

COPY OF LETTER SENT 5/6/25

Mr.S.R.Chalkley.



Mr & Mrs T.Fudge.  
The Anchor Inn  
Old Fore Street  
Sidmouth EX10 8LP

5<sup>th</sup> June 2025



Dear Mr & Mrs Fudge,

**Excessive Music Noise during Folk Week Performances Anchor Beer Garden.**

As you are aware, your neighbours in residential properties bordering and adjacent to your premises, have been suffering from the excessive noise from the outside performances in your beer garden during Folk Week. We have tried to find an acceptable resolution to this issue with yourselves with the assistance of the Licensing/Environmental Health Dept. of EDDC but, sadly the problem persists with increased volume levels at night.


The Environmental Health Officer dealing with this matter has suggested that a licence review committee could be the way forward to which several residents are in agreement. I have volunteered to be the spokesperson for the residents and will collate evidence and represent them.

Please find enclosed copies of the necessary application form and evidential statements of 9 residents. A similar bundle has also been forwarded to the Licensing Officer.

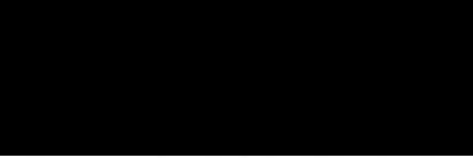
Yours sincerely,



(Enclosures)

**Statement of:** Steven Richard CHALKLEY. 

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Signature ...** 

I am the above named person and live at the address overleaf. Further to my statement dated 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 I produce copies of an email trail between myself and EDDC EH Officer I. Winter and myself from 13<sup>th</sup> August 2024 and 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024 as exhibit SC8 and a copy of the EDDC Environmental Procedure (Noise Investigation – Commercial Premises) Approved. Issued September 2013 as exhibit SC9.

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RE: Folk Week Noise from The Anchor Inn - Sidmouth

SC8

From: Ian Winter [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Thursday 10 October 2024 at 08:56 BST

Dear Mr Chalkley,

In reference to your questions:

I do not know when the guidelines of COPENCC began to be used to determine the MNLs for Sidmouth Folk Week events but the attached EDDC Procedure was issued back in 2013 which makes reference to the guidance.

I have not been able to reference any other information on what committee, forum or group made this determination with regard to COPENCC 1995 in relation to Sidmouth Folk Week.

Kind Regards

Ian

**Ian Winter MSc, REnvH**  
Environmental Health Officer

**Environmental Protection Team**  
**Environmental Health**  
**East Devon District Council**

[REDACTED]  
Switchboard: 01404 515616



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Registered Environmental  
Health Practitioner

From: Steven Chalkley [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2024 12:27 PM  
To: Ian Winter [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Folk Week Noise from The Anchor Inn - Sidmouth

Dear Mr Winter.





Thank you for your email of 25 September 2024 explaining how the music noise levels have been determined for the folk week events throughout the town.

Could you let me know when the guidelines of COPENCC began to be used to determine the MNLs for Sidmouth Folk Week events?

Could you let me know what committee, forum or group made this determination with regard to COPENCC 1995 in relation to Sidmouth Folk Week and whether the meeting was ad hoc or recorded committee? Are the minutes available on request – FOI or otherwise?

Some councils have a published policy with regard to music noise at events incorporating the COPENCC guidelines. Does EDDC have a published policy? If so, could you send me a copy or internet link?

Thank you for your advice with regard to a Premises Licence Review.

Kind Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

On Wednesday 25 September 2024 at 12:04:10 BST, Ian Winter <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Mr Chalkey,

Apologies for not getting back to you sooner. In answer to your questions:

For all the event locations in Sidmouth, a music noise limit of 70 dB( LAeq15min) at the boundary of any noise sensitive property has been recommended. These music noise levels have been based on the recommended decibel levels contained within the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at



Concerts (COPENCC). The code defines acceptable MNLs for different scenarios i.e., types and numbers of events in a given location. These determined levels are defined in terms of the average decibel level based over the equivalent continuous sound pressure level of the music noise over a time period of 15 minutes expressed as the LAeq 15min. The COPENCC recommends that the MNL for events for 1 to 3 concert days per year should not exceed 65 dB(A) over a 15-minute period. This is when measured at the façade of a noise sensitive property. Although Folk Week has more than 3 concert days per year, as these events are grouped together, it has been considered that the 1 to 3 events per year still offers a fair description of the sites use throughout the year. In Sidmouth a MNL of 70 dB LAeq 15min has been set at the boundary of a noise sensitive property. This means that setting a level of 70 dB(A) would equate to 65 dB(A) 1m from the façade when allowing for the additional distance attenuation of a small garden. It is acknowledged that you do not have a garden area to provide this additional attenuation and you are regrettably unduly close to the beer garden but any stricter music noise levels on the premises would hinder their ability to run successful outdoor events. By setting MNLs to the levels prescribed within the COPENCC it was felt that a balance has been achieved where successful enjoyable events can still take place whilst at the same time ensuring that any disturbances to NSRs are kept to a minimum. The overall aims of setting the music noise levels have been to install a degree of consistency across Sidmouth, help manage and mitigate the impacts of noise generated at outdoor music events taking place.

New music noise level or any other conditions cannot just be added to a Premises Licence. For this to happen the Premises Licence would have to be called in for a Review. This can be done by a member of the public and if you require any more information on this procedure I would recommend that you contact EDDC's Licensing Team.

Kind Regards

Ian

Ian Winter MSc, REnvH

Environmental Health Officer

Environmental Protection Team

Environmental Health

East Devon District Council

[Redacted]

Switchboard: 01404 515616

[Redacted]



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Registered Environmental  
Health Practitioner

**From:** Steven Chalkley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 16, 2024 7:48 AM  
**To:** Ian Winter <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fw: Folk Week Noise from The Anchor Inn - Sidmouth

Good Morning,

I do not appear to have received a response to my email of 13th August 2024 - copied below for ease of reference.

Kind Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Steven Chalkley <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** Ian Winter <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 13 August 2024 at 13:16:30 BST  
**Subject:** Folk Week Noise from The Anchor Inn - Sidmouth

Dear Mr. Winter,

Thank you for your email of 8th August.

Your answer regarding the separate licensable activities of Folk Week is appreciated. Could you give me an idea of the criteria that covers the noise management section of the event management plan, certainly any part that details the decision making around setting of the 70dB noise levels relating to boundary properties.





I am aware there are no noise (decibel) levels set on the Anchor Premises Licence. Can noise level restrictions and times for future events be added to the premises licence together with time and location constraints for late night Dray work?

FYI - the noise levels were constantly increased from between 7 to 9pm for the remainder of the night, every night. This facilitated the performances of the bands booked by the Anchor as shown on their website in the link I previously forwarded to you. None of these acts could be construed to be 'folk music' it is simply heavy rock and pop music.

Kind Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

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EH Commercial Noise Approved September 2013.doc  
102kB



SC9

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# Environmental Protection Procedure

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## Noise Investigation – Commercial Premises

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Approved  
Issued September 2013

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## 1. Scope

This procedure provides additional information to assist in the investigation of noise from commercial, trade or industrial premises; it should be read in conjunction with the domestic noise investigation procedure.

## 2. Legislation

Environmental Protection Act 1990 S.79(1)(g);  
Noise Act 1996 (as amended by the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 and Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005)

## 3. Summary

The Council has a statutory duty to check periodically for existing and potential statutory nuisances including noise from commercial or industrial premises (including construction sites). The Council is obliged to take reasonable steps to investigate complaints of alleged statutory nuisances.

If the noise comes from premises (such as a public house or club) or from an activity that is, or should be, licensed then additional powers may be considered. The consideration of public nuisance, including noise is one of the factors that a local authority must take into account in the granting, renewing or varying of a licence under the Licensing Act 2003. Where there is a public nuisance caused by noise from a licensed activity, there are closure powers available to the police and Local Authority.

## 4. Responsibility

EHOs are the officers responsible for the investigation of complaints about noise arising from non residential sources but Technical Officers may from time to time be tasked with specified elements of an investigation.

## 5. Procedure

The procedure for dealing with domestic noise provides the framework within which all noise complaints should be prioritised and investigated. The use of diary sheets and standard letters are an important part of this process.

This procedure does not include information about the timescales within which the complaint should be dealt with. Be aware that the Local Government Ombudsman has stated that standard letters may be used but they should be relevant to the case being investigated. Be also aware that the issuing of standard letters does not, of itself, constitute an adequate investigation of the complaint in the eyes of the Ombudsman.

## 6. Assess the noise

1. Where the noise complained of is regularly occurring or otherwise predictable and can therefore be easily witnessed by attending the alleged source of the noise, there will be a presumption that the investigating officer will arrange to attend promptly at an appropriate time to attempt to witness the noise first hand. For construction site noise this should be within 48 hours of receiving the complaint (or sooner) wherever possible.
2. Where the noise complained of is sporadic and unpredictable or where there is some other mitigating factor, diary sheets should be issued and completed by the complainant(s) to gather further evidence.





3. The completion of diary sheets should complement the investigation not be a substitute for it. Their routine completion should generally be encouraged in all cases, since this will provide excellent evidence of the historical longevity of the problem should the matter be subject to formal proceedings/licensing committee hearing etc.

## 7. Complainants

The investigating officer should ensure the complainant is kept properly updated during the investigation and informed of its outcome.

## 8. Contact with the subject

In addition to recording sound level measurements of the offending noise at locations that are representative of the noise levels experienced by the complainant, the investigating officer will need to make contact at an early stage and visit the premises from which the noise is emanating. The EHO will be expected to enter into a direct dialogue with the business, in order to establish the source of the noise being complained of and to negotiate appropriate strategies and timescales with the business for implementing corrective actions based upon Best Practicable Means considerations. The officer should obtain correct details of contacts and trading information (registered office etc) during the visit.

## 9. Methodology

The assessment of the noise under investigation should consider any appropriate and relevant objective methodologies. Investigation should generally have regard to the DEFRA / CIEH Noise Management Guide

<http://www.lacors.gov.uk/lacors/upload/11172.pdf>

and specific cases will draw upon subject specific sources such as section 182 Guidance for Licensed premises

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/alcohol/guidance-section-182-licensing?view=Binary>

and our own Licensing Policy,

[S:\Health\All\\_Health\Information\\_Cabinet\0-Environmental\\_Protection\Guidance\\_Notes\Licensing\\_Policy.doc](S:\Health\All_Health\Information_Cabinet\0-Environmental_Protection\Guidance_Notes\Licensing_Policy.doc)



The code of practice on noise control at concerts

[http://www.cieh.org/uploadedFiles/Core/Policy/Publications\\_and\\_information\\_services/Policy\\_publications/Publications/Noise%20Council%20Code%20on%20Noise%20Control%20at%20Concerts.pdf](http://www.cieh.org/uploadedFiles/Core/Policy/Publications_and_information_services/Policy_publications/Publications/Noise%20Council%20Code%20on%20Noise%20Control%20at%20Concerts.pdf)

British Standards

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and so on.

## 10. Determination of nuisance

1. The EHO must apply professional judgement to determine whether the noise being complained of constitutes a statutory nuisance. There is now substantial case law to assist in this process. The





offending noise should represent a material interference with the enjoyment of the complainant's property and be a noise which is unreasonable in itself when considering what is to be expected from that use.

2. It is not necessary to show that the activity which is the source of the noise is in itself unreasonable - although that factor may be relevant. For example, a problem could arise by virtue of a poor planning decision that brings noise sensitive properties close to a well established business which leads to conflicts of interest. The business is doing nothing more than making a success of what it is entitled to do and could be described as acting reasonably and yet the complaints of noise could be considered to be justified and a statutory nuisance held to exist.
3. A complainant can become sensitised to noise events and in these situations a test of reasonableness needs to be applied by the officer. For example, an investigation that reveals the noise is barely audible within a premises and occurs very infrequently may not necessarily be sufficient for it to be judged a statutory nuisance. Low frequency noise (e.g. music with a significant bass component) played late at night when neighbours could be expected to be sleeping may, on the other hand, be considered to represent an unreasonable and material interference and hence be judged to be a statutory nuisance. Ultimately, it is the professional opinion of the investigating officer that will determine these issues.
4. If at any stage in the investigation the EHO forms the opinion that the noise complained of is unlikely to be a statutory nuisance he/she must inform the complainant and subject. The EHO may decide to provide advice to both sides but they are not obliged to do so. Whether or not the noise is a statutory nuisance, it is important to note that in the UK all businesses should expect to receive helpful (but not necessarily expert) advice regarding legal compliance from their local authority. This should not, however, prejudice any proposed action in respect of acting on a statutory nuisance.
5. Investigating officers should generally be encouraged to consider the value of taking sound level measurements if this is practicable, as part of their routine investigation of noise from commercial sources and in this context, digital recordings can produce useful streams of evidence. It is up to the investigating officer to determine the usefulness/reliability/admissibility of recordings and other noise measurements on a case by case basis. It is always best if the officer has witnessed the noise themselves as determination of nuisance is a subjective, not technical, professional opinion. Technical information may be useful when determining a solution.
6. In conclusion the EHO's assessment will need to determine whether or not the noise amounts to a statutory nuisance. The assessment will need to focus on the circumstances and conditions witnessed that render the noise a material interference with the enjoyment of the complainant's property. The document Neighbourhood Noise Policies and Practice for Local Authorities – a Management Guide published by DEFRA/CIEH 2006 re-iterates that our duty is not to satisfy the complainants per se but to abate statutory nuisances. In determining whether a noise being complained of amounts to a statutory nuisance, the document suggests that regard should be had to a range of considerations including the level and type of noise, its duration, the time of day or night when the noise occurs, whether any aggravating characteristics are present, any particular sensitivity of the complainant, the number of persons affected and perhaps whether the best practicable means are already being used to control noise emanating from industrial, trade or business premises.





7. Evidence should also describe the manner in which the quality of life of the complainant has been seriously affected such as sleep disturbance or interruption, interference with task concentration such as working from home, telephone conversations and interference with leisure activities such as sitting in the garden, listening to music or watching television.

## **11. Formal Action**

Once satisfied that a statutory nuisance exists or may occur or recur, the Local Authority must issue an abatement notice in accordance with section 80 (1) and (2) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990). The notice should in the first instance, be served upon the person responsible for the nuisance or, where that person cannot be found or the nuisance has not yet occurred, the owner or occupier of the premises from which it emanates, requiring the nuisance to cease or be abated within a set time scale. Where a nuisance arises from any defect of a structural character the abatement notice must be served on the owner of the premises.

Note: If a statutory nuisance has been witnessed or is likely to recur it is possible to defer action under s.79(1)(g) EPA 1990 for up to 7 days in order to persuade the person responsible to abate the nuisance and/or to continue investigations.

It is possible for persons aggrieved by noise from commercial premises to institute proceedings themselves in the magistrate's court by way of section 82 of the EPA 1990.

## **12. Best Practicable Means**

The defence of best practicable means (BPM) is available where the person on whom the notice is served can demonstrate that BPM has been used to prevent or counteract the effects of a nuisance (S80(8) and S82(10)). Best practicable means is defined in Section 79 (9) of EPA 1990.

The investigating officer should have regard to the defence of BPM when carrying out their enforcement duties, and should be conversant with any standards, codes of practice, guidance, government circulars etc that may be used later in court to demonstrate that BPM has been applied. The Investigating officer may be asked to comment on, or be cross-examined where a BPM defence is used. These same standards and codes of practice etc should also be considered by investigating officers when reaching an overall judgement on the existence or otherwise of a statutory nuisance and in factoring 'reasonableness' into their enforcement decisions.

It is important to note the defence of BPM will rest with the courts when evaluating its application. The Local Authority's own enforcement protocols must be followed at all times when considering and evaluating enforcement action.

## **13. Licensed premises**

1. A major source of "commercial" noise complaints relates to licensed premises, usually public houses or clubs. One-off events can also present acute noise problems. Investigation of such complaints, proposals or applications allows alternative considerations to the use of statutory nuisance powers. The prevention of public nuisance is a prescribed licensing objective and by extension noise is a recognised consideration within the Licensing Act 2003 regime and Environmental Health will act for the Council as the "responsible authority" with regard to "minimising or preventing the risk of pollution of the environment or of harm to human health". Complaints in respect of noise and the opinion of Environmental Health, must be considered by the Licensing Committee in the granting, refusal, varying or renewing of licenses.





2. The Licensing Act 2003 also introduced the provision of temporary event notices (TEN). EH are consulted on these and must respond with any comments within 3 working days.
3. Many larger events will be Local Authority run, or require a licence due to the numbers involved, therefore the Environmental Health Department will have opportunities to limit the impact from amplified entertainment at the planning/consultation stage. The positioning and orientation of sound equipment and type of music must be assessed and the impacts reduced at the nearest sensitive receptor. Many larger events will require formal noise monitoring with equipment at both source and noise sensitive receptor, and acceptable levels can be set at the "sound test" prior to the start of the event.
4. The Noise Act 1996 provides an additional enforcement mechanism for licensed premises, allowing the issuing of warning and fixed penalty notices. The provisions are for night time noise applicable between 2300 and 0700 hours and relate to any noise emanating from the envelope of the premises delineated in the premises licence. A warning notice can be served on the person responsible for the noise and then a fixed penalty notice served if the warning notice is ignored and the noise exceeds the "permitted level" (after a minimum 10 minute gap). Failure to comply can be followed up with prosecution and seizure of equipment. In these situations service of the notices on the person responsible can present difficulties and the appropriate health and safety risk assessments will need to be in place usually including reliance on police support.
5. There are closure powers available that apply to licensed premises. If noise amounts to a Public Nuisance then the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 gives powers to the Council's Chief Executive and the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, to the Police. The closure applies for up to a maximum 24 hours. There is little official guidance on the interpretation of "public nuisance" but by definition there is. Therefore the common law interpretation of public nuisance will need to be applied, ie any nuisance which materially affects the comfort and convenience of life of a class of Her Majesty's subjects or a nuisance that is so widespread in its range or so indiscriminate in its effect that it would not be reasonable to expect one person to take proceedings on his own responsibility to put a stop to it but that it should be taken on response of the community at large [Lord Justice Denning quoted in the case of AG v PYA Quarries Ltd [1957] 2 QB. 169]

#### **14. Sites with Environmental Permits**

It is possible that the commercial activity is being carried out at a premises coming within the remit of the Pollution and Prevention Control regime. Action regarding noise from an A1, or A2 process will be through the permit route and statutory nuisance powers will not generally be available. Any such incident must be referred to the Environment Agency Permitting Department on their incident number 0800 807060 as soon as it has been proven that the noise is coming from that A1 process. A2 permitted processes are enforceable by the Local Authority and the case should be passed to the appropriate officer.





Statement of: Steven Richard CHALKLEY. [REDACTED]

Date: 4TH NOVEMBER 2024

Signature .. [REDACTED]

I am the above named person and live at the address overleaf. My home is situated in a quiet residential courtyard off Church Street Sidmouth. My property [REDACTED] of the Anchor Inn public house which is situated in Old Fore Street. Together with those of neighbouring cottages, my [REDACTED] Anchor car park. [REDACTED]

**Anchor car park which is where Folk Week music events are held in July/August every year on 8 consecutive days – Friday to Friday – for 12 continuous hours a day.** The Anchor beer garden/car park is surrounded on 3 sides by residential premises comprising of cottages, houses, apartments and the Parish Church. I accept that I may experience occasional noise associated with the business of a public house such as customers exiting the car park either on foot or in vehicles at varying stages of sobriety.

A nuisance is caused every year by excessive noise from daily live music events held in the Anchor outside beer garden. The noise disturbance commences daily around 11.30 a.m. with sound checks, banging of drums and tuning of instruments followed by loud amplified music acts commencing at midday. The acts continue throughout the day and night. Evening and night time performances are usually rock bands playing extremely loud amplified music, sometimes with an echo chamber effect, with the lead singer shouting and screaming into the microphone rather than singing.

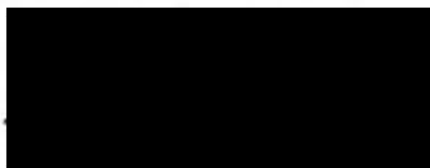


There is no respite from this noise within or in the vicinity of my home. Sound levels are so high that the noise from these events can be heard in all rooms within my home. The low frequency elements of the bass guitar and drums cause an increased nuisance from within my home. The noise nuisance is present continuously 12 hours a day for the 8 consecutive days of Folk Week. The overwhelming majority of acts mentioned above consist of extremely loud, excessively amplified music with unacceptable levels of bass instruments and drums. Powerful sound amplification systems are used with very large speakers on raised stands or on a raised stage. The use of such powerful amplification equipment with large speakers is not necessary for a relatively small outside area such as this venue and is totally unsuitable for such a site in a town centre that is bounded by residential properties to three sides with a parish church to the rear. During Folk Week 2023 and 2024 the noise levels were intolerable and unacceptable.

In 2014 with neighbours I made a noise complaint against the Anchor which involved the licensing department of EDDC. The issue was not satisfactorily dealt with then by the Licencing Officer who agreed music noise levels with the Anchor, assured us that these were within acceptable limits, but were actually in excess of the guidelines set by the Noise Council that EDDC relied upon at that time. In subsequent years I have occasionally spent the night at my late partner's house during folk week to avoid the noise disturbance.

During the 2023 and 2024 music events I have to firmly close all of my double glazed windows. This is not healthy as ventilation is restricted and the inside of my home is very warm during the summer months. With windows closed and if watching television, I would have to turn the hi-fi surround sound of my T.V. to near maximum. Sitting in my lounge and reading quietly is not possible. On occasion, the loudness of the bass and drum element of the music has caused fixtures in my lounge to vibrate. I am unable to relax in my own home at any time during any of these music events.

Signature

A black rectangular box redacting the signature.





I consider myself a good neighbour to those in the vicinity of my home. I have tried very hard to accept the noise caused by the music events every summer but, in recent years acceptable boundaries have been crossed, noise has increased to unacceptable levels and, on occasion, live music has been played beyond the allowed times of the premises licence continuing to 11.15 p.m. with recorded music played as late as 11.30pm as customers leave the area.

At the end of each live music event during previous folk week events, staff have rolled and dropped empty beer barrels across the car park [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stacking them noisily against [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The noise of the barrels hitting the ground and banging against the walls is very loud and reverberates throughout our homes. **The stacking of beer barrels [REDACTED] takes place as late as midnight and beyond whilst I try to sleep. I have never known a licenced premises carry out dray work at this time of night or so close to residential properties with no apparent respect for neighbours.** I have taken photographs of the barrels stacked [REDACTED] and exhibit these as SC1, SC2 and SC3. Whilst in bed, trying to sleep, I have also been disturbed by staff smashing empty glass bottles into a recycling bin after midnight.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 I spoke to EDDC Cllr Ian Barlow who suggested I write to the Designated Premises Supervisor with my concerns. Following consultation with other affected neighbours I wrote to the DSP of the Anchor on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and exhibit a copy of this letter marked SC4. I did not receive a response. I made a current noise complaint to the Environmental Health Department of EDDC on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 and have been dealing with Mr Ian Winter up to the present day. Mr Winter wrote to the DSP outlining the complaint and met with Anchor management on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024 the day before the start of Folk Week 2024. A copy of an email from Mr Winter of 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2024 detailing the meeting is attached as exhibit SC5. In this email I am advised that the DSP had given an undertaking to finish all live music by 22.45pm.

Signature [REDACTED]



The following is my diary record of finishing times for FW 2024:-

Fri 2.8.24. Live band finish 2259 hours.

Sat 3.8.24. Live band finish 2255 hours.

Sun 4.8.24. Live band finish 2300 hours – excessive loud bass and volume from 9.00pm – shouting/screaming vocals.

Mon 5.8.24. Live band finish 2258 hours. Increased volume for set starting at 2200 hours.

Tues 6.8.24. Live band started 9.00pm – very loud sound tests – then set consists of excessively loud drum/bass, shouting, screaming vocals. Music finishes at 2309 hours.

Weds 7.8.24. Live band starts from 9.00pm – the loudest so far this week. Band finishes 2258 hours.

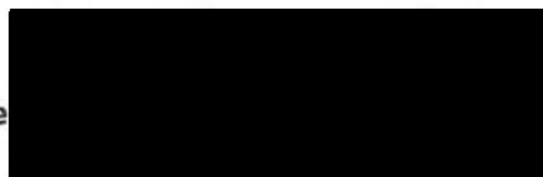
Thurs 8.8.24. Live band starts – excessive drum/bass/vocal noise. Finish 2308 hours.

Fri 9.8.24. Live band starts 8.00pm getting louder by 9.00pm. Finish 2150 hours. Early finish due final day fireworks display.

The DSP did not honour his undertaking to finish live music at 22.45 hours. Music levels were still excessive and caused a nuisance throughout the day and night every day during FW 2024. A noise nuisance was also caused by the shouting of 'callers' and associated musicians during the daytime Ceilidhs.

I received an email on 25 September 2024 from Mr Winter responding to previous questions. Within the email Mr Winter stated how the noise limits had been set for all the event locations in Sidmouth with regard to noise sensitive properties as defined by the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts (COPENCC 1995). I have obtained a copy of COPENCC from the Institute of Acoustics, and note that Section 3.1 of the Code Table 1, which is clear and unambiguous, sets out the maximum music noise levels allowed for the venue type and number of days per calendar year. **The outside music events in the Anchor beer garden/car park are over 8 consecutive days from Friday to Friday with music noise from 11.30am to 11.00pm. The music noise level for this category should not exceed the background noise level by more than 15dB(A).**

Signature





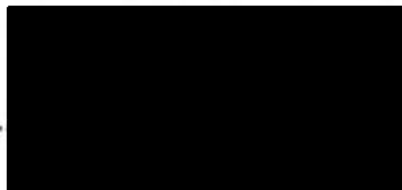


The Environmental Health Dept of EDDC have agreed with event organisers to ignore the mathematical facts and, notwithstanding there are obviously 8 days of consecutive events, have invented an alternative dimension where there are only a maximum of 3 venue event days at the Anchor. This allows for an increased music noise level of 65dB(A) at the façade of noise sensitive properties. He goes on to say this offers a fair description of the Anchor sites use throughout the year. This is seriously flawed, dishonest and a **misrepresentation of the facts.** It is certainly not worthy of district council officers, democratically elected councillors or others who have been charged with these responsibilities.

Mr Winter continues and states that for event numbers of 1 – 3 throughout the year the 65dB noise level at a property façade has been increased, in Sidmouth, to 70dB as this would equate to 65dB one meter from the said property when allowing for additional distance attenuation of a small garden. **This is pure fantasy, an insult to anyone with common sense and again a misrepresentation of the facts.**

*Mr Winter goes further to acknowledge that myself (and my neighbours) do not have these imaginary garden areas to provide attenuation and that this is regrettable and that stricter music noise levels on the premises would hinder their ability to run successful outdoor events. That these level settings had achieved a balance and disturbances are kept to a minimum.* There is no evidence to support the latter however, the statements from residents submitted would suggest just the opposite. There is no evidence that stricter music noise levels on the premises would hinder successful outdoor events at this site, this is just a presumption. Those in positions of responsibility have ignored the facts and based decisions on scenarios in their vivid and somewhat remarkable imaginations. They have completely manipulated guidelines from respected and esteemed organisations to suit an agenda that does not protect residents from serious noise nuisance.

Signature .

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I attach page 6 & 7 of COPENCC guidelines as exhibit marked SC6 and a copy of email from Mr Winter dated 25 September 2024 as exhibit SC7.

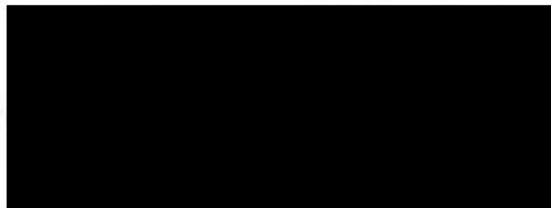
**Myself and neighbours who have submitted statements to this committee would like conditions added to Premises Licence PLWA0408 that restrict music noise levels in accordance with Music Noise Level guidance as defined by COPENCC (1995) for this outside venue with the current 8 event days per calendar year. This is a fair and honest request and look forward to a fair, honest and common sense response.**

During Folk Week 2024 it is accepted that management of the late night dray work has been improved. The empty beer barrels are still stored [REDACTED] but the work is left until after 9.00am the following day. The use of a felt covering is a recent idea of the present DSP. To ensure this practice is continued by the current DSP and his successors, I consider it not unreasonable to request that the following paragraph be added to the Licence Conditions of the Premises Licence.

**No dray work immediately adjacent to bordering property walls be carried out between the hours of 6.00pm and 9.00am the following day. A protective felt covering be deployed between the rear rank of barrels and walls of adjacent cottages to protect paintwork and render. Consideration be given to occupier residents of these properties when any dray work is carried out.**

**No light pollution from stage lights or otherwise must be allowed to illuminate windows or walls of adjacent properties.**

Signature

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of the person.





125









SC 2











Mr S.R. Chalkley.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Mr T. Fudge – Licencee Anchor Inn.  
Anchor Inn,  
Old Fore Street,  
Sidmouth EX10 8LP.

14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2023.

Dear Mr. Fudge,

**Late Night Excessive Noise Nuisance and Obtrusive Light Pollution during Folk Week.**

Following this year's Folk Week, several residents who live [Redacted] commented that the music had been excessively loud, unbearable and unacceptable at night and that due to these excessive noise levels were unable to peacefully enjoy their properties and homes which is a fundamental expectation. Some of them unable to get to sleep until midnight due to noisy dray work being carried out after the venue had closed.

Following noise complaints, I understand that East Devon District Council Environmental Health Department (EH) eventually wrote to you the text of which I have recently received a copy and hope it will be helpful if this letter gives you some idea of the affect the excessive noise and obtrusive light levels have on your neighbours.

Compared to the, often acoustic, day time folk week programmed performances the bands at night, presumably produced by yourselves, are simply too loud with excessive levels of bass, drums and screaming vocals which is quite unnecessary for a small venue such as your car-park. Noise levels are such that a serious nuisance is caused to residents within their homes in the surrounding area. Residents cannot ventilate their homes during these summer nights as they are compelled to keep all windows tightly shut to minimize the noise.

The dray work carried out after 11.00 pm after the venue has closed goes on until just before midnight resulting in residents not being able to sleep. Perhaps you are unaware of how the noise of empty beer barrels being humped and dragged about adjacent to neighboring walls reverberates throughout buildings at this time of night. Would you consider delaying the dray work and dragging of tables and chairs until the following morning – say after 9.00 am?



Since the installation of additional outside lighting a lot of unwanted obtrusive light pollution is washing over the rear of adjacent cottages and apartments. The flashing L.E.D. stage lighting, spotlights and floodlights are obtrusive even with curtains drawn.

With the assistance of EH and, I believe Matthew, we tried to address some of these issues in 2015 and 2018 but, noise levels have since increased and this matter needs re-visiting.

Finally, none of your neighbours wish to restrict your business revenue but, with regard to the outside music venue, feel there is absolutely no need whatsoever to have the volume level so high with the bass and drum levels and screaming vocals so intrusive. Your venue is relatively small and patrons should still be able to enjoy the performances at half the current volume and bass levels without heavy rock and reggae music being heard all over the town.

I hope this letter is of some help.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. S.R.Chalkley.

For and on behalf of residents

CC: Ian Winter EDDC EHD.





SC5

**Ian Winter**

From: [REDACTED]

To: Steven Chalkley

Fri, 2 Aug at 13:51

Dear Mr Chalkley,

Thank you for contacting Environmental Health. Yesterday's meeting went very well. During the meeting, the following points were raised with the designated premises supervisor (DPS) and his daughter, noise from the storage and movement of beer kegs, noise from regulated entertainment and light pollution from stage lighting.

A new management plan has been instigated for the handling and storage of empty beer kegs. Beer kegs will not be stored or moved to the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] during the evening period. During the evening period they will be stored in a different location [REDACTED]. The next morning (after 9am) the empty kegs will be moved back to the original location [REDACTED]. On Saturday padding should be put [REDACTED] to reduce any impact noise (but barrels will only be moved into this location after 9am the following day).

The stage lighting that was in place has been checked.

Given the location of the pub (in the heart of Sidmouth surrounded by residential properties) it's inevitable that when live regulated entertainment is being played, it will always be audible from neighbouring residential properties (even when being played at the correct level). The DPS has confirmed that they will be finishing live music at 22:45 during the evening and that regular checks will be made to ensure that the music levels are not too excessive.

Unfortunately, EDDC does not currently operate an 'out of hours' reactive service for noise. Any noise complaints should be logged with Environmental Health by using the following email: [environmentalhealth@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:environmentalhealth@eastdevon.gov.uk)

Many thanks

Ian

**Ian Winter MSc, REnvH**

Environmental Health Officer

**Environmental Protection Team**



### 3.0 GUIDELINES

- 3.1 The Music Noise Levels (MNL) when assessed at the prediction stage or measured during sound checks or concerts should not exceed the guidelines shown in Table 1 at 1 metre from the façade of any noise sensitive premises for events held between the hours of 0900 and 2300.

**TABLE 1**

Concert days per calendar year, per venue	Venue Category	Guideline
1 to 3	Urban Stadia or Arenas	The MNL should not exceed 75dB(A) over a 15 minute period
1 to 3	Other Urban and Rural Venues	The MNL should not exceed 65dB(A) over a 15 minute period
4 to 12	All Venues	The MNL should not exceed the background noise level <sup>1</sup> by more than 15dB(A) over a 15 minute period

**Notes to Table 1**

1. The value used should be the arithmetic average of the hourly  $L_{Aeq}$  measured over the last four hours of the proposed music event or over the entire period of the proposed music event if scheduled to last for less than four hours.
2. There are many other issues which affect the acceptability of proposed concerts. This code is designed to address the environmental noise issue alone.
3. In locations where individuals may be affected by more than one venue, the impact of all the events should be considered.
4. For those venues where more than three events per calendar year are expected, the frequency and scheduling of the events will affect the level of disturbance. In particular, additional disturbance can arise if events occur on more than three consecutive days without a reduction in the permitted MNL.
5. For indoor venues used for up to about 30 events per calendar year an MNL not exceeding the background noise by more than 5dB(A) over a fifteen minute period is recommended for events finishing no later than 2300 hours.



6. Account should be taken of the noise impact of other events at a venue. It may be appropriate to reduce the permitted noise from a concert if the other events are noisy.
7. For venues where just one event has been held on one day in any one year, it has been found possible to adopt a higher limit value without causing an unacceptable level of disturbance.

3.2 For events continuing or held between the hours 2300 and 0900 the music noise should not be audible within noise-sensitive premises with windows open in a typical manner for ventilation.

Notes to Guideline 3.2

1. The use of inaudibility as a guideline is not universally accepted as an appropriate method of control. References 6 & 7 (Appendix 1) set out the various issues. This guideline is proposed as there is insufficient evidence available to give more precise guidance.
2. Control can be exercised in this situation by limiting the music noise so that it is just audible outside the noise sensitive premises. When that is achieved it can be assumed that the music noise is not audible inside the noise sensitive premises.

3.3 The nature of music events means that these guidelines are best used in the setting of limits prior to the event (see 4.0).

3.4 Assessment of noise in terms of dB(A) is very convenient but it can underestimate the intrusiveness of low frequency noise. Furthermore, low frequency noise can be very noticeable indoors. Thus, even if the dB(A) guideline is being met, unreasonable disturbance may be occurring because of the low frequency noise. With certain types of events, therefore, it may be necessary to set an additional criterion in terms of low frequency noise, or apply additional control conditions.

Notes to Guideline 3.4

1. It has been found that it is the frequency imbalance which causes disturbance. Consequently there is less of a problem from the low frequency content of the music noise near to an open air venue than further away.





RE: Folk Week Noise from The Anchor Inn - Sidmouth

Sc 7

From: Ian Winter [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Wednesday 25 September 2024 at 12:04 BST

Dear Mr Chalkey,

Apologies for not getting back to you sooner. In answer to your questions:

For all the event locations in Sidmouth, a music noise limit of 70 dB( LAeq15min) [REDACTED] has been recommended. These music noise levels have been based on the recommended decibel levels contained within the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts (COPENCC). The code defines acceptable MNLs for different scenarios i.e., types and numbers of events in a given location. These determined levels are defined in terms of the average decibel level based over the equivalent continuous sound pressure level of the music over a time period of 15 minutes expressed as the LAeq 15min. The COPENCC recommends that the MNL for events for 1 to 3 concert days per year should not exceed 65 dB(A) over a 15-minute period. This is when measured at the façade of a noise sensitive property. Although Folk Week has more than 3 concert days per year, as these events are grouped together, it has been considered that the 1 to 3 events per year still offers a fair description of the sites use throughout the year. In Sidmouth a MNL of 70 dB LAeq 15min has been set at the boundary of a noise sensitive property. This means setting a level of 70 dB(A) would equate to 65 dB(A) 1m from the façade when allowing for the additional distance attenuation of a small garden. It is acknowledged that you do not have a garden area to provide this additional attenuation and you are regrettably unduly close to the beer garden but any stricter music noise levels on the premises would hinder their ability to run successful outdoor events. By setting MNLs to the levels prescribed within the COPENCC it was felt a balance has been achieved where successful enjoyable events can still take place whilst at the same time ensuring that any disturbances to NSRs are kept to a minimum. The overall aims of setting the music noise levels have been to instil a degree of consistency across Sidmouth, help manage and mitigate the impacts of noise generated at outdoor music events taking place.

New music noise level or any other conditions cannot just be added to a Premises Licence. For this to happen the Premises Licence would have to be called in for a Review. This can be done by a member of the public and if you require any more information on this procedure I would recommend that you contact EDDC's Licensing Team.

Kind Regards

Ian

**Ian Winter MSc, REnvH**  
Environmental Health Officer

**Environmental Protection Team**  
**Environmental Health**  
**East Devon District Council**

[REDACTED]  
Switchboard: 01404 515616  
[REDACTED]



[www.eastdevon.gov.uk](http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk)

Blackdown House, Border Road,  
Heathpark Industrial Estate,  
Honiton. EX14 1EJ



Statement of: Suzanne Jones. [REDACTED]

Date: 4/10/24

Signature [REDACTED]

I am the above named person and live at the address overleaf. My home is situated in [REDACTED] Sidmouth, a relatively quiet mixed residential and retail street [REDACTED] My property [REDACTED] which in turn is immediately adjacent to the car park/rear garden of the Anchor Inn.

I have lived at my property for just under 6 years and every year suffer from the excessive music noise from Folk Week activities primarily originating from the Anchor. The music played at this venue is set at too high a volume for the location and I must keep all of my windows closed from 11.30 am through to around 11.30 pm every day during folk week. I cannot hold a conversation on the phone if I have the windows even slightly open. Temperatures in my house reach 29 to 30 degs C whilst the windows are kept shut which makes life unbearable.

Noise from the Anchor carries on all day with amplified shouting into microphones during the dance programmes and is unbearable at night when the rock bands perform with screeching vocals and excessive bass and drums being played at excessive noise levels.

Between 11.00 and 11.15pm drunk, loud customers leave the Anchor carrying alcohol in plastic containers and congregate in Market Place where they scream, shout and play amplified music on instruments and phones until 1.00am and beyond.





**Statement of:- Suzanne Jones.**

I cannot even attempt to go to sleep until the music in the Anchor stops.

There has been absolutely no consideration given to residents when the Folk Festival was allowed to come into town without restricting the volume levels in the licenced premises.

The noise from the Anchor causes me stress and makes me depressed. There is no need for music volume levels to be set this high. Councillors should now step up to their responsibilities and demonstrate common sense and decency to residents and restrict these noise levels. The venues operate to entertain their paying customers, not those inside [REDACTED] properties in this part of town.

**Signature: Suzanne Jones.**

[REDACTED]



**Statement of: Abigail Barker.** [REDACTED]

**Date:**

14/11/2024

**Signature:** [REDACTED] .....

I am the above person and I have lived at the address overleaf since 2007. My flat is situated [REDACTED] the Anchor Inn public house. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I accept that living [REDACTED] a pub I must expect some noise from the daily business of the staff and the customers. In recent years I have been significantly affected by the noise from the carpark caused by their activities during folk week. Each year the size of these events/concerts seems to increase, as too does the volume of the music played.

I have never approached the landlord to discuss my concerns about the noise because of previous verbal abuse I have received from him and his members of staff when I have been out in the street and when I have been in [REDACTED]

In Folk Week, there is music played pretty much constantly from around 11am/noon through to at least 11pm. There is one live act after another – normally of at least 4 instruments plus a vocalist. The music is always excessively amplified. In between the live performances recorded music is played over the loud speaker system. The final band of the day – usually from around 9pm, is always the loudest – and they are often rock/pop bands rather than anything to do with folk music. This means that there is a very strong drum/bass element and the singer shouts rather than sings.

During Folk Week, the sound levels are so loud that they can be heard across the town. Within [REDACTED] there is no escape from the noise, and it is impossible for me to do anything or live a normal life in my own home. I have to make sure that all my windows are tightly shut (they are double glazed) in order to even attempt to do things such as watch tv or concentrate to read – and even with the windows shut and the volume on maximum I can barely hear. It is impossible to do anything such as hold a telephone call. Given Folk Week takes place at the end of July/beginning of August, the evenings are still very warm so having all the windows shut makes my flat uncomfortable as it stops the cooling air flow. One evening I did try to keep one window open as it was very warm and muggy, but the noise of the music was too loud - it was just as if I had a pop concert in my living room – so I had to shut it again. The music that is played generally has a very strong drum/bass element to it, which means it carries through the walls/floor of the building and I can feel the floor vibrating. I have also witnessed a pen on my desk vibrating due to the noise.



**Statement of: Abigail Barker.**

In addition to the excessive noise from the music itself, the subsequent noise from the staff clearing up the car park and carrying out noisy dray work has significantly disturbed me. During the recent Folk Week (2024) beer barrels were stacked against the wall [REDACTED] which causes vibration and is an additional noise nuisance. This means it is often not until gone midnight that there is quiet and I am able to go to bed. This year, from the Sunday onwards, I was forced to stay at my parents' home in order to get any sleep as the noise was unbearable. I appreciate that during Folk Week there is an awful lot of extra work to be done in a short amount of time – but, clearing up finishing and start times together with volume levels of music need to be regulated on the Premises Licence so as not to disturb adjacent residents.

I have tried to 'live with' the noise from Folk Week for the past few years, but this year (2024) the noise has increased to ridiculously loud levels and had a significant impact on my quality of life. I have also noted that the music has played outside the permitted times of the pub's licence (11pm), and the outside cleaning has (and still does) start earlier than the acceptable time of 7am.

Signature . [REDACTED] .....





Statement of: Cynthia Watson.

Date: 22/9/24

Signature: [REDACTED]

I am the above named person and have lived at the address overleaf for 14 years. My home is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Folk Week activities that include dancing to very loud music, amplified screaming and shouting are just the other side of the wall in my kitchen, lounge, upstairs landing, bedroom and bathroom.

I have been disturbed by the noise from the Anchor every Folk Week since I moved to my home. The noise lasts for 8 days continuous, 12 hours per day. With other residents, I have previously asked the Environmental Health Department to do something about this noise and I think that reduced noise levels were agreed with the Landlord (or his son) but, these have been ignored over the past couple of years to a completely unacceptable level.

I accept that there will be some inevitable noise from a pub car park late at night such as people getting into and leaving in cars. I do not accept that I should put up with screaming bands accompanied by excessively loud bass guitars and drums crashing until gone 11.00pm for 12 hours a day, 8 days on the trot. The latter causes stress and depression as I cannot even think of trying to go to bed until well after the noise has stopped which is around 11.15pm. There is nowhere to escape the noise as it is at horrendous levels

[REDACTED]

In previous years, with the exception of 2024, empty beer barrels were stacked against [REDACTED] and the thumping noise, which lasted for about 15 to 20 minutes was very frightening. This would occur anytime between 11.30pm to 12.30 am.



**Statement of:- Cynthia Watson.**

I understand that the Landlord has verbally and informally agreed not to move beer barrels at this time of night. I request that this is formalised on the Premises Licence together with a much reduced noise level.

I do not want to stop Folk Week activities in the Anchor but, do want the noise levels to be much reduced so that they not a nuisance to neighbouring residential properties.

**Signature:**

\*\*\*\*\*







Statement of: Lawrence King. [REDACTED]

Date: 13/11/2024

Signature: ..... [REDACTED]

I am the above named person and have lived at the address overleaf for 12 years. [REDACTED] Anchor Inn (Old Fore Street Sidmouth) beer garden/car park.

When moving into my [REDACTED] accepted that I would hear low volume noise from the rear of the Anchor such as families eating and drinking, cars arriving and departing and the occasional raised voices associated with customers of a town centre pub who have consumed alcohol. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is the Parish Church.

I certainly did not expect to endure excessively amplified music during the summer especially the continuous noise from the folk week activities at the rear of the Anchor - 8 days continuous, for 12 hours a day, ending each day with loud rock music that is more akin to Glastonbury than Sidmouth Folk Festival.

I accept that the folk festival benefits some people and businesses in the town and, can put up with the folk music and dancing during the day as long as it is not too loud and a more acoustic style. The music is for the benefit of the dancers in front of the speakers not the nearby residents in their homes so need not be played at high volume.

The bands that play after the hours of 7 or 8 pm are nothing to do with Folk Week but are booked by the pub management. It is not folk music, it is heavy, excessively amplified rock music with loud bass guitars and drums with screaming vocals.

Signature: ..... [REDACTED]



**Statement of Lawrence King.**

The loud music at night goes beyond 11.00 pm. When finished, there is the noise of drunk people leaving the premises together with the staff carrying out dray work up to and beyond midnight.

With the decision to allow folk week activities in the town centre no consideration whatsoever was given to the many residents in the area of the various venues. There are apartments above almost all retail premises in the town and houses/cottages in small back roads and courtyards adjacent to the public houses. All affected by the noise nuisance coming primarily from the Anchor.

The Anchor management need to show more respect for their neighbours by severely reducing the noise levels and finishing the night time performances at least 30 minutes earlier. The noise from their beer garden/car park activities is a nuisance to neighbouring properties.

A reduction in volume level and a finish time of 10.30pm/10.45pm would not affect the revenue of the establishment whatsoever but, would go a long way to improve the lives of all of the nearby residents.

Signature .....



Statement of: Harry Hopworthy. [REDACTED]

Date: 14th Nov 2024

Signature [REDACTED]

I am the above named person and have lived at the address overleaf for nearly 6 years. My home is situated [REDACTED] to the Anchor Inn Sidmouth. Every year, since I have lived here, I have been disturbed and affected by the very loud music played in the outside car-park/beer garden of the Anchor during the Sidmouth Folk Festival.

I do not go to bed until late but, find the noise during the day a nuisance from the starting time, usually around 11.30am, to the end of the day at around 11.30pm. It is very hot during Folk Week (end of July – beginning of August) but I have to close all of my double glazed windows in order to keep the noise out. I cannot watch television or live a normal life with the windows open during the above times.

I am not trying to stop the music but, action is needed to reduce the volume level of these events so that they do not disturb my neighbours or myself in this part of town. At current volume levels the music at this venue is causing a nuisance.

Signature [REDACTED]





Statement of: Kathryn Spencer. [REDACTED]

Date: 9TH OCT 2024

Signature: [REDACTED]

I am the above named person and, together with my husband, have lived at the address overleaf for nearly 2 years. Our home is situated [REDACTED] beer garden/car park of the Anchor Inn. I have experienced 2 Folk Festivals whilst a resident at this address and several more as a previous visitor to the town.

Whilst in our home, my husband and I have been disturbed for the past 2 years by activities in the Anchor beer garden caused by excessive amplifier volume levels of the music and vocal performances. Our [REDACTED] used by our grand-daughter, is uninhabitable during that particular week. Loud bass and drums can be heard throughout most of our [REDACTED] during the day with the volume level increasing from around 9.00pm onwards. We simply cannot loiter [REDACTED] as the noise is unbearable. We must keep all windows shut.

There is no need to have volume levels set this high for these outside events when the venue is surrounded by occupied, residential properties.

I support the Folk Festival in general but, cannot tolerate the excessive noise coming from the Anchor and would like to see volume levels greatly reduced.

Signature: [REDACTED]



Statement of: Stephen Spencer. [REDACTED]

Date: 9TH OCT 2024

Signature: [REDACTED]

I am the above named person and, together with my wife, have lived at the address overleaf for nearly 2 years. Our home is situated in [REDACTED] beer garden/car park of the Anchor Inn. I have experienced 2 Folk Festivals whilst a resident at this address and several more as a previous visitor to the town.

Whilst in our home, my wife and I have been disturbed for the past 2 years by activities in the Anchor beer garden caused by excessive amplifier levels of the music and dance performances. Our [REDACTED] used by our grand-daughter, is uninhabitable during that particular week. Loud bass, drums and shouting of the dance caller can be heard throughout most of our apartment during the day with the volume level increasing from around 9.00pm onwards. We avoid going into [REDACTED] as the noise is unbearable. We must keep all windows shut.

There is no need to have volume levels set this high when the venue is surrounded by occupied, residential properties.

I support the Folk Festival in general but cannot tolerate the excessive noise coming from the Anchor and would like to see them restrict noise levels for future years.

Signature: [REDACTED] .....





Statement of: Mary Whitfield. [REDACTED]

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024

Signature: ..... [REDACTED]

I am the above named person and have lived at the address overleaf for 11 and a half years. My home is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Anchor Car Park. Daily Folk Week activities put on by the Anchor are just [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I am 96 years old and hard of hearing but was actually disturbed by the extremely loud music, bass levels and shouting coming from the Anchor car park on, I believe, the nights of Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> whilst trying to watch television. This must have been unusually loud as it was a an increased nuisance compared to the other loud music that occurs during this week at the Anchor.

I have heard, in previous years the thumping and vibration of empty beer barrels as staff roll and stack them against my rear wall at times up to and beyond midnight.

I have, in the past had my great grand-daughters to stay and they have been unable to get to go to bed until the music had stopped then we had to wait until the moving of empty beer barrels had finished before anyone could sleep.

We (myself and other neighbours) did speak to the council about the noise in the past during Folk Week but it seems no notice has been taken.



Statement of:- Mary Whitfield.

I am not seeking to get the music stopped but, steps must be taken to reduce and control the volume levels.

Signature:

