

Subject:		Application for Extended Hours - Colaiste Feirste, Falls Road					
Date:		17th February, 2016					
Reporting Officer:		Trevor Martin, Head of Building Control, ext. 2450					
Contact Officer:		Stephen Hewitt, Building Control Manager, ext. 2435					
Is this	report restricte	d? Yes		No	X		
Is the decision eligible		e for Call-in? Yes		No	X		
1.0	Purpose of Re	eport/Summary of main Issues					
1.1	To consider a request from the organisers of Féile An Phobail to allow a four-day music event taking place from Friday 25 th to Sunday 28 th March within a marquee on the site of Colaiste Feirste, Falls Road to run beyond 11.00 p m on each night.						
1.2	The event is part of the organisation's annual Féile An Earraigh, Spring Traditional Festival celebrations, which will run from the 21st to 28th March 2016.						
1.3	It is a standard condition of a Marquee Entertainments Licence that all requests to operate beyond the permitted hours of entertainment must be considered by the Licensing Committee.						
1.4	A location map is attached as Appendix 1.						
2.0	Recommenda	tions					
2.1	Taking into account the information presented and any representations received you are required to consider the request to extend the hours of entertainment and, subject to al technical requirements being met, either: 1. agree that the four proposed events should be permitted to take place beyond the standard hours of licence or; 2. refuse to extend any or all of the hours as requested.						

3.0	Main report				
3.1	Key Issues Members may be aware that Colaiste Feirste is situated on the site of the former Beechmount Leisure Centre, 339a Falls Road.				
3.2	Members may also be aware that the site has previously been used by the organisers, Feile An Phobail, for both outdoor events and those held within a marquee. The most recent of those held was for the same Féile An Earraigh, Spring Festival held in March 2014.				
3.3	On that occasion, the event was held over five days and also within a marquee but did not run beyond 11.00 pm. The Entertainments Licence for the site was granted under the Council's Scheme of Delegation and is also the responsibility of Féile An Phobail.				
3.4	The days and hours during which entertainment may be provided within a marquee are Monday to Sunday from 11.30 am to 11.00 pm.				
3.5	In addition, the following special conditions are attached to the Marquee Entertainments Licence:				
	 maximum numbers will be agreed at the discretion of the Building Control Service and will vary depending upon individual concert set up proposals. prior to any event taking place the promoters are required to demonstrate evidence of early consultation and have in place a robust system of dealing with any complaints, which has been agreed in advance with the Council. any requests to provide entertainment later than 23:00hrs must be considered by the Licensing Committee and therefore must be made at least 3 months in advance of the proposed event. should the Council receive a significant number of noise complaints for any event which has successive nights of entertainment permitted beyond 23:00hrs or if a complaint about an event beyond 23:00hrs is of major concern, then those successive nights with later hours may be subject to reduction and the promoter should have appropriate arrangements in place should this occur. 				
3.6	The organisers have not yet finalised the programme of entertainments for this year's event but they have confirmed that the type of entertainment will be similar to previous years consisting of traditional Irish music and local artists.				
3.7	The organisers have requested that you give consideration to permitting four nights of entertainment to run beyond 11.00 pm as follows:				
	 Friday 25th March 12.00 am Saturday 26th March 1.00 am Sunday 27th March 12.00 am Monday 28th March 1.00 am (Easter Monday) 				
3.8	As this is not an application to vary the terms of the Marquee Entertainments Licence, but a request for Council's permission to extend the hours under an existing licence condition, there is no requirement for public advertisement in this case.				
3.9	The Service has received a copy of the Event Management Plan and proposed site plan. Officers are currently liaising with the organisers to ensure that all technical requirements will be met and work is ongoing in this regard.				

- 3.10 The organisers have also engaged with Officers to identify and liaise with residents and local resident group representatives. In previous years the organisers have engaged with the local community prior to their events taking place in the form of consultations with residents. A resident's notification letter will also be agreed with the Service and issued to the appropriate properties prior to the event taking place.
- 3.11 Representatives of Féile An Phobail will be available at your meeting should you wish to seek further information about the event.

PSNI

The PSNI has been consulted regarding the event and have confirmed that the organisers have already been in contact with their local neighbourhood. The Police Service has also been informed of the proposed extension of hours and the details regarding the extent of the Liquor Licence. A copy of its comments is attached as Appendix 2.

NIFRS

- 3.13 The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service have also been consulted about the application and confirmed that they have no concerns about the event.
- 3.14 Members are advised that, as with all such events, a series of detailed planning meetings will be held, and attended by officers of the PSNI and NIFRS to look at public safety, traffic management, transport and any wider operational issues.

Health, safety and welfare issues

Officers from the Service have carried out during performance inspections over previous years events organised by Féile An Phobail and have always found the organisers to be professional in their approach and have had no issues with the health, safety and welfare management of the events during that time.

Noise issues

- 3.16 The Environmental Protection Unit (EPU) has been consulted in relation to the request for late night entertainment to run beyond 11.00 pm on four nights at the venue.
- 3.17 Due to the cumulative impact of the consecutive nights proposed and potential sleep disturbance to nearby residents, Officers are concerned that there is a greater potential for complaints after 11.00 pm. Members are reminded that the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 gives councils additional powers in relation to entertainment noise after 11.00 pm.
- The last time the event operated at the venue was in March 2014 and it finished by 11.00 pm. The Service received only one complaint on that occasion, which was due to patron dispersal at the end of one of the events. It did not result in any formal action being taken by the Council.
- As for all of these types of events, Officers are currently working with the organisers and their representatives on appropriate noise management plans for the festival. The noise plan must demonstrate that noise from the event will not cause unreasonable disturbance to both the commercial and residential premises of the area.

3.20	Officers will consider all reports and supporting information to ensure the technical requirements are in accordance with all the relevant legislation and guidance.
3.21	Financial and Resource Implications Officers will be required to carry out inspections at the event but this is catered for within existing Service budgets.
3.22	Equality and Good Relations Implications There are no equality or good relations issues associated with this report.

4.0	Documents Attached	
	Appendix 1 – Location map	
	Appendix 2 – PSNI correspondence	