

Appendix J

Non-Technical Summary – Noise Management

Elrow Festival

Parsloes Park Park, Dagenham

20 August 2022



JOYNES NASH
ACOUSTIC CONSULTANTS

1. Introduction

Joynes Nash has been tasked with the management of noise, for a Elrow Festival at Parsloes Park, Dagenham on the 20th August. This document provides an overview of the main considerations and findings presented in our Noise Management Strategy dated May 2022 which demonstrates the commitments of our clients to the management of noise from the event.

2. About the Team

Joynes Nash is a leading consultancy for the live events industry. We have extensive experience of live music events and a proven track record of working with event organisers to enhance the audience's experience, whilst preserving the image of events and venues. Our experience extends across the world working for both festival organisers, local authorities and many venues. We have extensive experience of delivering similar events across London, at sites which are known to present many challenges due to the urban nature and proximity of many of the urban parks to residential properties. These include the Queen Elizabeth Park, Greenwich Royal Park, Trent Park, The O2, Brockwell Park and include events in these locations of similar genre and scale.

Indeed, we consider despite the many technical challenges that events bring, that relationships between all interested parties are of paramount importance and that each and every one of these understands situations clearly. We therefore approach each event not in isolation, but carefully consider the public image of events, the venues and the thoughts of the wider community to make events successful and to secure venues for future years

Simon Joynes BSc(Hons), MSc, CEnvH, MCIEH, AMILM, AMIOA

Simon Joynes has over 20 years' experience in both Private Sector and Local Government. He has acted as a senior advisor and has significant experience in the technical aspects and practical application of environmental law, including acting as an expert witness in courts and planning enquiries and the preparation and reviewing of environmental reports and mitigation strategies. (Air Quality, Land Contamination, Acoustics, Water Quality, Odour Management & Industry Regulation). He holds a BSc (Hons) Environmental Health, MSc in Contaminated Land Remediation, the IOA Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control, Certificates of Competence Environmental Impact Assessments. He also holds affiliations with the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, the Institute of Acoustics and is an Associate Member of the Institute of Leadership and Management.

3. Event Planning & Preparation

The event promoters and ourselves have worked together consistently for many years and from the outset it was identified that there were challenges to overcome at Parsloes Park. The venue in fact is no different to many other urban parks in London, where residential premises surround the event location and present their own challenges in terms of noise control.

Our planning therefore focussed on stage positioning and orientation, the choice of speakers, technology to be deployed and the methods of control that will be implemented to achieve the levels set nationally and across other urban parks and venues in London.

Indeed, one of the key changes made to ensure compliance with permitted limits was the depth of the audience from the stage. Given the proximity of those residents, by reducing the total distance from the stage to the rear of the audience we can reduce noise propagation. This is not uncommon across venues but allows us for example to meet the permitted limits. By comparison with venues such as Trent Park, the former home of this event despite the greater distances to the residential properties here, the orientation and audience depth means that those residents are impacted to similar levels as those are expected to be at Parsloes Park. Therefore proximity of residential units is not a key factor in terms of level of exposure.

It was from this feasibility work that we were confident that an event of this stature could be delivered, ensuring that we could accord with relevant guidance, not cause a public nuisance and with effective measures in place to manage complaints actively manage the noise throughout.

4. Permitted Noise Levels

Regarding permitted levels, for urban spaces across London (and the rest of the UK) we see permitted noise levels of 75dB(A) and this approach is consistent with the findings of studies conducted. Indeed, we have recently conducted an experimental live event in the UK on behalf of a Local Authority to evaluate an increase in permitted levels of the site from 65db to 75dB. The Local Authority anticipated a significant greater number of complaints but it has been concluded that the event was a success with minimal complaints and acceptance from the community.

With regards to the genre of music we anticipate higher levels of low frequency noise. Whilst it is accepted that the averaging metric (LAeq) adequately takes account of low frequency sound, as a consultancy we go above and beyond this to manage low frequency noise. This is based on advisory guidance at up to 2km away from the site and to individually control any infrequency balances and thereafter reduce unnecessary community disturbance.

5. Local Authority Liaison – Role of Regulatory Authorities

Active communication has taken place with the Local Authority throughout the event planning and agreements sought on a limit of 74dB $L_{Aeq(15\text{ min})}$ for the venue. Whilst an objection was raised by the Local Environmental Health Authority, a subsequent meeting allayed their concerns which were primarily based on a misunderstanding that this was a secondary event by an alternative promoter. Indeed, despite the confusion the point made was indeed valid until clarified that the number of events on the park were to be limited to minimise disturbance in the local community annually.

Therefore the environmental health authority is satisfied that by implementing the controls put forward, the event will not cause a public nuisance. This is on the basis that the impact will be

equal to or lower than the vast majority of festivals of this genre and scale in urban parks that adopt similar control measures.

Further, Section 182 Guidance considers the roles and acknowledges that each responsible authority will be an expert in their respective field. In this instance the Environmental Health Authority is seen as the main source of advice, with regards to noise and therefore are expected to be the licensing authorities main source of advice in relation to a Public Nuisance.

It is acknowledged that this does not discount other responsible authorities from making comment with regard to matters such as Public Nuisance providing, they have evidence to support such representations. That said it remains incumbent on all responsible authorities to ensure that their representations can withstand the scrutiny to which they would be subject at a hearing. As such should the police maintain their objection based on noise issues, they will be expected to justify it against the relevant national guidance and research which does not support their position.

6. Conclusions of the Site Feasibility Study

The following noise levels were predicted at the worst case sensitive receptors.

Receptor	Predicted Music Noise Level	Permitted Limit Comparison
Wykeham Avenue	69.3	-4.7
Wren Road	64.6	-9.4
Ivy Walk	69.7	-4.3
Terrace Walk	72.0	-2dB

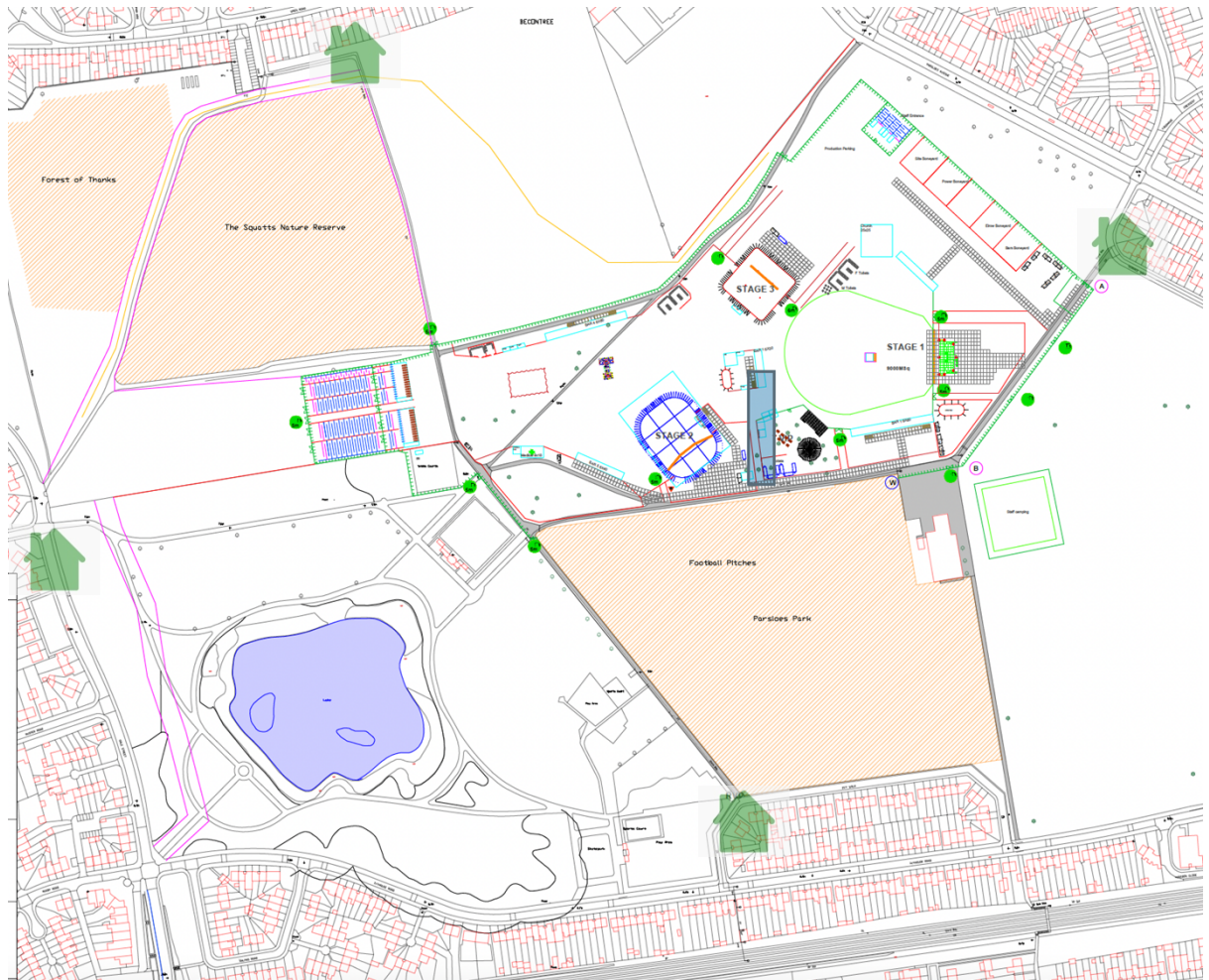


Figure 8.1 – Sound Site Proposals with closest critical receptor positions

We are therefore confident we can operate below the permitted levels, at some locations an order of magnitude below which accords with a halving of the perceived volume.

7. Sound System Design and Setup

There is significant variation in the directivity of different sound systems provided by the various manufacturers, largely around the horizontal dispersion of the loudspeaker. It has been confirmed that we will operate with a proven system, used by our client (and provided by a supplier who we work with regularly) on other challenging London venues. The system will include a line array to minimise horizontal and vertical dispersion and the sub base systems will also be set up to provide cardioid dispersion patterns to maximise the directivity of sound systems and minimise low frequency noise outside of the key audience areas

8. Noise Control Monitoring

During the event a team of 3 consultants will be in attendance to proactively monitor noise and react to any identified problems. The consultants will maintain overall control of noise levels from

the stages at all times and typically levels will be gradually increased as the day progresses (for example earlier in the day overall levels may be lower to reflect smaller audience size).

Each individual stage will be monitored throughout and control mechanism include for a visual display for engineers to ensure that the stages are operating within the defined parameters. Such also provide a alarm to consultants that they are also operating outside of their parameters.

External of the event site consultants will proactively monitoring noise in the community.

9. Procedure for Responding to and Dealing with complaints

Good Public relations is a key pre-requisite of any work conducted by either Joynes Nash or Slammin Events as it has been repeatedly proven that prior awareness of a festival is important in managing resident's expectations and allaying concerns.

A mailshot will be distributed to local residents ahead of the event, detailing times, duration and importantly an event hotline number. This be available for the duration of the event. Should any noise complaints be received, a consultant would investigate the complaint and if noise levels are deemed unacceptable, immediate action would be taken to reduce the levels of the noise source. his will be manned at all times and any enquiries relating to noise will be investigated. That provision also extends to complaints reviewed by other regulatory authorities and agencies.

10. Post Event Reporting

Following completion of the event, a report will be made available to the Local Authority within 10 working days of the event, detailing the findings during the event and any recommendations for future events. It is necessary for this to show compliance with the permitted levels at all times.

11. People and Crowd Noise

With regard to crowd noise, particularly at critical points such as during arrival and departure the organisers commit to marshals monitor the entrance and egress from the premises including the behaviour of those within the vicinity of the premises. This is intended to actively promote orderly arrival and departure of persons and will reduce the risk of nuisance occurring. It will also be supplemented by signage and response teams in a position to react to unexpected events.

12. Conclusion

Our client and ourselves, along with their appointed contractors have a proven track record of delivering events across the UK (and in particular London) without any due concern. Our approach to noise management goes beyond that required and delivered by others as we seek to achieve that acceptable balance between communities and attendees, not only to the benefit of ourselves but also to ensure that the venue is protected and can hold events in the future.

A combination of onsite and offsite monitoring throughout by professional consultants ensures that control is always maintained throughout and it will be demonstrable that there has been no unnecessary increase or creep in noise levels. That approach will be fully auditable as we are required by the Local Authority, who agree with our approach to provide a post event report.