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MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Licensing and Regulatory Sub Committee held
at The Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA with remote
attendance on Wednesday, 19th March, 2025 at 10.00 am**

PRESENT: County Councillor Tudor Thomas (Chair)

County Councillors: Tony Easson and Jackie Strong

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Samantha Winn	Licensing Officer
Geraint Edwards	Solicitor
Taylor Watts	Licensing Officer
Richard Williams	Democratic Services Officer

APOLOGIES:

None.

1. Declarations of Interest

None received.

2. Application for a temporary Premises Licence - Devauden Festival, Upper Meend Farm, Penalt, Monmouth

We considered an application for a temporary premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 from Devauden Festival, Devauden Hall, Devauden on the 23rd January 2025 for the following:

Plays (indoors and outdoors)	Friday: 18.00hrs – 23.00hrs Sat/Sun: 10.00hrs – 23.00hrs
Films (indoors and outdoors)	Friday: 18.00hrs – 21.00hrs Sat/Sun: 10.00hrs – 21.00hrs
Live and Recorded Music (indoors and outdoors)	Friday: 17.00hrs – 23.00hrs Sat/Sun: 10.00hrs – 23.00hrs
Performance of Dance (indoors and outdoors)	Friday: 17.00hrs – 23.00hrs Sat/Sun: 10.00hrs – 23.00hrs
Anything of a similar description (indoors and outdoors)	Friday: 17.00hrs – 23.00hrs Sat/Sun: 10.00hrs – 23.00hrs
Late Night Refreshment	Friday – Sunday: 23.00hrs – 00.30hrs
Alcohol Sales (consumption on premises)	Friday: 16.00hrs – midnight Saturday: midday – midnight Sunday: midday – 23.30hrs

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Opening Hours	Friday: 09.00hrs – midnight Sat/Sun: 09.30hrs – midnight Monday: 09.00hrs – 17.00hrs
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<https://www.youtube.com/live/699pNkEDJJ8?si=HqPAvXYJMS8N7DsL&t=58>

The Chair welcomed the applicants to the meeting and introduced Members of the Sub Committee and the attending Officers and explained the protocol for the meeting.

The applicants confirmed their name and address to the Sub Committee. The applicants confirmed receipt of the report and hearing procedure and acknowledged that they would proceed without legal representation.

The key issues and details were read out to the Sub Committee.

The objectors had provided written evidence but were not present at the meeting. Two local residents presented concerns that granting the licence would result in an increase in incidences of gatecrashing and illegal drug use as a result of inadequate monitoring of the large perimeter; an increase in burglaries and drunken, disorderly behaviour; an increase in traffic on unsuitable roads with limited visibility; an increase in raw sewage; and an increase in noise nuisance disturbance in a rural location with residential properties nearby. Concern was also raised that the festival was an unsuitable environment for young children. No supporting evidence was provided to substantiate these concerns. It was also noted that traffic management issues did not fall within the remit of the Licensing and Regulatory Sub Committee meeting.

The applicants were then given the opportunity to address the Sub Committee, to put forward any relevant explanations. Following this, Members of the Sub Committee put forward questions to the applicants and discussion ensued. The applicants were then given the opportunity to sum up.

Following questioning, the Licensing and Regulatory Sub Committee Members and the Monmouthshire County Council Solicitor left the meeting to deliberate and discuss the findings.

Upon re-commencement, the Chair and Monmouthshire Solicitor advised that the Sub Committee had granted a temporary premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 for Devauden Festival, Upper Meend Farm, Penalt, Monmouth, for the following during the period: The evening of Friday 23rd May 2025, and all day on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th May 2025, and in respect of opening hours, Monday 26th May 2025.

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In addition to the above, the Sub-committee resolved that the matters listed in the Operating Schedule of the applicant's application, and the conditions proposed by the Police and Environmental Health, be incorporated as conditions on the licence.

The meeting ended at 10.56 am.

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