

Dear Dry Drayton Parish Council,

Thank you very much for your response and additional questions.

Question 1 – Who is the Noise Management Consultant?

We have appointed Joynes Nash as our Noise Management Consultant for both events. They are a leading acoustic consultancy within the live events industry. They have extensive experience of live music events, which ranges from small scale to major events staged both in urban and rural environments.

Some of their previous projects have included Junction 2, Carfest (North and South), Garage Nation Festival, BBC Introducing, Guards Polo Club, Tramlines Festival, Liverpool Sound City, Red Bull Music Academy. They are also responsible for looking after the management of noise from live events at venues such as Donington Park Racing Circuit, Saracens Rugby Club and Tobacco Dock.

Questions 2 – What is the maximum sound level allowed?

The maximum music noise level for these events is 65dB LAeq(15 min) measured at agreed off site noise sensitive locations. This is a level which is recognised in current guidance as one which does not cause noise nuisance to a local community. We constantly monitor front of house levels to ensure that the off site levels are not exceeded and control is maintained throughout so there is no increase or creep in noise levels beyond those allowed. Joynes Nash will be onsite throughout all performances of regulated entertainment.

Question 3 - They say in their letter 'By including the above condition, it allows us as Event Organisers and both the Licencing Authority and Responsible Authorities to share feedback and review the event in detail before plans are made next year'. Who do they share their findings with - how transparent will they actually be?

This proposed condition commits us to have a debrief with all of the Responsible Authorities after each event which is the foundation for the planning process for the event to take place the following year. The purpose of the debrief is to provide a multi agency forum to share feedback. Where issues are identified within the community, this can be fed into this process.

[In addition, we will carry out local consultation prior to each event to receive feedback from the local communities which we will feed into the planning process.]

Question 4 – Do they have a COVID-19 policy?

In accordance with the recent government announcement regarding the proposed roadmap out of lockdown, we have taken the steps to officially move both events in 2021 to September.

A COVID-19 plan is included as part of the Event Management & Safety Plan and states as follows:

'The organisers will continue to monitor the situation in relation to COVID-19 and are building control measures into their overall event planning process.'

Considerations will include: -

Government guidance and legislation
Local levels of transmission and associated restrictions
National levels of transmission and associated restrictions
Vaccine development and roll out time scales
Developments in mass testing and possible health passport
Scientific knowledge around antibody immunity and updated treatment methods.

Planning for the event will continue and any COVID secure controls will be built into this process however contingency plans will be developed and linked to the considerations above. Within these contingency plans the organisers will have a clear process for cancellation of the event if necessary.

There will be a supplementary risk assessment completed which will be updated on a regular basis and suitable control measures put in place.'

Question 5 - The letter title is Response to Representation 1, is there another representation we should/are to be made aware of?

All representations are contained in the Committee Report which is published and available via the Council website.

Question 6 - It is felt that Dry Drayton Parish will have no influence except if there are a huge number of complaints then this will feed into the arrangements for subsequent years. A dedicated resident complaint and information phone line and email service which is operational throughout the event is unlikely to have any effect on the noise at the time. Dry Drayton Parish Council suspect that it will be used to register complaints for consideration at a later date.

We wish to assure you that these concerns are ill founded. During events, we will have a dedicated information and complaints line. This will enable us to act on issues as they arise. These complaints are also fed into the onsite event control so that action can be taken. All complaints are reviewed at the time and appropriate actions are taken. For example, a Noise Consultant will be tasked with investigating a noise complaint, when received, and if noise levels are above permitted levels, immediate action will be taken to reduce the levels at the noise source.

It is correct that the record of complaints received will be fed into the planning for the following year and appropriate changes made, where necessary.

We will also engage in consultation with the local communities to receive their feedback which will also be fed into planning for future events.

Question 7 - Reference is made to "a Multi Agency (sic) debrief shall be held within 3 months of the last event day each year". As this event has been running since 2014, albeit at different locations to that planned for 2021, what has been the outcome of the debrief?

As part of our planning, we considered the debrief from the last event in 2019 and we also listened to comments from the Responsible Authorities about earlier events during the initial planning process. However, as you acknowledge, the event proposed in this Application is at a different location and we would also add that it is being produced by a new and very experienced production company. Our Licensing Application was only made after we had engaged with the Responsible Authorities so that any shortcomings with earlier events could be satisfactorily addressed.

Future debriefs will scrutinise our events and learnings will be carried forward, it is our aim to continuously improve our events year on year. We also recognise that this requires working in partnership with the Responsible Authorities and our local communities.

As mentioned, we are more than happy to arrange a follow up with a zoom call to discuss any concerns in more detail.

Kind regards,

Aisha Francis