

## Noise Pollution

**We recommend that the Parish adds a sentence to its existing noise management guidance for events and so adopts standards of noise measurement set out in the (UK) Noise Council Code of Practice on Environmental Noise at Concerts**

*“Noise management – what noise would you expect from your event – will it be ambient background noise, or will there be amplified music – if so you will need to detail steps that will be taken to minimise the risk of nuisance and how complaints received before, during and after the event will be addressed. For guidance noise levels should not normally exceed 75decibels measured 5 metres in front of the sound source.”*

This is an over-simplification of the Noise Council material herewith. For example the Noise Council refers throughout to dB(A) ... the A for noise measurement adjusted to human perception....

If we wish to keep Parish guidance as self-regulation for the present we should probably to stick to decibels which you can measure with some phone apps, or a simple noise-meter from Amazon (£17). A noise-meter which also measures dB(A) costs £47 from Amazon.

*“... not normally...”* above because we welcome marching bands etc., and the Noise Council material seems to allow for special circumstances anyway. For example Funky Friday might make a reasonable case for 80 decibels rather than 75 on the grounds that it is in the middle of the day, for a relatively short duration and surrounded by traffic noise.

It seems that our law in this area is 19 pages of Statutory Nuisances (Jersey) Law 1999 which contains no reference to any objective measurement of noise whatsoever.

As people become more aware of environmental issues, and as the Jersey in general and St.Helier in particular become more crowded, both the States (Government) and Parish might want to do more about noise pollution.

While guidance based on the Noise Council code of practice does not refer to domestic noise nuisance that is at least a starting point of reference.