

Appendix 2 – Representations from Other Persons

Jim Bruce

13 King Alfred Place, Winchester, SO23 7QQ

Received 22 December 2021

Subject: Review of the licence for North Walls held by The Media Publication Company Limited for its “Foodies Festival”

I would like to comment on the review of the licence for North Walls held by The Media Publication Company Limited for its “Foodies Festival”.

I completely support the concerns raised by Environmental Health in its review application regarding the prevention of public nuisance, specifically noise nuisance from amplified music, and particularly its concern “that sufficient measures to prevent public nuisance may not be implemented for future events”. I would therefore ask that the licence be suspended.

This organisation does not appear fit to hold a licence for an event of this type, based on:

- The previous non-compliance of the company with the conditions of its licence (as per Environmental Health’s statement in its application “It has been established that the licence holder did not comply with any of these requirements.”). This was not failure to meet just one condition, it was failure to comply with any of the conditions set.
- The inconsistency between the company’s claimed actions at the last event in 2021, for example letters delivered to some (very limited) streets, and non-receipt of letter reported by a resident (as per EH’s application for licence review).
- The lack of professionalism or procedures in place for complying with the conditions of its licence, for example the lack of records of any noise monitoring in 2021 (as cited in the EH application for review), and the site manager’s statement “during the event I regularly checked noise levels by ear”, (as per the licence holder’s subsequent correspondence with Environmental Health), cited by the licence holder as an example of its rigorous monitoring of noise levels.
- The absence of any change of management, procedures or apparently, attitude at The Media Publication Company Limited since the 2021 event, as evidenced by its subsequent correspondence with Environmental Health.

As a resident of King Alfred Place we received no letter, nor were letters even planned for our street, and there was no mechanism to complain to the event organisers or team during the event. There was very loud music on many occasions despite this being a food festival. This is a commercial event run immediately adjacent to a residential area, and an SSSI Nature Reserve.

Appendix 2 – Representations from Other Persons

It's also important to note that this is primarily a music event, not food; the event scheduled for North Walls in June 2022 specifically promotes its music above food, see <https://foodiesfestival.com/events/winchester/> for details of its headline acts currently promising musical entertainment from 11am to 9pm across 3 days.

This licence holder is not fit to hold future events on North Walls; it has not demonstrated its ability to comply with licensing conditions in the future, has a past record of non-compliance, and in line with Licensing Act 2003's provisions the licence should be suspended.

Thank you

Jim bruce
King Alfred Place

My address is 13 King Alfred place, so23 7dq

Appendix 2 – Representations from Other Persons

J Soffe**13 Alswitha Terrace, Winchester, SO23 7DQ****Received 24 December 2021**Subject: RE: Review of Foodies Festival Licence, North Walls

I would like to comment on the review of the licence for North Walls held by The Media Publication Company Limited for its “Foodies Festival”. I am a local resident and one of the complainants regarding the 2021 event.

I completely support the concerns raised by Environmental Health in its review application regarding the prevention of public nuisance, specifically noise nuisance from amplified music, and particularly its concern “that sufficient measures to prevent public nuisance may not be implemented for future events”. I would therefore ask that the licence be suspended.

This organisation does not appear fit to hold a licence for an event of this type, based on:

- The previous non-compliance of the company with the conditions of its licence (as per Environmental Health’s statement in its application “It has been established that the licence holder did not comply with any of these requirements.”). This was not failure to meet just one condition, it was failure to comply with any of the conditions set.
- The inconsistency between the company’s claimed actions at the last event in 2021, for example letters delivered to some (very limited) streets, and non-receipt of letter reported by a resident (as per EH’s application for licence review).
- The lack of professionalism or procedures in place for complying with the conditions of its licence, for example the lack of records of any noise monitoring in 2021 (as cited in the EH application for review), and the site manager’s statement “during the event I regularly checked noise levels by ear”, (as per the licence holder’s subsequent correspondence with Environmental Health), cited by the licence holder as an example of its rigorous monitoring of noise levels.
- The absence of any change of management, procedures or apparently, attitude at The Media Publication Company Limited since the 2021 event, as evidenced by its subsequent correspondence with Environmental Health.

As a resident of Alswitha Terrace I live immediately adjacent to North Walls Rec where the event was held. As per my complaints during the event to WCC councillors, and subsequent correspondence with the Environmental Health team (emails July and August 2021), we received no letter, nor were letters even planned for our street, and there was no mechanism to complain to the event organisers or team during the event. As I wrote to the EH team afterwards, “The noise was probably worst Saturday afternoon and evening... ..there was very loud music

Appendix 2 – Representations from Other Persons

from lunchtime onwards, with a presenter shouting “Come on let’s make some noise” and “Louder” at regular intervals.”

I’d like to highlight that the “Foodies Festival” is a commercial event run in, for example, Tatton Park (1000 acres), Hylands Park Chelmsford (574 acres), Durdham Downs Bristol (422 acres), Escot Park Exeter (1000 acres) and is currently scheduled to bring its equipment and procedures to Winchester’s North Walls (30 acres). Immediately adjacent to a residential area, and an SSSI Nature Reserve.

It’s also important to note that this is primarily a music event, not food; the event scheduled for North Walls in June 2022 specifically promotes its music above food, see <https://foodiesfestival.com/events/winchester/> for details of its headline acts currently promising musical entertainment from 11am to 9pm across 3 days.

This licence holder is not fit to hold future events on North Walls; it has not demonstrated its ability to comply with licensing conditions in the future, has a past record of non-compliance, and in line with Licensing Act 2003’s provisions the licence should be suspended.

Thank you for your attention.

J. Soffe
13 Alswitha Terrace
SO23 7DQ

Appendix 2 – Representations from Other Persons

Cllr Paula Ferguson (St Bartholomew)

Winchester City Council, City Offices, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LJ

Received 10 January 2022

Subject: Review of premises licence PREM813 for Foodies Festival on the grounds of the prevention of Public Nuisance.

Dear Winchester City Council

I am writing in support of the application for a review of the premises licence PREM813 from Environmental Health, Winchester City Council on the grounds of the prevention of Public Nuisance. This licence is held by The Media Company Publications Ltd, 115 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YR, and relates to North Walls Recreation Ground, Gordon Rd, Winchester, SO23 7DD and covers the Foodies Festival to be held on 15th -17th July 2022.

During the weekend of the Foodies Festival in 2021, residents on all sides of North Walls Recreation Ground, including residents in Hyde, on the Worthy Rd, on the edge of Abbotts Barton, on Wales St and on Park Avenue were all adversely affected by loud music emanating from the festival.

Many residents complained to me and my fellow ward councillors Cllr. Becker and Cllr. Tippett-Cooper that they had been disturbed by the constant noise from the sound systems that they felt was far too loud. They were also frustrated that they had not received notification of the festival by the festival organisers nor were they given the means to contact the festival organisers during the event should they need to. As ward councillors we were also not given a contact number to call should issues arise. Residents felt the sound system and the music was too loud, that it was almost constant throughout the 3 days, and went on too late in the evening. Residents questioned why a festival which was meant to be about food had in fact turned into a music festival. In addition, concerns were raised about: the impact on the fields of heavy vehicles and the harm done to surfaces as a result; the failure to remove advertising from lampposts after the event; traffic control around the event.

North Walls Recreation Ground is a relatively constrained space, in the heart of a residential area. Many houses in Hyde are right next to the park and these were particularly adversely affected.

While many residents enjoy the festivals that take place on North Walls Recreation Ground during the summer months, I would urge that conditions within this licence are changed and tightened to prevent the public nuisance re-occurring. In addition to the measures recommended by the Environmental Health Team, I would ask that specific restrictions are placed on when and how loudly music can be played, and for how long; that all residents in the surrounding area including Wales St, Park Avenue and all the streets in Hyde between North Walls Recreation Ground and Worthy Rd are notified of the festival in writing and given a hotline number which will be

Appendix 2 – Representations from Other Persons

answered should residents need to call; that the organisers be required to ensure steps are taken to mitigate the other issues outlined above (i.e. advertising posters, traffic and impact to the fields); that there is a greater emphasis that this is primarily a food festival and not a music festival; and that if the new terms of the licence are breached that the festival can be closed.

Cllr Paula Ferguson

Councillor for St Bartholomew Ward
Winchester City Council
City Offices
Colebrook St
Winchester
SO23 9LJ

Appendix 2 – Representations from Other Persons

Cllr John Tippett-Cooper (St Bartholomew)
Winchester City Council, City Offices, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LJ
Received 10 January 2021

Subject: Re: Review of premises licence PREM813 for Foodies Festival on the grounds of the prevention of Public Nuisance.

Dear Winchester City Council

I write to endorse and support Cllr Ferguson's comments.

In addition to the points raised by Cllr Ferguson, residents fed back to me with concerns about traffic management, damage to the fields and also fly-postering in respect of this event - these issues should be raised with the organisers.

I am also a resident on King Alfred Terrace and while many in our area welcome the energy and buzz of such events, as Cllr Ferguson sets out, there needs to be more effective controls on the volume and duration of the noise. I would also make clear that, as a resident, I did not personally receive any notification or information about this event from the organisers and it is imperative that contact details are provided of a someone who can intervene if noise volumes or any other matter become an issue.

Very many thanks

Cllr John Tippett-Cooper
Councillor for St Bartholomew Ward
Winchester City Council