

Tue 19/12/2023 16:57

Dear Sirs

I am writing in regard to the forthcoming licensing decision as per the subject line - the events application for Ludlow Castle by Future Sounds Ltd.

Firstly my required details are:

Name: Tom Evans

Address: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I am a resident and home owner in Ludlow and live very close to the Castle. My wife and I will be directly affected by any significant events in the Castle. I do appreciate that events do need to be run in the town for both its economy and greater benefits to residents/visitors.

My first concern comes under **Prevention of Crime & Disorder:**

During the four events held at the Castle during the summer of 2023 there were at least two significant crimes that occurred that I am aware of. The first is that there was a parked vehicle stolen off Mill Street during these events - it was parked at the upper end of the street near or outside number 55. Secondly there was a hit and run accident on a local resident's parked car on Dinham on the hill approach to the bridge that resulted in the vehicle being written off. These events did not have a good crime record in 2023 and increasing the number of events and attendees allowed does not bode well for 2024.

I have several further concerns under **The Prevention of Public Nuisance;**

The four events run in the summer of 2023 did produce a significant amount of "noise" which impacted on life within our Mill Street House. I note your inclusion of a "Maximum Noise Level" limit of 70 dB and 75 dB for headline acts.

Firstly it is well recognised that prolonged exposure to sounds over 70 dB can produce permanent ear damage. Why is 75 dB being proposed at all.

Secondly does the licensing board realize that sound doubles for every increase of 3 dB. Thus 75 dB is effectively a quadrupling of the base 70db level. Again why is a sound level of 75 dB, which is known to be dangerous, being proposed or allowed.

Who exactly will police these sound level restrictions. Do they have recognised training in monitoring sound at such events? Do they have the necessary calibrated equipment? Are they independent of the event organisers? Are there any conflicts of interest? And finally will they produce a publicly available report after each event detailing noise levels measured?

In terms of other noise do the licensees realise the post event noise which occurred in 2023? Attendees leaving the concert over a not insignificant period and the event crews packing up and leaving town do have a significant impact as well.

The numbers of allowable event attendees being proposed are to be doubled to 5000 to 9999. This will result in a concomitant increase in vehicle traffic and parking in the town. Ludlow is a small town with a restricted medieval core unsuited to accommodating such a significant influx of vehicles and people. Exactly how is this proposed to be handled? Parking for instance is at a premium in Ludlow at the best times - how would a potential influx of a possible 5000 vehicles be handled.

Finally at the conclusion of the four events in 2023 the streets near the castle including Mill Street were left in a disgraceful state with refuse and debris scattered everywhere. The concert goers are long gone by morning but the town centre residents are left with their rubbish in the morning - much of which had to be swept up by them off their front steps and pavements. This can't be allowed to continue in 2024..

In summary I would suggest allowing only the 4 events to be run in the town in 2024 as in 2023 with the same number of allowable attendees (5000). Until we can see that these events do not raise crime levels, abide by published and verifiable noise levels, have some form of traffic/parking management, and do not increase public litter, there should be no increase in events or attendees allowed.

Yours Sincerely,

Tom Evans

Wed 20/12/2023 11:12

Dear Sirs

Further to your reply to my representation I agree to the requirements as below

**I fully understand that this representation will be made available to the applicant and included in the Sub Committee's Hearing papers which are publicly accessible documents, and any subsequent appeal court proceedings.**

Please confirm my representation has been accepted.

Sincerely

Tom Evans