

**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
LICENSING AND APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Letchworth Garden City, on Thursday
19 May 2005 at 5.30 pm**

PRESENT: *Councillors S Bloxham, Gary Grindal, L McNamara, P Clark and Mrs J.I. Kirby.*

IN ATTENDANCE: *Licensing and Enforcement Manager, Licensing and Enforcement Officers, Litigation and Licensing Lawyer, Principal Environmental Health Officer and Committee & Member Services Officer.*

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made during the meeting.

6. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor P Clark, **SECONDED** by Councillor L McNamara and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Mrs J I Kirby be appointed as Chairman for the duration of this meeting of the Licensing and Appeals Committee.

7. PROCEDURE

The Chairman ascertained that all parties present were satisfied to adhere to the suggested procedure as circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

In accordance with the agreed procedure, the Chairman ascertained that the below mentioned people were appearing before the Licensing & Appeals Committee.

Giovanna Silverio (Licensing and Enforcement Manager) as the Licensing Officer, assisted by Heather Morris (Assistant Licensing Officer) and Steven Cobb (Assistant Licensing Officer).

Benita Edwards (Litigation and Licensing Lawyer) as the Legal Advisor.

Andy Godman (Principal Environmental Health Officer)

Adrian Knight (Applicant)

Paul Wilcox (witness for the Applicant)

Bob Mardon (witness for the Applicant)

Matthew Wyle (witness for the Applicant)

Rev Michael Roden, St Mary's Church (witness for the Applicant).

8. APPLICATION FOR AN OCCASIONAL PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982 - Rhythms of the World for use of Portmill Lane to include both car parks, Market Place, St Mary's Church, High Street, Bancroft, Brand Street and Bancroft Gardens on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th July 2005, it was

The Licensing and Enforcement Manager introduced her report to the Committee.

The Applicant then addressed the Committee on the application, at the conclusion of which he was questioned by the Committee.

The Licensing and Enforcement Manager and the Applicant were then given the opportunity to make closing statements in support of their views.

The Sub-Committee then retired to discuss the application. After full consideration of the information submitted and voiced at the meeting it was **RESOLVED** that having considered all the evidence and in particular having regard to the history of previous Rhythms of the World events, the low level of complaints received about previous

Rhythms of the World events, and the noise levels measured at Rhythms of the World 2004, an Occasional Public Entertainment Licence for Rhythms of the World be granted for 9 and 10 July 2005. The said Licence would be subject to the Special Conditions attached at Appendix C of the report, which have been amended as at conditions 1 and 2 below. The said Licence would also be subject to the additional conditions as set out at conditions 3, 4 and 5 below.

1. At page 23 of the Report, Appendix C, Special Condition 1:

The maximum number of persons (not including staff and attendants) shall not be exceeded within the licence areas:

- (i) Maximum 1600 persons at Portmill Lane car park;
- (ii) Maximum 800 persons at Market Square;
- (iii) Maximum 750 persons at Bancroft Gardens;

2. At page 24 of the Report, Appendix C, Special Condition 13:

The number of stewards on duty whilst the public are in the licensed areas shall be:

- (i) 16 stewards at Portmill Lane Stage;
- (ii) 8 stewards at Market Square Stage;
- (iii) 8 stewards at Bancroft Gardens;

3. That a Noise Management Plan be submitted to and agreed by the Council within three weeks of the date of decision. The said Noise Management Plan must ensure that:

The control of music noise shall be adequate to ensure that the Music Noise Level* shall not, at the façade of any noise-sensitive premises, exceed the following levels:

- (I) 90 dB(A)** at the Market Square stage;
- (II) 83 dB(A)** at Portmill Lane car park stage;
- (III) 75 dB(A)** at all other stages;

over any 15 minute period (as measured by the Laeq acoustic metric) throughout the duration of the event including any rehearsal or sound-check.

* as defined within the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts

** all measurements shall have regard to the methodology quoted within paragraph 4-5 of BS4142:1997 with the sound meter set to a Fast (F) response;

4. That a Method Statement relating to the monitoring of the number of people attending the event be submitted to the council at least 48 hours before the event;
5. At page 27 of the Report, Appendix C, Special Condition 22 :

That a dedicated telephone number for noise complaints to be confirmed to the Council by no later that one week prior to the event.

REASON FOR DECISION: To allow an Occasional Public Entertainment Licence that took account of the Festival's requirements, but considered the needs of residents in surrounding areas.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

.....
Chairman

