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Application No: 2020/1637/P

Consultees Name:

Received: Comment 09/05/2020 16:56:26 OBJ

Response:

I am writing to object to the LabTech application for retrospective planning permission for the 34 loudspeakers.

It is difficult to understand the timing of this application: LabTech tends to take action before seeking permission for the action. I don/t know whether this is because they are confident of success or because they are unaware that permission is required. The latter seems unlikely in this case. Either way it is bad practice.

We are told that the loudspeakers were put in place in February, and this was a time when a host of large and small changes to Hawley Wharf were being considered. The Hawley Wharf Liaison Group met with Lab Tech and Gerald Eve on March 6 to discuss these changes but there was no mention of the loudspeakers.

The application mentions amenity many times and it is to protect residential amenity that the hours are from 10 am to 9 pm. If the noise would disturb the neighbours after 9 pm, why would they not do so before this time? In close proximity there is a primary school, houses in Castifeaven/Hawley Road, Castifehaven Community Centre, not to mention the private and social residents in the development itself. Even a low level of background music is intensely irritating when it is non-stop and chosen by someone other than the listener. I am familiar with the problem as I live opposite the Stables Market. My neighbours and I have lived with ¿background noise¿ since the Market opened. On some occasions it has not even been intentional but it has been persistent.

This is a seriously disruptive proposal. There is no evidence that the sound levels have even been tested on the people most affected. Please do not let it succeed.