

Committee: Licensing Committee

Date: 19 May 2005

Agenda Item No: 2

Title: Application for four single occasion weekday music and dancing licences and one Sunday musical entertainment Licences at Audley End House Grounds Saffron Walden

Author: Amanda Turner (01799) 510578

Summary

- 1 Applications have been received from Ms Gundrun Allsobrook of International Management Group (IMG) for four Saturday single occasion music and dancing licences and one Sunday musical entertainment licences on behalf of English Heritage.
- 2 One objection on grounds of undue noise disturbance both on afternoon rehearsals and the evening concerts has been received. The Committee is therefore requested to determine the application.

Background

- 3 Each year since 1990 English Heritage or IMG has applied and obtained a number of single occasion musical entertainment licences in the grounds of Audley End House. Initially these were for Sunday evenings, with one event per month during June, July, August and September. During this period the organisers, police and Council Officers developed a very successful package of controls and conditions, which endured minimum disruption and nuisance.
- 4 However, for the 1995 season the organisers applied for the same four events but on two consecutive weekends. The arrangement was again not opposed as the organisers agreed to apply for attendances of 4,000 persons for the first two events, 6,000 for the third and 10,000 for the fourth and final event. Because of this management of attendance levels, the third exit/entrance in Abbey Lane was only necessary for the final occasion. This strategy was successful as the audiences did not exceed those fixed levels and no unacceptable disturbance or noise to residents occurred.
- 5 In 1996 the organisers applied for a similar four single events, again over two consecutive weekends, but with an attendance limit of 10,000 persons on each occasion and hence the use of Abbey Lane on all four occasions. This resulted in objections from the Saffron Walden Town Council, District Councillors, the Police and your own Officers and involved a hearing by the Licensing Sub Committee. A licence was granted allowing only 6,000 persons to the first three concerts and 10,000 persons at the fourth and final events. This therefore ensured that Abbey Lane was only used on the final

event. All four concerts were held successfully and no objections or complaints were received.

- 6 No objections were received to any applications for four single occasion events over 2 consecutive weekends during the years 1997 to 2000.
- 7 Although one objection was received when IGM applied for an additional concert on in 2001 making a total of five concerts a year Members of the Licensing committee granted the application.
- 8 No objections were received to the five single occasion events of up to 10,000 persons and these licences were subsequently granted in 2002 and 2003. One objection letter was received after the five events in 2004 had taken place. This objector was also consulted of the forthcoming events during this year's consultation period in March and a copy of the reply letter is appended (A2).
- 9 The Abbey Lane entrance/exit has not been used for any concerts since 2001 to help with disturbance to local residents.
- 10 A location plan showing Audley End House grounds highlighting the concert arena is appended as A3. Appendix A4 is on a smaller scale and indicates the location of the objector's house in relation to Audley End House and arena.

Application

- 11 The current application has been made for five (four Saturday and one Sunday single occasion licences over four consecutive weekends with attendance levels up to 10,000 per event. (appendix A1). The dates of application are 16th, 23rd 30th July and 6th, 7th August 2005
- 12 The hours stated on the application form are from 4.00pm till 10.30pm.
- 13 Notice of Intention to apply for a licence was posted on the railings outside the Lion gate at Audley End House from 8 March 2005. On receipt of the application notifications were sent to the Saffron Walden Town Council, all district councillors covering Saffron Walden, Essex Police, the Councils District Environmental Health Officers, and the 2004 objector.

Objections/Responses

- 14 A letter of objection has been received and is appended as A2.
- 15 The Police do not object to this application.
- 16 The Principal Environmental Health Officer's comments/recommendations are shown in appendix A5.
- 17 No objections have been received from District Councillors or the Saffron Walden Town Council to this application.

Appeal

- 18 Should the application be refused by the Committee or granted, subject to conditions, which the applicant does not find acceptable, the applicant has the right of appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of the decision.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1 the applications for five single occasion events at Audley End House Grounds be determined, and
- 2 In the event of the applicant appealing against a decision of the Committee a Member be nominated to give evidence on behalf of the Committee.

Background Papers:

Application form

Location plans of Audley End House Grounds

Reply from Mr S Sparrow, Essex Police confirming no objections

Letter of objection from S Jellis in 2004

Committee: Licensing Committee
Date: 19 May 2005
Agenda Item No: 3
Title: Application for seven single occasion weekday music and dancing licences and one Sunday musical entertainment licence at Saffron Walden Common
Author: Amanda Turner (01799) 510578

Summary

- 1 Applications have been received from Mr Eamon McCourt, Carnival Chairman, of the Saffron Walden Roundtable Carnival Committee 2005 for seven single occasion weekday music and dancing licences and one Sunday musical entertainment licence for the Saffron Walden Carnival Events to be held on Saffron Walden Common from Friday 8 July to Saturday 16 July 2005 inclusive.
- 2 Two objections on grounds of undue noise disturbance and the late finishing time of some of the events have been received (attached at appendix B3 & B4). The Committee is therefore requested to determine the application.

Background

- 3 The Saffron Walden Roundtable organises the Carnival Events held on the Common every three years, the last being held in 2002. All proceeds raised go to charity and the events are well supported by residents of the town.
- 4 This year's events are planned to be held for a maximum capacity of 2000 people on four of the nights. The remaining four nights are for a capacity of 1,000 people.
- 6 Due to the nature of the entertainments being live music or disco held in a marquee, noise from the events cannot be contained and will be audible at properties some distance from the Common.
- 6 During the 2002 carnival events, two complaints regarding noise disturbance were received from local residents by Environmental Services. Of the eight events licensed in 2002, three were until midnight, the other four finished at 11.30 pm or earlier.

Application

- 7 The application has been made for seven single occasion weekday music and dancing licences and one Sunday musical entertainment licence for up to 2,000 persons (appendix B1). A schedule of the events is attached as Appendix B2.

- 8 Four of the events are proposed to run until midnight, two to 11.30 pm and one each to 11.00 pm and 10.00 pm. One event starts at 5.00pm, five events start at 7.00pm and two start at 7.30pm. On Wednesday 13 July, there is an additional corporate entertainment event involving a sit down dinner and speakers. This event does not require a public entertainment licence.
- 9 Notice of Intention to apply for a licence was posted on a tree adjacent to the common car park and the fence, which surrounds the children's playground the 7 April 2005 for 28 days. On receipt of the application notifications were sent to the Saffron Walden Town Council, all district councillors covering Saffron Walden, Essex Police, and the Councils District Environmental Health Officers.

Objections/Responses

- 10 Letters of objection have been received from Mr D Carruthers of Brooke House, Ashdon Road, Saffron Walden (Appendix B3) and DR CD & Mrs Shennan, 3 Chaters Hill Saffron Walden (Appendix B4).
- 11 The objectors relate to:-
- (a) noise levels from music very high
 - (b) weekday events continuing too late
 - (c) The length of the carnival
 - (d) disturbance from crowd leaving event, often continuing for up to an hour after music has stopped.
 - (e) Set up and rehearsal times of bands often very loud and disruptive.
- 12 A recommendation from the District Environmental Health Officer has been received and is attached as appendix A5.
- 13 No objections have been received from the Town Council, District Councillors or Essex Police.

Appeal

- 14 Should the application be refused by the Committee or granted, subject to conditions, which the applicant does not find acceptable, the applicant has the right of appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of the decision.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1 the application for the licences at Saffron Walden Carnival on the common be determined.
- 3 In the event of the applicant appealing against a decision of the Committee a Member be nominated to give evidence on behalf of the Committee.

Background Papers:

Music and Dancing Application form
Location plan of Saffron Walden common
Reply from Essex Police confirming no objections

