:00

Sunday 30th August – 12:00 to 00:00

General location

This is a linear high street with festival venues running from the bottom at the Crown hotel up to the top of Albert Road and beyond to the Union and on the perimeter of the town to other fringe venues.

As mentioned above, the Ice Cream Van Pitch location will be agreed with the successful applicant.



Catering pitches One and Two, are in the lay by, where space should comfortably accommodate two Mobile catering units and a towing /support vehicle.



The image is for example purposes only it is a straight lay by.

Pitch three is located outside the Muni- a support vehicle may be parked nearby



Pitch Four is located opposite the Town Hall – a support vehicle may be parked nearby



Pitch Five is located outside The Duke of Lancaster pub – a support vehicle may be parked nearby



3. Trading Information

Premises Licence – Licensing Act 2013

Colne Town Council holds a Premises licence for the areas in question between the hours of 8am to 2am, and therefore there is no need for Traders to have in place their own Premises Licence or Temporary Event Notice relating to their catering unit.

You must not, however, trade between 2am and 8am – Any breach of this will lead to removal off-site and no refund of trading fee made.

Electricity

Access to electricity is not provided - Silent running generators must be used with appropriate fencing for public safety.

Water

The Town Hall will be accessible between 10am and 10pm should you wish to fill up canisters. It is a fair walk, but downhill from the Town Hall to some of the catering pitches

First Aid

Festival on-site provision is available up to 12am for more serious need, but Applicants must have their own on-site First Aid capability in relation to minor treatment of staff.

Road Closure

Albert Road will be closed on the following dates:

- Friday 28th August 2026 from 6pm until 1am (Saturday morning)
- Saturday 29th August 2026 from 10am until 2am (Sunday morning)
- Sunday 30th August 2026 from 10am until 2am (Monday morning)

Access for Bespoke Catering units

Albert Road is a busy thoroughfare, and therefore it will not be possible to set up during normal traffic flow hours. Vehicular access for setting up will be from Thursday 27th August 2026. A specific time can be agreed with the Events Officer, Nathan. Colne Town Council staff will be present to help in case of need to hold back traffic. You should enter up Albert Road – from the end of the M65 junction direction. Please drive **carefully and slowly** as you pull to halt as we may be manoeuvring units as you arrive.

Access for Gazebo set up

Any caterer trading from a unit that they can set up and or and lift into place must access from off a side road, without encroaching on the main highway.

You may set up on the Friday morning, rather than Thursday night, but be ready to trade from 5pm onwards, should you wish to do so.

Security overnight

There is no provision for on-site security. Whilst the Police will be advised that some units will be remaining on site overnight, and there is some vision from CCTV cameras, security must remain the responsibility of the Trader, and Colne Town Council accepts no responsibility for any loss/damage howsoever incurred whilst trading on its approved location.

Vehicle parking

There is room to leave a vehicle adjacent to Mobile / Units if required.

Toilets

Portable Toilets for trader use will be provided on site.

There will be a variety of toilets available on Princess Street, Colne Muni, Colne Town Hall and New Market Street.

Break down

You may stay trading until 2am on the morning of Monday 31st August 2026. Given that it is a Bank Holiday Monday, and therefore through traffic not expected to be so heavy first thing in the morning, traders may wish to leave their units on site and start to break down/move off from 8am and that would be fine, but is something that will need to be agreed upon so that we can have an orderly movement of units, noting that **All units must be off site by 10am on the morning of the 31st August.**

Consideration of Residents

There are residential homes nearby, and we would always ask that you show consideration for nearby residents. Where late at night and possible to turn off generators please do so.

Gazebos/mobile structures

When erecting your own gazebo or mobile structure you must ensure that these are securely erected and that each corner of the stall is suitably weighted.

Health and Safety

The Event Manager from Colne Town Council will be Nathan Cutler and the Event Safety Manager will be Gina Langley whose decision on any Health and Safety related matter will be final. There will be in place a **strictly no glassware policy** in place.

Event layout

A location map of your allocated slot will be attached to the email confirming your successful apply.

Power leads

All Stallholders must ensure all leads are in good condition, PAT tested and if laid on the ground, are suitably covered or encased within a rubberised cable, to avoid slips and trips. No power leads are to be run overhead from any external source whatsoever.

Fire Safety

All stallholder cooking products onsite must have appropriate fire prevention equipment – the correct type of fire extinguisher and/or fire blanket.

Hygiene

All Food stallholders are responsible for the provision of their own hot and cold water and where required, separated washing facilities.

Food Safety

All Stallholders should have their food management system logs available for inspection and evidence of temperature testing.

Food Rating

All Stallholders should display their Food Hygiene Rating prominently on the stall.

Waste disposal

All waste, both food and non-food is the responsibility of the stallholder to remove.

Whilst there will be waste bins for public use, Stallholders **MUST NOT** use these for disposal of their own waste. Any accumulation of waste must be kept behind your allocated stall in a bag and left in a safe and acceptable manner. If not of an unreasonable level, it may **at our discretion** be removed, but you should plan that you will be removing all waste at the end of the day.

We are passionate about keeping Colne clean, so please do keep your area tidy and presentable.

Attire

We expect all stallholders to be highly presentable, clean aprons etc., and where necessary head covering to be used. Disposable gloves for food handling should be used and regularly changed.

Unit inspection

All units will be inspected prior to trading commencing, and any issues of a safety nature raised will need to be resolved in a timely manner.

Food containers

Following guidance under the single use plastics ban, we will require the guidelines to be adhered to throughout the duration of the festival.

Consumer complaints

We expect any issues to be resolved amicably.

Principal contacts at the event will be

Gina Langley – Event Safety Manager – 07483304666

Nathan Cutler – Event Manager – 07401786056

4. Application Information

4.1 General Terms

- 4.1.1 The decision to allocate a pitch is entirely at the discretion of Colne Town Council, and no further discussion or correspondence will be entered into unless at the discretion of Colne Town Council.
- 4.1.2 In applying for this pitch(s), any applicant should note that as part of the process there will be specific information requested, that if not provided, will automatically lead to disqualification in this application process regardless of the application price submitted.
- 4.1.3 Should the pitch not be awarded to you, or Colne Town Council decide to subsequently withdraw this pitch from the application offer, Colne Town Council will not be liable for any pre-contract costs, howsoever incurred, associated with this application.
- 4.1.4 All costs relating to site visits undertaken by the applicant in support of this application submission are for the account of the applicant only.
- 4.1.5 Should the festival be cancelled for any unforeseen reason, Colne Town Council will refund any payments in advance made in full and final settlement and are not liable for any costs however so incurred by the applicant in the event of cancellation.
- 4.1.6 Any applicant who does not turn up will not receive a refund of any amount paid in advance.
- 4.1.7 All stall holders must be able to display their food hygiene rating prominently on their unit and Colne Town Council will not consider traders with a hygiene rating less than 4 stars.
- 4.1.8 Any entries received after [INSERT DATE] will not be considered.

4.2 Multiple Applications

- 4.2.1 Applicants may apply for more than one pitch if they wish to regardless of location

4.3 Selection of winning applications

- 4.3.1 This will be determined by several factors including but not limited to product offering and product pricing.
- 4.3.2 Successful applicants will be given 30 days to pay the deposit (50% of the pitch fee) from the date that they are awarded the pitch in writing. The remaining balance will be due no later than the 1st August 2026.

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The Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival

28th – 30th August 2026

Mobile Catering Application Form

Company/Business Name	
Contact Name	
Address	
Phone	
Email address	
Public Liability Insurance Details	Enclose a copy of your current certificate.
Hygiene Certificate Rating	Enclose a copy of your current Food Hygiene rating
Environmental Health Registration	Provide contact details of the Local Authority where your business is registered as a food business.
Product offer	What products will you be selling and the price of your products. Anything not listed here you will be unable to sell.
Catering unit certification	Please provide all relevant testing certification

Pitch Selection:

I/We hereby submit the following apply price in respect of the following pitches(s) as indicated by a Cross in the box and indicated as first second, third or fourth choice and enclose the apply application form together with all of the information as requested in the application form and accept the conditions applying to this apply as detailed under Section 5 – Apply Information - of this Apply Pack

Pitch number	Choice Selection 1st to 5th	Pitch Cost:
One – layby		£750.00 (Seven hundred and fifty pounds)
Two - Layby		£750.00 (Seven hundred and fifty pounds)
Three – layby outside Muni		£750.00 (Seven hundred and fifty pounds)
Four – Town Hall		£750.00 (Seven hundred and fifty pounds)
Five – Duke of Lancaster		£500 (Five hundred pounds)
Ice Cream Van Pitch		£400 (Four hundred pounds)

I/We note that in the event of our first choice not being successful, you will enter any other choices indicated into the apply process until all pitches have been allocated.

I/We hereby agree to pay the deposit of 50% of the Application Price submitted within 30 days of being awarded a pitch, and the balance of the remaining balance will be paid NO LATER than 1st August.

On payment of the deposit, I/We subsequently do not make payment of the balance in full by 1st August we hereby acknowledge that the deposit already made is non – refundable and the booking cancelled.

Signed

Date