

HowTheLightGetsIn Festival
APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF PREMISES LICENCE
HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

ATTACHMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF MANDY HOUGHTON

MH 5 – Calvin Hanks Response to Representations



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Response to Public representations to Licensing sub-committee hearing in regards Licence application by How the Light Gets in.

1. I, Calvin Hanks, MSc, MSc, PgC, CMIOSH, FIIRSM, FRSP, MCIEH are employed in capacity of Health & Safety consultants for Calvin Hanks, which is a trading name of C J Associates Training Ltd, whose registered office is located at 34 Copperfields, High Wycombe, Bucks., HP12 4AN (Company No. 4715779). The facts in this statement come from my personal knowledge.
2. Calvin Hanks is a firm of experienced, trusted and approachable health, safety and event noise consultants. We help organisations and events across the UK & Worldwide stay safe.
3. We are led by a Chartered Safety & Health Practitioner (IOSH), who specialises in events, film, television, hospitality and leisure. Calvin Hanks is registered with OSHCR and fellow of IIRSM.
4. We are the Health and Safety Consultants for How The Light Gets In.
5. We have been provided with the documents in regards the licensing sub-committee hearing including representations and comment on these below.
6. The document referred to is "Public Reps" attached to the email sent by Emma (no surname provided) of the Licensing team at Herefordshire Authority on 5th April 2023.
7. Page 3 of the document states that no mention in made of dedicated parking in the license application. This data is stated in the Event Safety Management Plan (section 9.1) which states:

"We will be parking all our visitors on the camping & yurt camping sites in the designated car parks. We have enough onsite parking which we know from past events of this size we will not exceed. Those attending the event will be sent pre-event information that tells them to park only on the approved event car parks and not to park on public highways.

Blue badge holders will be permitted to park at Riverside in a designated area. The only other on-site parking is available to musicians and pre agreed staff parking all other staff and contractors will need to park in car park opposite."

This confirms that all event parking for public and staff is off the road in designated parking areas and that all event information will state this and that we do not encourage or expect attendees to park on the public highway.

34 Copperfields, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. HP12 4AN



8. Page 3 of the document mentions the new build properties on Bookers Edge. Whilst it is appreciated that these are new, the festival has been operating for several years prior to their build.
9. Page 5 states that “the Sound control plan did not seem to work and noise levels were higher than limits. We know this because we spoke to the sound monitoring contractor.” This I consider to be unsubstantiated and without valid basis. I was the contractor and at no time did I advise that levels were higher than limits. My own monitoring data (sent to Elisabeth Laughland and Jacqueline O’Mahony of Herefordshire Authority by email on 8th June 2022 after the 2022 event finished on 5th June 2022) shows that monitoring was carried out throughout the required period and any over limit readings were immediately addressed and sound levels reduced. The writer of the representation on page 5 seems to imply that the sound limits were over throughout the event, however this needs to be brought into context that sound monitoring was being done and any over limit levels were immediately reduced. This is supported by the monitoring data records that were supplied to Herefordshire Authority 3 days after event finish.
10. Page 9 claims that “music...was well above the (High) allowed decibel limit.” Our noise monitoring records, available for inspection at any time during the event and sent to the authority in the days after the event, confirm that the levels were adhered to or immediately corrected if not.
11. Page 12 claims that I “was seen checking the signage placed by Bruce Evans but did nothing”. I did indeed respond to the observation by a passing member of the public and checked what had been installed then referred it to the festival organisers to follow up as I am not privy to the specific traffic order or contract with the traffic management provider.
12. Page 12 makes reference that the “...speed limit of 30mph is very rarely acknowledged”. The event has no control of the public highway and this should not form a licensing matter. This is for the enforcement by the Police of road traffic violations.
13. Page 12 claims that “The measuring of noise levels has, historically, been erratic to say the least.” Our terms of engagement and our completed actions, evidenced by the Noise monitoring data provided to the local authority shortly after the event and indeed available for inspection by them at any point during the event, show that noise monitoring has consistently been undertaken and recorded.
14. Page 12 claims about “excessive noise” yet the event is limited to 45dB after 11.00pm, and this is enforced with our noise monitoring and evidenced by our records using noise meters calibrated by an accredited provider.



15. Page 14 states as a suggested control measure “manage the attendance at the festival by late night revellers who turn up full of alcohol”. The licensing objectives and sale of alcohol require that further supplies are not made to those under influence of alcohol and this is supported by security checks on arrival on site and forms part of the SIA contractor brief to not allow access to those visibly under the influence of alcohol. I understand the police, who are the council’s primary source of information in relation to crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour have not made a representation to the license application.

16. Page 14 states as a suggested control measure “manage the noise levels to ensure they are kept to the agreed levels” this is already been done as evidenced by the noise monitoring data provided to the local authority.

17. The World health Organisation recommends that noise levels are no more than 40dB at night for effective sleep. The event is currently limited to 45dB at the Façade of the noise sensitive property and this will reduce inside the property with noise insulation of the building, especially that of the Booker’s Edge development which should have been built to expected noise reduction standards at the time, given it is a recent build.

18. As a consequence for discussions with the licensing authority, all local residents will be provided with the contact number of the Noise Complaints Hotline which will be operating for the duration of the festival.

