

Noise Justification & Operational Management Statement



Job No. 1276

Revision -

Applicant:

Caren Jones

The Celtic Lodge, 36 Westernmoor Road, Neath. SA11 1BZ

Site Address:

The Celtic Lodge, 36 Westernmoor Road, Neath. SA11 1BZ

Scope of works:

The application related to the Retention of raised decking, gazebo, privacy screen fencing, and access ramp that were built in 2024 & 2026.

1. Context and Historical Performance

The existing external decking area has operated successfully as an outdoor hospitality and wedding venue space for numerous years. Throughout this extended operational history, the venue has maintained an exemplary relationship with the local community. There is zero recorded history of noise complaints, statutory nuisance, or loss of residential amenity to nearby properties.

Crucially, while the venue's current premises license legally permits the use of the decking and outdoor amplified music until 22:00, the operators choose to voluntarily cease all outdoor music at 18:00. This long-standing, self-imposed restriction demonstrates the venue's proactive commitment to its neighbours.

The proposed deck extension seeks to optimize and subtly expand this long-established seating use rather than introduce a new acoustic dynamic to the area. To ensure that local residential amenity remains fully protected, the venue is committing to maintaining its rigorous operational standards alongside a robust suite of physical and engineering controls.

2. Acoustic Mitigation and Operational Controls

Spatial Layout and Audio Engineering Controls

To minimize acoustic propagation toward nearby residential properties, the venue has adopted an "engineered-at-source" design philosophy:

- **Fixed Acoustic Origin:** All live and amplified music will be strictly confined to the original, oldest section of the decking area. The applicant willingly accepts a planning condition prohibiting the placement of loudspeakers, live performers, or playback equipment on the newly proposed deck extension. This guarantees that the acoustic source point does not migrate any closer to nearby Noise-Sensitive Receptors (NSRs).
- **Directional Orientation:** The primary Public Address (PA) system on the original deck will continue to be strategically oriented so that the face of the loudspeakers points directly away from the nearest neighbouring properties.

Curfews, Transitioning, and Operational Hours

The venue will continue to operate under strict, self-imposed curfews that fall well within their legal licensing limits, ensuring a highly protective tapering strategy:

- **The 18:00 Voluntary Music Cease:** While legally permitted to play music outdoors until 22:00, all live and amplified music on the external decking will continue to cease voluntarily at 18:00.
- **The 22:00 shut down / Clearance:** The decking areas will be entirely vacated by 22:00, ensuring the surrounding neighbourhood remains completely undisturbed throughout the night-time period.

3. Summary of Compliance

By combining a proven track record of compliant operation with enhanced physical containment, a restricted acoustic layout, and advanced audio engineering techniques, the proposed development demonstrates a comprehensive commitment to noise management. The applicant submits that these measures exceed standard commercial compliance, guaranteeing that the extended decking area will coexist harmoniously with nearby residential properties.

Signed: Gary Seymour

Dated: 25th June 2026