

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

MINUTES of the meeting of the LICENSING COMMITTEE, which was open to the press and public held on TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2020 and held remotely at 7.30pm.

Present

Councillor Stamirowski (Chair), Councillor Powell (Vice Chair) Councillors Campbell, Elliott, Hall, Hordijkeno, Howard and Kalu.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Wise.

Also Present

Lisa Hooper - Crime, Enforcement and Regulation Manager
Petra Der Man – Lawyer

Festivals, Zone E, Beckenham Place Park, BR3 5BS

Applicant

Kieran Clancy – Krankbrother.

Representation

Andrew Tonge – Resident.

1. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Committee held on 30 June and 15 July 2020 be confirmed and signed.

2. Declarations of Interests

None declared.

3. July Festival, Zone E, Beckenham Place Park, BR3 5BS

- 3.1 The Chair welcomed all parties to the meeting of the Licensing Committee. She introduced those present, and outlined the procedure to be followed for the meeting. She then invited the Crime Enforcement and Regulation Manager to introduce the application.

Crime Enforcement and Regulation (CER) Manager

- 3.2 The CER Manager said that members were being asked to consider an application for a new premises licence for a July festival in Zone E at Beckenham Place Park

submitted by Krankbrother Ltd. She outlined the activities applied for, which related to live and regulated music, alcohol served on the premises and the times applied for these activities. Representations had been received from three interested persons on the grounds of public nuisance. Conditions had been agreed between the applicant Police and Crime Enforcement and Regulation service to promote the licensing objectives. As a result, no objections had been received from responsible authorities. She outlined the steps available to members when making a decision.

Applicant

3.3 The Chair invited the Applicant to make his presentation.

3.4 Mr Clancy highlighted the following key points.

- It was always his intention to hold an event on the Sunday following the July Naked City festival. It was not financially viable to hold one event over the weekend. An event partner with a slightly different profile had been sought.
- The festival should create minimal disruption because the production will be in situ from the Naked City festival . There will be noise nuisance on the Sunday event, which will be well mitigated by council imposed sound limiters and with sound management by Vanguardia who had been employed as acoustic specialists.
- There will be very little movement of vehicles over the weekend.
- The company The Cook Out, were the most likely partner for the event, which is a food led show providing a variety of food traders on site and a focus on Latin music, soul, jazz and afro beat.
- The event will be family friendly with equal focus on food and music.
- The July festival was successful last year but was not financially viable because it is expensive to produce such an event.
- Most of the representations received had been regarding noise pollution at Naked City festival. Management worked closely with the Environmental Health team to agree on balanced sound levels. 75db was the agreed maximum sound limit. The noise management plan was shared with Vanguardia and the noise levels were at least 10db below the agreed level with an average level of 50db. The noise team was sent to two residents' houses who had complained about noise specifically, and noise measurements were recorded. Residents' complaints were taken very seriously.
- In future the applicant intends to ensure that there is an understanding of where the most noise sensitive homes are and will be thinking about these locations when considering the position of the stage and will keep in touch with these residents during the event.

3.5 The Chair invited members to ask questions. During the discussion that followed, the following key points were highlighted:

- There will be 3 blocks of toilets with 30/40 in each block. 1 toilet per 70 people.
- The lake was fenced off last year during the event but is not within the event site and customers do not have any access to it. The applicant understood

that the Council have a health and safety plan for the lake and take responsibility for safety. He would consider negotiating extra security around the lake area. All safety plans for the festival will be submitted to the Events Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) to be signed off.

- There will be significant security. The applicant worked closely with the Police last year on the event in July. They had input into the site security plan; four Lewisham Police officers were part of the event liaison for the whole event, working closely with the head of security. They offered invaluable advice regarding anti-terrorism measures, and local gangs in the area. The firm who will manage security next year had not yet been engaged but would be a company with high level experience.
- Concern was expressed about granting an annual licence because the partner company could change every year. The applicant's plan was to identify a partner who would deliver a festival on the Sunday after Naked City festival every year. The applicant would be responsible for producing the show and for submitting plans to the ESAG each year. The partner company would have to be highly experienced to ensure that the festival is successful and to protect his premises licence.

Representation

3.6 The Chair invited the resident to make his presentation.

3.7 Mr Tonge said that his representation was not an objection. The noise management report produced by Vanguardia, as circulated, he considered to be a good piece of work. However, he wished to highlight the following points:

- He lives within the monitoring area R5, which during the 2019 festival experienced the highest levels of noise.
- Although the event was very well planned and monitored, there are a lot of factors that are variables, including the staging for an event and acts planned for the event. Sound with low frequency was the most disruptive for residents.
- The event was held in a dip and the residents in Downham and R5 were most affected by the noise where the land is flat.
- Although Mr Tonge did not object to having a festival in the park, which he considered to be good for the community, there could be considerable differences to the lay out of the event and the frequencies of the bands involved year on year. He recommended, therefore, that a licence should be granted per event rather than on an annual basis so that due diligence could be applied. He said that there are processes in place for festivals on Blackheath.

3.8 The Chair invited members to ask questions. During the discussion that followed, the following key points were highlighted:

- Weather affects acoustics at an event; if it rains, noise does not travel so far. At the festival last year, there was no significant drop off of numbers attending because of the weather.

- A review was held after the event last year. There was a small number of noise complaints, no serious incident identified and the agreed level of 75 decibels was not exceeded
- Vanguardia produced a noise management report after the event in July. They are an independent company and a noise report will be produced after each individual festival.

4. September Festival, Zone E, Beckenham Place Park, BR3 5BS

4.1 The Chair invited the Crime Enforcement and Regulation Manager to introduce the application.

Crime Enforcement and Regulation (CER) Manager

4.2 The CER Manager said that members were being asked to consider an application for a new premises licence for a September festival in Zone E at Beckenham Place Park submitted by Krankbrother Ltd. She outlined the activities applied for, which related to live and recorded music, alcohol served on the premises and the times applied for these activities. Representations had been received from three interested persons on the grounds of public nuisance. Conditions had been agreed between the applicant Police and Crime Enforcement and Regulation service to promote the licensing objectives. As a result, no objections had been received from responsible authorities. She outlined the steps available to members when making a decision.

Applicant

4.3 The Chair invited the applicant to make his presentation.

4.4 Mr Clancy highlighted the following key points:

- The September festival will be similar to the one held in July. The capacity, stage layout and footprint will be similar and there will be a rigorous process with the ESAG.
- Following success of the July festival, there had been an increase in interest in holding events in the park. The applicant had been in discussions with Lewisham and had offered to produce the only other weekend festival in the park to ensure consistency of the operator and use a similar event management plan. This would ensure a safe, sustainable and reliably run event.
- The event partner for the September weekend festival was likely to be Hospitality records; they are a 25 year old electronic music label. They have been operating in Finsbury Park but had shown an interest in relocating to South London where their record label has a strong following in the area. They are a household name in the music industry in the UK and have a low risk audience of 25-40 year olds. They would be the brand behind the event.
- The main representation regarding noise pollution would continue to be addressed and a separate acoustic report from Vanguardia would be produced for each separate event.

4.5 The Chair invited members to ask questions. During the discussion that followed, the following key points were highlighted:

- There would be 8-9 days allocated for setting up the event; 2-3 days for taking the equipment away. Less than 15% of the park would be used for the festival and the significant parts around the event would only be closed for three days. Paths would remain open for dog walkers until late on the Friday before the festival. There are benefits from hosting festivals because revenue is reinvested into the park and encourages a more diverse usage of the park for Lewisham residents.
- 30% of ticket sales were from Lewisham and Bromley residents which was due to outreach marketing. 500 complementary tickets were also given to local residents.
- Lewisham's Licensing Policy is under review. The detail of the proposed policy does not include the arrangements for Blackheath. It does include submitting outside events to the ESAG; having a review and contacting officers in advance of the event.

Representation

4.6 Mr Tonge asked members to consider what constraints or approvals need to be applied to take account of the fact that it is an evolving business that relates to people; and people change. He urged the Committee to apply what constraints they considered appropriate on a case by case basis.

4.7 The Chair said the meeting would go into closed session. All parties would be advised of the decision within 5 working days. She thanked the applicants for attending the meeting.

Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED that under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (Amendments) (England) Regulations 2006 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information:

- 3. July Festival, Zone E, Beckenham Place Park, BR3 5BS**
- 4. September Festival, Zone E, Beckenham Place Park, BR3 5BS**

The following is a summary of the item considered in the closed part of the meeting.

3. July Festival, Zone E, Beckenham Place Park, BR3 5BS

The application for a premises licence was GRANTED as follows and subject to conditions agreed with the Police and Licensing authority:-

A new Premises Licence to operate at the **Sunday after Naked City Festival PL1294** which falls annually on the last Saturday in July.

Live Music

Recorded Music

Anything of a similar description to that falling within (E) (F) or (G)

Alcohol for consumption ON the premises

Sunday 12:00 – 21:30

For all above activities

4. September Festival, Zone E, Beckenham Place Park, BR3 5BS

The application for a premises licence was GRANTED as follows and subject to conditions agreed with the Police and Licensing authority:-

A new Premises Licence to operate a weekend music festival annually in September (Dates to be confirmed at ESAG 6 Months Prior to the event)

Live Music

Recorded Music

Anything of a similar description to that falling within (E) (F) or (G)

Alcohol for consumption ON the premises

Saturday 12:00 – 22:00

Sunday 12:00 – 21:30

For all above activities

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

Chair