

From: XXXXXXXX

Sent: 19 August 2019 19:52

To: Licensing <licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk>

Cc: Ethelpline <ethelpline@herefordshire.gov.uk>; Contact Us WMP

<contactus@westmercia.pnn.police.uk>; The Office of Bill Wiggin

<officeofbillwigginmp@parliament.uk>; ledbury.reception@milleroptometrists.co.uk

Subject: Continual noise disturbances at The Barn

Dear Sir or Madam

Further to my emails over the last six months I am yet again emailing to complain about how much disturbance is being caused by The Barn in Ledbury.

On Friday 16th August The Barn held their monthly event called The Social. The music from the sound system played from 7pm until 11.50pm. There was no effort to reduce the volume at 11pm as is required. In fact, yet again the volume seemed to get louder as the evening progressed. .

As per usual customers were gathering in the outside drinking area which, please let me remind you, is right outside my window. As you would expect whatever the event and whatever the attendance people gather, so there is always going to be noise. Whether this 'people noise' measures over any acceptable scale or not is completely irrelevant. The point is that it is a disturbance and it is all happening right outside my window every weekend.

On Saturday 17th August The Barn hosted a live music event. As per usual the noise was just unbearable. The volume of the music was so loud that my flat was vibrating. The vicinity right outside my window was packed with people. This is just not acceptable. The first condition under 'The Prevention Of Public Nuisance' in the licence agreement states 'Noise or vibration shall not emanate from the premises so as to cause a nuisance'.

Yet again I felt forced to leave my flat just to get away as I could not even hear myself think. This was at 10.45pm. My basic human right to relax in my own home has been taken away.

Please note, yet again live music was being played past the cut off time of 11pm.

I am angry and completely baffled as to how on earth any licence was granted in the first place, when considering its location and how close it is to my home. I believe I have asked this question before, but were you aware that The Barn had neighbours and also of how close the venue and its outside drinking area is to my flat? Please can somebody get back to me on this query?

Reportedly the event could be heard all over the town. However, as I have said before there will be nobody who will be experiencing the same level of impact as myself. Who else would have felt forced to leave their home that night?

On both Friday and Saturday of last weekend I had to ring the 'out of hours' telephone number provided to me to report my concerns.

I was given recording equipment from the Environmental Health Team recently, but unfortunately it failed to work. It has since been taken away and I was not allowed to have it last weekend. Please can somebody let me know when I may receive the equipment again? There are live music events this weekend coming, both Friday and Saturday.

As I mentioned before I have not interacted with the owners of The Barn, as advised by the Environmental Health Team. However when I hand delivered all relevant documentation to The Barn on Friday 16th August, as was required of me, I engaged in a brief conversation with Ms Jones about the current situation. During this conversation it soon became evident to me, due to her ludicrous comments that she has no understanding of the severity of the situation and does not appear to be taking the issues raised seriously. I've made it quite clear to Ms Jones in the past that I will not be attending any event at The Barn and that I do not appreciate her constant invites to do so. With this

said, I was dumbfounded when after the conversation she yet again invited me to another event being held the following night. As I said, is she taking this seriously at all?

Considering how many times I have had to bring The Barn to your attention, I would be very interested to know how much of a dialogue there is between The Barn and the local authorities? I ask this because the situation is worsening and not improving. To my knowledge the owners of The Barn have been approached by the Environmental Health Team at least once. If any warnings have been issued then they are blatantly being ignored.

I would not be surprised if you are getting fed up with receiving such emails from me. Believe me, I'm fed up of sending them. Yes, they are repetitive. However, the owners repeatedly ignore the terms and conditions of the licensing agreement every weekend. I am only keeping a log of all events and reporting when necessary, as advised by the Licensing Committee and the Police.

In closing, as I have stated before, these disturbances have led me to consult my GP due to the impact they are having on my wellbeing. As a result I have since been prescribed with anti-depressants.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

David Thomas

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