

From: Morris Hall

Sent: 15 May 2026 16:49

Subject: Morris Hall, Bellstone

Dear Mr Bibb

I have received a copy of your response to my application for a premises license at Morris Hall and am pleased to take the opportunity to respond and I believe, alleviate your concerns.

Firstly I'd like to inform you that I have considerable experience of operating licensed premises having been a Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) from 2012-2022 at Henry Tudor House, 2016 to date at the New Inn Baschurch and more recently my successful application for a premises license at St Mary's Church. During this time I have always operated a proactive approach to mitigating noise nuisance and have not been subject to any enforcement measures by the Council's licensing authorities.

I can't comment on Morris Hall's previous history beyond my personal experience as DPS of Temporary Event Notices for the 21 music and comedy shows I've supervised at Morris Hall. Our first show was on 20th January 2024 and our most recent was Friday 17th April, last month. Again none of these events generated any complaints from neighbouring residents. In fact I always do a walk around during shows and the dominant noise has always been the extraction system of Loopy Shrew. This is not to say that the negligent use of amplified music would not be able to cause a public nuisance.

Moving on to the specifics of your concerns.

Noise Management Plan - As part of the consultation for the application, I met with Louise Money and Rob Bowland from the Council's Environmental Protection team to discuss our proposed approach to noise management. This was concluded with their contribution to and acceptance of our Noise Management Plan which I'd invite you to review. It is published on our new website for Morris Hall and the link can be found here https://www.morrishall.co.uk/_files/ugd/38234f_41456751f80c4221ab058d5879e61e97.pdf

Contact Number - You will notice that we have included as part of our Plan a contact telephone number which allows any interested party to make contact with me or the duty supervisor. This would enable a neighbour to contact us directly, during an event should the need arise.

Operational Control - An important difference in our operational practice will be that we will not be allowing the unsupervised hiring of the Hall for any purposes involving licensable activities. The Trustees and their volunteers relied on goodwill on the part of organisers, unlocking the venue and 'leaving them to it' and they would then be asked to leave the keys in the post box after locking up. As you can see from our application

and no doubt as a condition of our premises license, this will not be allowed under our tenure.

Building Fabric - I would also draw your attention to the reference in the Noise Management Plan to building improvements, to further mitigate noise leakage. We have thus far installed a new floating stage, in the performance area which has been sound insulated. We are also installing removable acoustic panels around the walls of this area. In addition we are installing removable acoustic panels in the windows facing St Chads. All mindful of the existing fabric and Listing status of building finishes.

Volume Control - In terms of volume control, all performers will be required to use the house PA system (being installed next week) under the direct control of our own sound engineer. The use of their own systems or unsupervised use of ours, will not be allowed. We have always operated active monitoring of both decibel levels and the frequency spectrum at our events. 63Hz is the sound that travels the furthest and needs to be closely monitored and controlled.

Hours of Operation - you will note that our application refers to hours of operation for licensable activities as from 12pm to 10.30pm, Monday to Sunday, with 30 minutes for close down. Firstly this reflects our intention not to routinely operate late into the evening without specific Temporary Event Notices which require my approval before submission. Secondly it could be implied that we will be open every day during these hours, but in reality this wide range is only to give flexibility to event organisers, for example to be able to secure artists and shows with touring schedules and routing restrictions through the UK. However we will publish all events on our website, so they will be in the public domain. You can already see our forthcoming events here <https://www.morrishall.co.uk/events>

Garden - I understand and share your concerns regarding noise levels from a town centre Garden however in the case of Morris Hall this does not form part of this application. The premises license will only apply to the Lake Room, Hallway and Main Hall.

To conclude, I hope my responses reassure you that Morris Hall is now in a new era of direct management by its onsite owners and that our operational procedures will ensure we have an effective and proactive policy of noise control. If you feel my responses meet your concerns, I would invite you to respond accordingly to the Licensing team. In addition I would be happy to meet with you at Morris Hall to go into more detail if you would prefer?

Kind Regards

Clare Jenkins