

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 10 MARCH 2015
title: CLITHEROE CASTLE MUSIC EVENT
submitted by: JOHN HEAP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
principal author: MARK BEVERIDGE, HEAD OF CULTURAL & LEISURE SERVICES

1 PURPOSE

1.1 This committee, at the last meeting in January 2015, asked for further details relating to an event approved at the meeting in September 2014 to be staged in the Castle Grounds (Minute 197, No. 2, September 2nd, 2014). This report is submitted to outline the mitigation measures proposed by the promoter.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley
- Corporate Priorities - To encourage economic development throughout the borough, with specific focus on tourism
- Other Considerations – To develop, with relevant partners, measures to support the visitor economy

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The scale of the event proposed is such that members requested further information from the promoter as to how they will seek to minimise the impact of the local residents.

2.2 It is acknowledged that the physical act of amplifying music will cause some disruption to some people. Although controls can be put in place to address this to ensure the sound levels are contained within certain parameters, the fact that there is music at all will, for some, be a nuisance.

3 PROPOSALS

3.1 The promoter is now looking to reduce the event to 6 hours; opening the gates at 4pm, with three or four acts performing each evening, and the first act on stage no earlier than 4.45pm, and the headliner coming off stage no later than 9.45pm.

3.2 A full Resident & Community Impact Management Plan, as part of the planning process, will be put together. Measures used elsewhere have included: Information about the event sent both directly; published in local papers and put up as notices prior to the event going ahead.

3.3 Providing a dedicated community impact manager who engages directly with key people and businesses who will be affected by the event (feedback forms part of the event planning process).

3.4 A dedicated resident phone hotline for when the event is going ahead.

3.5 Engaging with local community groups for educational, creative, and commercial benefit to the local community.

3.6 Independent and mobile noise monitoring people who can visit residents during the event to ensure noise levels are not going beyond licence conditions.

4 ISSUES

4.1 Events, by their very nature, cause a degree of disturbance and interfere with the normal day to day activities. However, they also are enjoyed by large numbers of people. Events, from a local fete to the Olympics, will all have an impact at some level, both positive and negative.

4.2 The proposals submitted by the promoter are a sensible step towards minimising the impact the event in the Castle will have on local people. By the very nature of the event, it is not possible to remove all impacts; however, the promoter is working with a professional event company, who has extensive experience of staging major music events. That expertise and knowledge will seek to ensure the necessary steps are taken to minimise the impact, as members asked in the January Committee meeting.

5 RISK ASSESSMENT

This report may have the following implications

- Resources – The event discussed would not be underwritten by the Council, nor promoted as such, it would be on Council land, if required the Council would charge for any services required. In addition, the Council will receive a commercial fee for the use of the space to stage the event.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – Events, by their nature, have some impact; this event would need to be considered by RVSAG during the development stage.
- Reputation – Tourism is an integral part of the Borough's offer, and events that are well-run and of high quality will help to promote the Borough and the businesses based within it.

6 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

Notes the content of the report.

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HEAD OF CULTURAL AND LEISURE SERVICES

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

For further information, please contact Mark Beveridge, 01200 414479.

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