

LICENSING ACT 2003
Environmental Health Consultation
Response



Working for a brighter future together

EP Ref: ELL/070371

Date Received: 16 September 2020
 Name of Applicant: The Bridge Hotel
 Address to which application relates: The Village, Prestbury, Macclesfield, SK10 4DQ

Conversion: Variation: New:

	Approve
x	Approve with Conditions
	Object to Section(s)

LICENSING OBJECTIVE: PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE

Complaints of noise nuisance have been lodged by nearby residents to The Bridge Hotel to the Environmental Protection (EP) Service in mid August 2020. The complaints relate to alleged noise nuisance being caused from the playing of live and recorded music outdoors at The Bridge Hotel. Correspondence dated 18th August 2020 was sent to Premises Licence Holder, Mr D Heywood, at The Bridge Hotel by the EP Service and, at the same time, log sheets were sent to the complainants on which to obtain evidence of the dates/ times/duration and type of noise problem in the event of a continuance of the noise. Subsequently and following a complaint of alleged noise problems being caused on Bank Holiday Monday, 31st August 2020, I visited The Bridge Hotel. Mr Heywood had an engagement to which he had to attend but I was able to discuss the complaints and issues of noise control measures with Mr Chris Gottelier, General Manager and with his colleague Mr Archie Thompson. I was able to view the external dining area and noted the close proximity of two apartment blocks which directly overlook the external dining area. Mr Gottelier and Mr Thompson advised that at that period of time – being summer - amplified recorded music was relayed from inside the building via a small external speaker to the outdoor dining area every afternoon until 8pm. They further advised that the music is played at a low, background level to allow patrons to be able to comfortably converse. Mr Thompson regularly monitored the noise levels from the music by means of checks outside the external dining area / garden boundary and towards the nearest residential dwellings.

From the information provided by the complainants at that time, it seemed that this activity was being successfully undertaken without complaint to the EP Service / notes of incidents of noise on the complainant's log sheets. However, residents continue to complain of live entertainment noise which occurs on a sporadic basis. The General Manager confirmed that such entertainment was undertaken in the outdoor area from time to time but that the entertainment only took place for a restricted period of time and during reasonable hours.

In order to avoid noise nuisance from being caused and as a means of protecting the residential amenity of the residents of those apartments (being the closest residents) I recommended that noise from music should only be played at background level in the outdoor areas. I further advised of my concerns as regards any entertainment being employed outdoors such as a live singer or band or dj music and recommended that any

such music should be played indoors whereby the building structure could effectively contain the sound from the music – and also contain the sound of audience appreciation such as applause / voices etc. This advice was also included within my aforementioned correspondence to the Premise Licence Holder of The Bridge Hotel, dated 18th August 2020..

The new application for a Premises Licence at The Bridge Hotel restricts the playing of live and recorded to indoors only - which is to be welcomed – with additional noise controls measures being proposed to control the volume and to contain the sound effectively to inside the building.

I would however raise concerns as regards the proposed marquee due to the fact that the fabric of marquees is not effective in containing noise. This is a matter which the applicant should address in terms of either withdrawing this element of the application or alternatively, submitting a Noise Management Plan in relation to effective controls of noise escape from the use of marquees at the site.

In consideration of all the facts, the following conditions are recommended as noise control measures to be attached to an approval of this application in order to protect the interest of local residents and to ensure that the licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance is upheld.

1. Appropriate and effective measures shall be taken at all times to ensure that any noise from the premises shall not be at a level which could cause a noise nuisance at the nearest residential premises.
2. The premises licence holder shall maintain a tamper proof - in house sound system which must be used for all performances of live and recorded music.
3. A noise management plan in respect of marquee use shall be submitted for approval.
4. After 22:00 hours no food or drink is to be taken into the outside area.
5. All external windows and doors shall be closed whilst amplified entertainment is taking place inside the building of the Bridge Hotel, except for normal access and egress.
6. Live and recorded music played outdoors shall be restricted to background noise level only.
7. The Licence Holder/Designated Premises Supervisor or responsible person nominated by him/her in charge of the Premises shall ensure that regular noise assessments are made around the site boundary during the playing of live and amplified music to ensure that any noise emanating from the Premises is not likely to cause a noise nuisance at the boundary of the nearest noise sensitive properties. Appropriate action shall be taken to reduce the level of noise where it is likely to cause a disturbance to local residents A log book shall be maintained which details the date, time, type of entertainment, person undertaking the check, notes as regards the assessment of the noise and action taken if necessary. The log book should be kept at The Bridge Hotel and made available for inspection on request by any authorised officer of the Council at any time.
8. Conspicuous notices shall be erected in positions within the Hotel building and at exit doors which are clearly noticeable to patrons - to request customers to be considerate in terms of noise as they leave the premises and to leave the area quickly and quietly. This should be reinforced by staff and any dj / band member as patrons leave the premise building.
9. Customers shall be permitted to stay inside the premises whilst waiting for taxis.
10. There shall be no disposal of bottles outside the premises between the hours of 20.00 and 09.00.

11. There shall be no disposal of refuse outside the premises or deliveries made to the premises between the hours of 20.00 hours and 07.30 hours.
12. The Licence Holder/Designated Premises Supervisor or responsible person nominated by him in charge of the Premises shall ensure that the Premises, including the car park, are vacated quietly within thirty minutes of the terminal hour of the Licence, and that proper supervision of all persons leaving the car park and otherwise leaving the Premises is provided.
13. Conspicuous notices shall be positioned in the car park requesting patrons to make the minimum amount of noise on leaving.

Signed: **Brenda Lomas, Enforcement Officer, Environmental Protection**

Dated: 8th October 2020

Direct Dial: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]