

**LICENSING COMMITTEE held at 7.30 pm at COUNCIL OFFICES  
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN on 19 MAY 2005**

Present:- Councillor J I Loughlin – in the Chair.  
Councillors K R Artus, A Marchant, D J Morson and A R Row.

Officers in attendance:- , M Hardy, A Lee-Moore, M Perry, C Roberts, G  
Smith and A Turner.

**LC1 APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor V J T Lelliott.

**LC2 APPLICATION FOR FIVE SINGLE OCCASION EVENTS IN THE GROUNDS  
OF AUDLEY END HOUSE**

The Sub-Committee considered an application by International Management Group (UK) (IMG) for five single occasion musical entertainment licences over four consecutive weekends during July and August 2005. The events were to be held in the grounds of Audley End House on behalf of English Heritage. An objection had been received from Ms S Jellis, and the Principal Environmental Health Officer had made comments and recommendations which were annexed to the report of the Licensing Officer and had been agreed with the Applicant. No objections had been received from the Police or from District or Town Councils.

Ms G Allsobrook was present on behalf of the Applicant IMG (UK) Ltd with representatives of the Audley End Estate and English Heritage.

Ms Jellis was unable to attend the hearing.

The Licensing Officer presented his report and read out in full the letter of objection from Ms Jellis.

Neither the Applicant nor the Environmental Health Officer wished to make further observations.

**LC3 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 4 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

The applicant's representatives and the licensing and environmental health officers then left the room whilst Members considered their decision.

LC4

#### **FIVE SINGLE OCCASION EVENT LICENCES IN THE GROUNDS OF AUDLEY END HOUSE – DECISION**

The Applicant, officers and public were then readmitted to the meeting.

RESOLVED that the application be granted for five (four Saturday and one Sunday) single occasion licences on 16th, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30th July and 6th and 7th August 2005 from 4.00pm till 10.30pm subject to the conditions that:-

- 1 the end time for performances shall be 22.00 hours, not 22.30 hours except in the case of extenuating circumstances;
- 2 rehearsals are to take place only between the hours of 14.00 and 17.00 on the day of the event, with amplification of music for no more than 90 minutes within any one rehearsal period.

LC5

#### **APPLICATION FOR SEVEN SINGLE OCCASION WEEKDAY MUSIC AND DANCING LICENCE AND ONE SUNDAY MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE AT SAFFRON WALDEN COMMON**

The Committee considered applications from Mr Eamon McCourt, Carnival Chairman of the Saffron Walden Round Table Carnival Committee 2005, for seven single occasion weekday music and dancing licences and one Sunday music entertainment licence for the Saffron Walden Carnival events to be held on Saffron Walden Common from Friday 8 July to Saturday 16 July inclusive.

Two objections had been received on grounds of anticipated undue noise disturbance and the late finishing time requested for some events in the application. No objections had been received from the Police or from District or Town Councils. The Principal Environmental Health Officer had made comments and recommendations which were annexed to the report of the Licensing Officer.

The applicant with four other members of the Saffron Walden Round Table Carnival Committee 2005 and the objectors Mr and Mrs Carruthers and Dr Shennan attended the meeting.

The Licensing Officer presented his report and referred to the suggested substitute conditions about finish times.

Mr McCourt explained that the Carnival was organised every three years in aid of charity and as a community event for the town of Saffron Walden. He gave details of the tabled events and other members of the Carnival Committee explained the improved PA provision with better definition demanding relatively less power, sound drapes and different sound angles, and the provision for crowd control, dispersal and security.

Mr Carruthers stated his objections and in answer to a question from him it was stated that the decibel ceiling would be 96Db at the sound desk. The

Environmental Health Officer commented that this would be a level similar to but no worse than the last Carnival.

The Executive Manager Corporate Governance explained that the Environmental Health Officer had suggested reduction of event hours by 30 minutes on the Thursday and Friday nights of the Carnival. The Carnival Committee members explained that this would prejudice staggered dispersal times to avoid pub dispersals, and reduce the Carnival's optimum income opportunity due to the difficulty of manhandling band equipment on and off stage in reduced times.

Dr Shennan then stated his objections to the length of the event and the volume of sound produced.

Neither the Members of the Committee nor the Applicant nor officers had any questions to ask the objectors.

The Environmental Health Officer reiterated the comments and suggested conditions contained in the appendix to the Licensing Officer's report.

The Applicant made a final statement stressing the steps take by the Carnival Committee to ameliorate the event to residents and to attenuate noise, and the benefits to local charities from the event.

LC6

#### **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 4 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

The applicant and other Carnival Committee representatives, the objectors and the licensing and environmental health officers then left the room whilst Members considered their decision.

LC7

#### **APPLICATION FOR SEVEN SINGLE OCCASION WEEKDAY MUSIC AND DANCING LICENCES AND ONE SUNDAY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE AT SAFFRON WALDEN COMMON**

The public were readmitted to the meeting briefly when the Committee asked Mr McCourt about the acceptability of an automatic sound cut-out. Mr McCourt stressed the unacceptable crowd situation which might arise if the performance was cut out before the planned end, and the strain which would be placed on the hired PA equipment by using any such device instead of the usual system of having an environmental health officer monitor the use of the sound desk.

Members of the Committee then continued their deliberations in the absence of the parties, officers and public for a short while and then re-called all persons to hear the decision:-

RESOLVED

- 1 that the licences be granted as set out in the Schedule of Events on Appendix B5 of the agenda item;
- 2 that rehearsal times be agreed in advance with the District Council;
- 3 that maximum noise level be agreed at 96Db at the sound desk;
- 4 that prominent and clear notices be displayed at exits requesting the public to respect the needs of local residents and to leave the area quietly.

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm.