

Licensing Board meeting 26th September 2016

I attended this meeting to support our objection to the proposed change about noise from licensed premises (to change the requirement that noise should not be audible in neighbouring properties to should not be an audible nuisance.)

At the end of the day our objections were overruled and the new conditions can apply where premises ask for a variation.

The “Music is Audible” lobby had a strong team, and had put in a lot of campaigning about this. Community Councils and other objectors made some very clear, well thought out arguments presented by Jonathan Finn of the New Town and Broughton CC (See <http://www.ntbcc.org.uk/music-is-audible-consultation-representation-by-community-council/>). I was also given the opportunity to speak, which I had not expected, so was not prepared, and had very little to add to what Jonatan Finn had said. Hilary McDowell also spoke (on behalf of the Southside Association), mainly talking about our experiences in the Southside.

As a result of this decision we shall have to be much more pro-active in looking for licensing applications asking for this variation, and be ready to go in person to meetings of the Board to voice our objections. Although we do get lists every now and again they are of little use as they don't give dates by which objections have to be lodged, and very little detail of the application is given. We should be asking the City of Edinburgh Council to provide for licensing a system similar to that for planning, where all the details are made available in plenty of time.

P McDowell