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LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

17 FEBRUARY 2022

THE RECONVENING OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9.12.2021

The 9.12.2021 meeting of the Licensing Sub Committee will reconvene at **2.00 pm on Thursday, 17 February 2022** in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

Membership:

Councillors: Bambridge, Rogers and Wright

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA No.2

Item
No

3. **APPLICATION FOR A FULL REVIEW OF THE LICENCE FOR FAITH IN STRANGERS, 17 ETHELBERT CRESCENT, MARGATE.**

- **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTAION FROM THE APPLIACANT** (Pages 3 - 290)

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Agenda Item 3

ON BEHALF OF THE
APPLICANT

STATEMENT OF FAITH IN STRANGERS LTD

FIRST

STATEMENT

NO.

OF EXHIBITS:

DATED: February 2022

Licensed Premises: Faith In Strangers, 17 Ethelbert Cres, Cliftonville,
Margate CT9 2DY

WITNESS STATEMENT OF

Faith In Strangers

We, **Jeremy Duffy and Richard Randles**, make this statement jointly, in the knowledge that it will be placed before the Thanet Licensing Committee as my evidence and that the contents of this statement are true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Introduction

1. Our names are Jeremy Duffy and Richard Randles, we are the licence holders and designated premises supervisors of the music venue in Margate known as the **Faith In Strangers, 17 Ethelbert Cres, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 2DY**
2. Faith In Strangers is a 350 capacity bar, kitchen, music and arts venue combined with a workspace for creative individuals and small businesses, based in the heart of Cliftonville, Margate.
3. For reference of Faith In Strangers general aesthetic and public image we have attached photos on exhibit [FIS01](#).
4. Faith In Strangers does not operate like its predecessors Franks and Starlight, in that it also carries out cultural, artistic, community and business support activities. This includes supporting numerous local freelancers and small, local enterprises who use the venue as a workspace during the traditional working week. Faith In Strangers has supported the immediate local community by facilitating the NHS, PoW (Power of Women), Our Kitchen On The Isle Of Thanet (food charity) and lots more, for free. These activities are a strong part of the businesses artistic and social ethos, however, they do not generate revenue to enable the business to operate. Faith In Strangers' main income is generated by bar sales on a busy Friday and Saturday night.

Directors Background

5. On 11/1/18 Jeremy Duffy and Richard Randles incorporated Faith In Strangers Ltd. The pair had known each other for over 20 years, becoming friends at school and bonding over a love for all kinds of music. Jeremy's mother was a special needs assistant and then became a social worker, his father taught Karate in North London. Richard grew up in a family who fostered children in need, his mother a social worker and his father an engineer. Jeremy and Richard later went to college together with Jeremy going on to have a career as a touring musician, promotor and record label owner. Whilst Richard took a different path, working with Children's Social Services and doing outreach work with gangs in North London. In their mid twenties, Richard changed career and joined the London Fire Brigade as a Firefighter, whilst Jeremy opened a workspace, coffee shop and restaurant in East London. The business that Jeremy operated later became an initial elementary template for what they would open in Margate. It was on a recreational trip to Margate, when Jeremy and Richard came across the old Franks nightclub and started to make enquiries. Later in their journey they were joined by investor Thomas Twigg, who came from a background in marketing, technology and music.

Licensed Venue History

6. The licence to sell alcohol can be dated as far back as 1868, the Cliftonville Hotel served the affluent classes of the Victorian era, who would typically flock from London to enjoy their holidays and second homes in Margate. It had views

across a public garden populated with statues, the Cliftonville Hotel was a landmark in Kent. After a few decades of declining popularity, the hotel sadly burnt down in 1952.

Background to Faith In Strangers cultural project

7. Faith In Strangers was founded in January 2018, by two school friends who fell in love with a dilapidated building with inspirational views and a long history of bringing people together. The 60's modernist building was previously the home to Starlight Lounge members club and more recently Frank's nightclub, but had been sadly forgotten and left to decay. By September 2019 the building had been refurbished and began a new chapter in its history, as Faith In Strangers.
8. As we all emerge from the troubles and tragedies of the Covid pandemic, we count ourselves fortunate that we are in a position to re-open to the public. We want Faith In Strangers to be a place where people reconnect; come with an open heart and a willingness to accept each other's differences and you will be welcomed.
9. As part of returning the building back to public use, we sought planning permission and a premises licence to suit the activities that we planned to carry out. As can be seen from this timeline, Faith In Strangers Ltd did not commit itself to invest so heavily in the building and area until after TDC had agreed both planning and licensing.

10. **A brief timeline of that process follows:**

21/2/2018 - Pre-planning meeting with Gillian Richardson (TDC)

20/6/2018 - Planning application submitted

2/7/2018 - Planning application validated

23/7/2018 - Meeting with Christopher Brown (TDC) to discuss soundproofing.

14/8/2018 - Planning permission granted

29/8/2018 - Premise licence issued

5/9/2018 - 20 Year lease signed

Response to Submission and representations

11. **Main complainants (Flat 3)**

The main complainants Ms Beth Pritchard and Ms Georgina Wilson-Powell, who own a home in the London Borough of Southwark see exhibit [FIS11](#), bought their second home above Faith In Strangers around June of 2019 for £120k. At the time of their purchase, Faith In Strangers who are directly below their flat, had both planning permission and their current premise licence in place. The price of their 2 bedroom flat was significantly lower than the market rate, owing to the commercial premises below.

Ms Pritchards complaints have extended beyond Faith In Strangers, as she has also made complaints relating to noise from the cafe called Rendezvous, which is located below Faith In Strangers.

After Ms Pritchard and Ms Wilson-Powell had made complaints about both Faith In Strangers and Rendezvous, the freeholder of the whole leisure complex

including the residential block, GE Bowra Group, generously offered £150k + legal costs for the purchase of flat 3 in order that they could move on. This offer was refused and a counter offer of £300k + legal costs was made. This heavily inflated price was refused by GE Bowra Group and was described as an opportunistic attempt to profit from the situation.

Letters of support

12. The notice TDC posted on the entrance to our premises stated *"All representations must be in writing and be made within a 28 day period commencing on 21st October 2021 and ending on 17th of November and must be sent to: licensing@thanet.gov.uk"*
13. This notice asks for representations to be made by email, it does not state any other prerequisites for representation. Faith In Strangers received over 130 letters of support of our venue, sent to the email address on the aforementioned notice.
14. We attach the letters of support as exhibit [FIS03](#)
15. TDC then proceeded to make efforts to deny that these letters could be included as part of the hearing based on formalities which were not consistent with their own documentation.
16. As far as we understand, TDC did not reply to a single letter of support to say they didn't believe the letters were sufficient to be a representation.
17. It should be noted that Faith In Strangers cares deeply about the regeneration of the area and as such, arrange to meet Louise Askew (Director Of

Regeneration) to discuss the matter. It was after this meeting that Faith In Strangers decided to refrain from announcing the Licence Review and Noise Abatement Notice publicly, as this would be seen by private investors both into Faith In Strangers and other local businesses, as a red flag. This meant that we were not able to gain wider support, create petitions or raise awareness by any means other than the letter on the door.

18. The letters of support gained the attention of local councillors Heather Keen and Alan Currie, who were invited to come and see the venue for themselves and were given the opportunity to ask questions about music and soundproofing. Both were impressed with the operations of the business and endorsed Faith In Strangers as a positive business within the community. Cllr Heather, Cllr Alan and Cllr Rob Yates all wrote letters of representation to support Faith In Strangers.

19. In regards to the letter from Woodswhur in representation of Flat 3 complainants, they claim to have lived above Faith In Strangers two and a half years prior to its opening. This is plainly misleading; Miss Pritchard and Miss Wilson-Powell purchased Flat 3 in June 2019 and started renovating in July 2019. This should be compared with the planning and licensing for Faith In Strangers. Further, the first recorded complaint was received on 27/7/19. This was followed by complaints about a soft launch and halloween event at the end of September and October 2019 respectively. Then on 23/11/2019, complaints were made by email to us about the level of our music, yet in actual fact it was sound from the restaurant below - Rendezvous, who were holding a wedding. Both Faith In Strangers and Rendezvous have been severely hampered by covid

whilst in their infancy, with lockdowns and restrictions meaning that oftentimes there were periods when the businesses were closed. However, now Faith In Strangers, Rendezvous and the new Black Axe Throwing venue are preparing for a busy 2022, we do wonder how the tenants of Flat 3 are going to deal with living in a Cliftonville Leisure Complex and their apparent buyer's remorse. In the tenants representation from Woods Whur, they have stated "Faith In Strangers changed its business model from a private members co-working space to a nightclub". This is inaccurate, as can be seen from the planning and licensing permission granted in 2018. However, during covid restrictions Faith In Strangers limited its business activities to mostly co-working, for legal, health & safety reasons.

Further, Wood Wuhr goes on to make reference to planning and licensing being granted for "spoken word poetry and academic talks". Again, this is misleading. Section H of our licensing application lists these activities, whilst sections E and F of the same application refer to live and recorded music. We have indeed piloted our inhouse spoken word night 'Loose Tooth', the book launch talk 'Long Relationships', along with the Margate Science Festival talk with Robert Macfarlane, the award winning author of 'Underland'. These events are loss making and thus carried out purely for cultural value.

The letter then goes on to refer to anti-social behaviour outside of our premises. It is important to note that we are on a main thoroughfare and many people, inebriated or otherwise, walk past our premises at all hours of the night, often in groups and often making noise.

In our planning and licensing applications, reference has been made to music being played most frequently on Friday and Saturday nights, thus 34 out of 20 weeks is not out of step with that original application, as has been claimed by Woods Wuhr.

It is claimed by Wood Wuhr, that the building's previous operations as a nightclub, as 'Franks', benefited from greater sound attenuation materials. Faith In Strangers refutes this entirely, see evidence relating to the use of best practicable means.

In response to the other objections.

Car Park

20. The adjoining car park is for public use and is not the property nor under the control of Faith In Strangers Ltd. We have CCTV coverage of the carpark and have not witnessed any of our patrons spending any length of time there, other than to access bike storage or car parking. The car park is often used by young people as a place to congregate, which has been the case long before the inception of Faith In Strangers.

Hand Dryers

21. In order to reduce noise break out via our hallway windows we have installed a second set of doors between the toilets and the windows.

Furniture Noise

22. We have installed rubber feet on the majority of furniture and will carry out the same treatment on the remaining. EHO is aware of this.

Increased Music since December

23. Ms Pritchard States: *“Emboldened by the lack of sanction for their behaviour, the nuisance from Faith in Strangers has increased in its intensity since December.”* - However, Faith In Strangers closed from 17/12/22 until 29/01/22.

Family Moving Out

24. Ms Pritchard wrote: *“As a consequence one family has moved out of the building permanently because of the cumulative effect of the sleep deprivation on their toddler and a further 3 families moved out temporarily until a resolution is found.”*

If this refers to the owners of Flat 1 - we direct your attention to exhibit [FIS04](#) which shows the leaseholder of Flat 1, Nigel Pope, selling to GEBG (Freeholder) for purely financial reasons. Note that the owner states *“As a previous owner occupier, I was fortunate that the location of my flat meant that any noises from these premises were outside my property and did not affect me.”*

Klispch speakers

25. Ms Pritchard wrote: *“Social media posts where the nightclub have twice promoted themselves by linking their speakers notoriety for ‘pissing off the neighbours’”*. We were not aware of the company's tagline and do not purchase products based on such trivial aspects of marketing. In any case, it is fair to say

that the tagline refers to the famous Klipschorn speakers invented in 1946, not the domestic Hi-Fi system that Faith In Strangers owns. It is also noted that these speakers are for an audiophile experience, meaning that it is for very high quality sound, with valve amps for colouration of sound. This is predominantly for listening to jazz, soul and classical music earlier on in the evening, akin to 'listening bars' in Japan.

Not responding to emails

26. We have numerous email threads with the complainant spanning over 2 years. However after a particularly inflammatory and accusatory email sent from Ms Pritchard, we have been advised by our legal counsel to refrain from contact. [FIS14](#).

Broken glass

27. We do not allow patrons to leave the premises with glass. However, we have found broken glass, cans and other rubbish on the streets outside our premises that are from products that we do not sell. It is fair to say that this is currently a wider social problem, which we do not contribute to.

Complaints from Flat 2 Cliftonville Court

28. We believe that the complainant, Ms Katherine Cox, does not currently reside at the address and may not even reside in the UK. Ms Cox suggests that her mother Ms Mary Strachan was complaining about the noise from Faith In

Strangers, however, we never received such a complaint and were only met with support from Ms Strachan - see her online review a few days after one of our first events. See attached image on exhibit [FIS02 A](#)

29. Ms Cox also goes on to comment that Faith In Strangers is negatively affecting the cleanliness of the area. We would ask for evidence of this? This is then loosely backed up by hearsay from her brother, who is yet to complain. Ms Cox then goes on to regurgitate the narrative created by the residents of Flat 3, surrounding Faith In Strangers soundproofing.

Dispersal

30. We have included exceptionally clear and prominent signage reminding customers to leave quietly. The below sign is a screen we designed for when patrons are leaving the premises. We use our lobby as a waiting area for people who have called for taxis. See attached image on exhibit [FIS02 B](#)

Violence

31. We are not aware of any violent incident outside and certainly not inside our premises involving our customers. Further, the only incident of police attending the venue was to meet with a female patron who had been using Faith In Strangers to shelter from a domestic violence situation. Crime Ref: KP-20211002-1403.

Public Urination

32. We have more than adequate facilities to mitigate this issue and would again raise the fact that there are numerous bars and establishments along this area; with that in mind, we would like to see evidence that these incidents relate to our customers.

Sound System Specifics

33. Our venue has been designed around having a large number of small speakers (25 x 35cm), as opposed to having a small number of large speakers. This method allows us to play music at a lower level, with greater coverage of sound and reduced need to increase the volume when more people are in the venue. In addition, we have a high fidelity stereo pair by Klipsch. These are akin to a large domestic stereo system, which are designed for listening to music at high quality.

Franks Venue was quiet/quieter

34. Frank Thorely owned several of the flats above the venue, including Flat 3, which he used to house his DJ's and staff. Franks operated primarily as a late night venue 4 to 5 nights a week. This has been confirmed by former management. Former patrons, staff and occupants of the flats above have described Franks to us many times, in the exhibit [FIS05](#) a former patron states on public Facebook forums *'I lived in the top floor flat for 2 yrs....flat 11 I think... the whole building used to shake on a saturday night when Franks nightclub moved in'*

The level of soundproofing has been confirmed by highly regarded local contractor Techno Timber Construction, who carried out the work and wrote a letter of support annexed, from Kelvin Joy.

Flat 3 Lobbying other residents

35. We state that the objections of all but one have come from the flats above.

There were 9 in total, that we believe were mainly instigated by the main complainants at Flat 3. Flat 3 have lobbied other residents for support as part of a campaign to show Faith In Strangers in a negative light, see exhibit [FIS06](#) which shows the residents of Flat 3 attempting to gain support and influence the opinions of residents of Edgar Road Whatsapp group. We also note that part of one representation admits: *'I support my neighbours'*, which indicates the same.

Flat 3 also claimed that they had been able to use Shazam to identify which tracks have been playing in their flat. However, our CCTV shows Ms Pritchard and Ms Wilson-Powell ascending the ramp to the car park on the other side of the building, then crouching down by our windows and using Shazam with a phone held up against the window. We believe this to be quite a cynical method to record sound breakout. (CCTV footage available on request).

Operations

36. We strive to be the best and safest run establishment we can be, which means consistently updating and reviewing our operations, policies, strategies and risk

assessments. We want to put the venue and therefore Cliftonville on the map as a world leading project, with innovation at its heart.

Crime and disorder

37. The premises already have a robust operating schedule We attach a copy of the venue's operating policies and security policies.

- [FIS07](#) - Operating Schedule
- [FIS10](#) - Door Supervision Policy

Public Nuisance

38. The premises already have a robust Sound Management Plan and Dispersal Policy. Attached as;

[FIS09](#) - Dispersal Procedure

[FIS08](#) - Sound Management Plan

Public Safety

39. The premises have been purposely renovated to the highest standards and are fully compliant with all health and safety and current Fire Safety Legislation. Annual certification and Fire Risk Assessment are available on request.

Protection of children from harm

40. The premises already operate a robust set of conditions in respect of the protection of children from harm, including a Challenge 25 policy and refusals book.

Best Practicable Means

41. When taking on the premises Faith In Strangers Ltd found a building that had been subject to years of water damage and delapidation. A method of soundproofing was specified and agreed to by TDC's environmental health. The scheme included a large suspended ceiling, doubled up (2 x 15mm) plasterboards, 100mm mineral wool and a large air gap before the flats above. The ceiling was suspended on a metal framework, decoupled with acoustic hangers, specified by industry leading Christie and Grey. In addition, upright pillars and several walls were treated in a similar manner. Whilst the speakers themselves are on purpose made rubber acoustic isolators to negate direct vibrations into the structure.
- TDC set planning conditions in relation to sound breakout, which were met and surpassed in all tests. This led to the conditions being released prior to first operations.
- Over and above these conditions, we voluntarily reduced the hours that our terrace would remain open by 1 hour, in order that less noise emanating from patron conversation would reach the tenants.

Further to the conditions, secondary glazing has been installed to the east side of the building and in the skylights to further reduce breakout from the venue, this was not a required condition but done so to improve on our scheme.

The cost of soundproofing goes beyond £50,000.

Cultural impact of this application

42. The UK government has invested 1.57 Billion pounds into one of England's best assets, culture. The lockdown has given us opportunities to reassess, to become more progressive as a society and the regeneration of coastal towns in particular have seen a sharp increase in development that give councils an opportunity to shine through with progression, protective policies and planning that will defend the very soul of a thriving town or city.
43. As part of the 1.57 Billion, Faith In Strangers received support from the Cultural Recovery Fund (Department for Culture, Media and Sport) for what they deem to be a project of cultural significance.
44. We are living in a post lockdown society and economy, the hospitality and cultural industries are facing their biggest challenge yet. They need as much support as possible and large markers need to be made known to future investors and entrepreneurs that Thanet is a place to invest.
45. In various documentation produced by both local and national government, hospitality, leisure, arts, culture and creative workspaces were stated as routes to regeneration and would benefit from public support in the form of finance and policies that enable, as opposed to hinder, businesses and projects that operate

in these sectors. This is particularly true in relation to the regeneration of coastal towns. Faith In Strangers took this into consideration and after receiving the fiscal support of Kent County Council in the form of an innovation loan, took over a position of the Cliftonville Leisure Complex, with the expressed aim of being successful in the aforementioned areas.

46. It's patently clear that for the organisation to be economically viable, busy Friday and Saturday nights with music and dancing are what generate the revenue. The money generated by the creative workspace is only ancillary to the main source of income. Whilst, sadly people don't tend to spend money when attending spoken word poetry nor academic talks - these are loss leaders for the business.

47. The cultural importance of live music in the UK is often overlooked. The export figures for UK music show that music is one of our country's biggest exports and one of London's foremost tourist attractions. Small independent grassroots venues have been subject to many attacks from NIMBYism and opportunistic land grabs. We believe that Thanet District Council should look at progressive planning principles, such as 'The Agent of Change' to protect venues from these risks.

Impact of Restrictions

48. Faith In Strangers management had been operating the sound system at a greatly reduced volume since the Noise Abatement Notice was issued. The impact of this led to customers complaining that the music was too quiet

causing many to leave, subsequent damage to the venue's reputation and earnings has been noted. The knock on effect of this has meant that staff hours have been cut and job roles cut off. The long term damage to the reputation of the brand is hard to quantify precisely but we forecast that it runs into tens of thousands of pounds.

Wider strategies and policies - Tourism, the Night Time

Economy and Local Planning Policy

49. The facts and data are clear on the benefits of a healthy night time economy, and we don't see any mention of this in any of Thanet's policies or strategic planning. A vibrant and mixed night-time economy encourages tourism and contributes to shaping places where people want to live. Nationally, the night-time economy makes a significant contribution both to the economy and employment.

50. TDC state in their Local Plan 2020 strategy;

'35. Strategic Priority 1 - Create additional employment and training opportunities, to strengthen and diversify the local economy and improve local earning power and employability

*'Support the diversification and expansion of existing businesses in Thanet, with a focus on advanced manufacturing, emerging technologies, **tourism, culture and leisure, and provide the right environment to attract inward investment'***

<http://thanet.opus3.co.uk/ldf/documents/Thanet%20District%20Adopted%20Local%20Plan%202020/Strategy>

51. Cliftonville is going through growing pains, businesses and projects like ours need as much support as they can get.

52. There's a major lack of employment and career opportunities in Thanet, that's also coupled with a lack of activities and venues to excite, attract or keep persons in their 20's living in the area. Young adults are a workforce needed to help drive the ambitions of Thanet and Kent's wider strategies and policies surrounding investing in and developing the arts, culture, hospitality, leisure and tourism sectors.

53. Faith In Strangers mainly hired young adults who grew up in Thanet, who showed ambitions of opening their own businesses. They are being trained to do this. We are fulfilling numerous local and wider strategies for Thanet, Kent and the UK and strive to be a positive and considered part of it's regeneration. We are also only operating at a fraction of what we believe we can achieve. Without obtrusion we believe we can reach a point of employing over 20 members of staff and many more indirect jobs, along with contributing heavily to the local economy via taxes, free space for charities and non-profits and creating the kind of environment that attracts inwards investment and for small businesses and the self employed to grow, therefore employing their own teams and further contributing to the local economy.

Music Tourism

54. UK Music published Wish You Were Here 2016 reports reveals the vast contribution of live music and music tourism to the South West economy.

55. The South East region generated £455 million from music tourism visits in 2015.

This came from a total of 890,000 tourists which helped support 5,032 jobs in the local area. Cities and towns mentioned in this report attracting visitors within the area include Brighton, Oxford, Reading, Portsmouth, Southampton, Milton Keynes and the Isle of Wight. Since 2016 Margate has been significantly regulated and when the next report is undertaken it will form a significant part of the music and culture offer in this area. This is why protecting live music and cultural venues in Margate is so important.

56. A copy of this report is attached **FIS12**

Music Venue Trust survey of grassroots music venues

57. Faith in Strangers is an active member of the Music Venue Alliance which is a trade collection of the Music Venue Trust.

58. The music venue trust conducted a survey of its 500 plus members before the pandemic, and a copy of this survey is attached at **FIS13**

59. The key points that resonate around the whole grassroots music sector, is that as a rule live music and arts is underfunded, on its own venues such as Faith in Stranger arts program don't make a profit and often run at a loss. The other activities such as 'club' nights give us the ability to subsidise the arts offer at the venue, and this is the fundamental reason why reducing our hours or ability to provide live or recorded music as a result of this review would effectively result in a licence revocation.

Summary

FIS01 - Photos of FIS

FIS02 - Ms Mary Strachan comment and digital signage

FIS03 - Letters of support

FIS04 - Flat 1 previous owner email

FIS05 - Facebook Comments about Franks Nightclub

FIS06 - Whatsapp group lobbying

FIS07 - Operating Schedule

FIS08 - Sound Management Plan

FIS09 - Dispersal Procedure

FIS10 - Door Supervision Policy

FIS11 - Telegraph Article

FIS12 - UK Music Wish You Were Here 2016 report

FIS13 - Music Venue Trust survey

FIS14 - Email from Beth Pritchard

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

**THE CONTENTS OF THE STATEMENT ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY
KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.**

Signed  

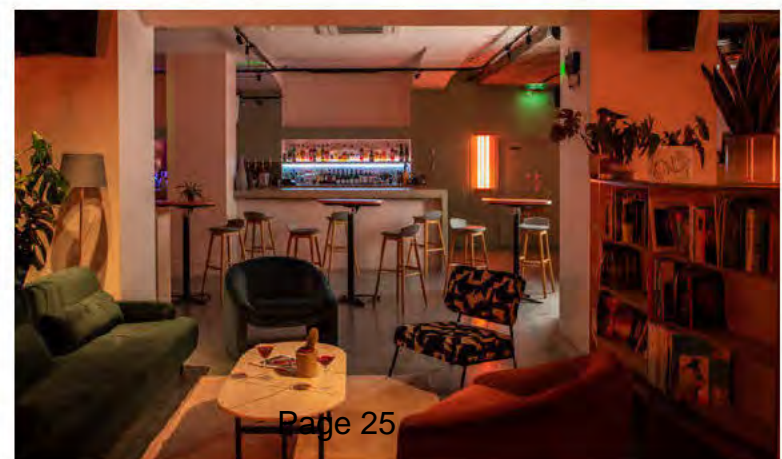
Faith In Strangers Ltd - Jeremy Duffy & Richard Randles

Dated this day of 11th Feb 2022

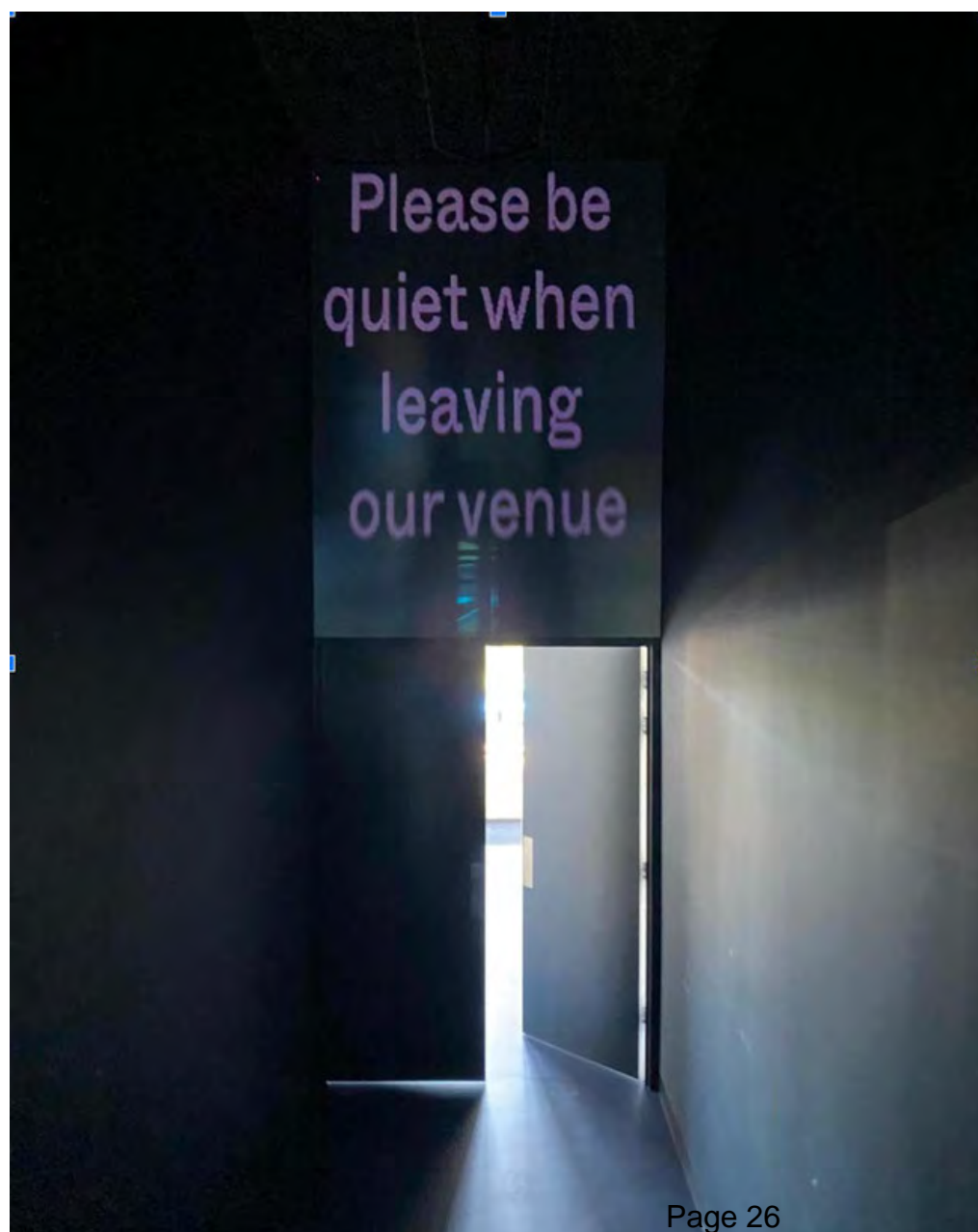
FIS01



Agenda Item 3



A



Dear TDC licensing officer, and whomever else this may concern,

I am a journalist, novelist and screenwriter. I was born in Thanet, and went to school here. I come from a low-income family, and lived here before the area was regenerated. My goal, growing up, was always to escape Thanet. It didn't used to be a nice place; it was an uninspiring place to live in; there were very few positive role models; holding onto aspirations was difficult. I left to go to university in London. While in the city, I started writing for newspapers. Now, I write for the Guardian, the Observer, the TLS, the Spectator, the FT and others; I have a novel coming out next year with Hachette, Penguin and Harper Collins and a screenplay in development with Heyday.

I chose to come back to live in Thanet, seeing how the area was changing – and I don't mean the change that has led to there being more nice cafes and restaurants and yoga studios in the area; I mean the change that has made the area more inclusive – more inclusive of different races, of people of different sexual orientations, different aspirations in life. I chose to come back because I thought that this inclusiveness and openness to the arts and to the sciences, to studiousness and aspiration (which were all things that felt actively discouraged and disparaged while I was growing up here), would mean that Thanet now would be a good place to invest in property, to raise a family, and to – in the future – invest in the area.

Faith in Strangers is located in the building that, while I grew up, used to be Frank's. It is a symbol of the positive change Margate has seen. Frank's used to be the heart of Cliftonville, and represented a lot of what was wrong with Cliftonville – it was a violent place. Two school friends of mine, on separate occasions, were beaten up at Frank's by grown men because they were gay. I am mixed-race; as a person of colour – who felt a lot of hostility in Thanet growing up just because of my appearance – I never stepped into Frank's, not because of the fact that I didn't like the music, but because the nightclub felt like a more extreme extension of the hostility and aggression I saw on the streets during the days. My parents and I drove past Frank's often on Friday and Saturday nights on the way home from classical music activities I was involved in. Even driving on the road in front of Frank's in a car with the windows closed, the music was unbearably loud; the car literally shook (this is not an exaggeration), and my dad would have to slow to a crawl because of the drunk people in the road in front of the establishment.

I feel mostly proud stepping into the building now – proud of my hometown which has developed from being such a hostile place, particularly for children who were in anyway different to the norm, to being somewhere that is so welcoming. This change is all reflected in this one building. A site of violence for my friends has become a site of openness, celebration of the arts, accessibility and refuge. Faith In Strangers is not only a workplace, where people from all kinds of professions (professions this area previously didn't have representatives from – people leading in their fields, people engaging in and pushing the boundaries of creative industries, sciences, journalism etc), it is a community. For the first time in my life, I have felt welcome in this building, as someone who is mixed-race, quiet, and in the arts – and this is reflective of how someone like me now can feel in this town and district at large. Faith In Strangers is a part of the tapestry of this area we all live in, and just simply by existing, it is questioning how things were before; its doors are open, as are, I hope, the town's.

Growing up, I thought I didn't like night life at all. It's quite easy to think this way when growing up in a town in which the night life is representative of the worst kinds of people – the people who spit at your mum because she looks different, the people who bully kids who are trying to study, and the people who fear any sort of difference and are violent towards anyone not like them. It turns out, though, that I do like nightlife; I like nightlife that is not excessive, that doesn't spill out into roads, where violence and hardcore drugs aren't prevalent, where music is considered, and where

conversation is possible – Faith In Strangers is all of these things, and more. Faith In Strangers hosts events and festivals that I never thought would come to this area, reflecting the town's new embracing of positive change, of difference and diversity, the arts, and education. It is finally a good use of this building that has quite a troubled and violent history.

I think that the support an area gives different types of establishments is a reflection of the sensibilities, priorities and trajectory of a place. In Totnes, a while ago, locals protested the opening of a Costa and the council, eventually, blocked the Costa from opening. In that event is reflected the character of Totnes – a place that cherishes and supports independent businesses and community. I moved back here believing that this area was on a good trajectory – that the establishments being supported were ones that would help this area continue to lead as an example of positive regeneration, that would show that the area does not abandon the arts even when the arts have done their bit in regenerating the town, that would continue to bring positive change, opportunity and inclusivity to areas in Thanet still defined by the opposite. I believed, moving back here, that spaces like Faith In Strangers – where festivals celebrating the work of women, and celebrating science and the arts take place; where nightlife is inclusive, considered and unobtrusive; where cheap workspaces mean people of all kinds of professions can live and work in this area, lifting the area up – would of course be supported, not threatened. Now, I worry that what I believe is true – that the support an area gives different types of establishments is a reflection of the sensibilities, priorities and trajectory of a place; I worry that the threat faced by Faith In Strangers is reflective of sensibilities and priorities that do not reflect my own, and that the trajectory of this area is not what it seems, from the outside and from the numerous articles written by the international press about this area.

Faith In Strangers is run by very kind people; they run the workspace and the bar – however, as people who are engaged fully in the lives and careers of their customers, who express genuine interest in the projects and futures of the people who use their space, they are involved in and lift up many individuals' businesses. As a writer, I cannot stress the value of this.

Had Faith In Strangers existed while I had been growing up in this area, it might have been less difficult for myself and my friends to hold onto our aspirations, which – at the time, particularly since we were all from low-income families, and had nothing around us to inspire us – felt like impossible dreams. When I was a teenager, I told a local librarian that I wanted to be an author, and she sarcastically said "good luck with that" and said that I'll end up back in Thanet. I have ended up back in Thanet, but being in Thanet no longer negates the possibility of being an author. I am back here as an author, knowing now that a place like Faith In Strangers – where any young person who says they want to be an author (or a scientist, or a journalist, or a musician) will find not discouragement but encouragement, role models and, likely, mentorship – exists. I hope that Faith In Strangers can be supported from now on so as, at the very least, to reflect a community that is aspirational, diverse (and welcoming of diversity), and open.

Thank you for reading.

Best regards,
Claire





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers License review.

1 message

Cllr-Alan Currie <cllr-alan.currie@thanet.gov.uk>
To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

17 November 2021 at 17:52

I would like to make a representation for the license review.

Members,

As one of the ward Councillors for Cliftonville West I have spoken to both the complainants and the owners of FIS regarding the noise issues which has led to this license review.

It is my view that every avenue should be explored to prevent the venue from losing its music license. Preventing the venue from being allowed to play music from 11pm would mean the venue would not survive financially or in its present form.

I have been informed that soundproofing has been installed which meets the specifications required and it must be considered by the committee that the venue was originally granted a music license which has meant a particular business plan has been followed and financed by Faith in Strangers.

I believe the venue owners are willing to make improvements to the building/venue to reduce any noise issues affecting residents who live in the block above.

Thank you.

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A note about how your personal data is used: As your councillor, I am the "data controller" of any personal data you provide to me. I will use this personal data to enable me to deal with your query or matter. This may also require me to share your personal data with Thanet District Council to make sure your query gets handled appropriately. If you have any questions about how your personal data is used, please let me know. For full details about how I will process your personal data please see the Councillors privacy notice which can be found [here](#).

If at any stage you no longer wish to receive correspondence from me please reply to any email with the word 'unsubscribe' and I will ensure any further correspondence is stopped and that your details are securely destroyed.



Save Faith In Strangers <savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk>

Faith in strangers - licence review representation form by Cllr Rob Yates

1 message

Cllr-Robert Yates <cllr-rob.yates@thanet.gov.uk>

Tue, Nov 16, 2021 at 5:58 PM

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Bcc: savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk

Hi Licencing,

Penny Button said it was fine for a Councillor to submit representation forms so this is my representation. For info: I am currently a member of the workspace, had my birthday party here and know the owners. The information provided about F1 sound and F1 acoustics is information I have been told to be true, and I believe to be true, however I have not seen this evidence with my own eyes.

Kind regards,

Cllr Rob Yates
Councillor for Margate Central

A note about how your personal data is used: As your councillor, I am the "data controller" of any personal data you provide to me. I will use this personal data to enable me to deal with your query or matter. This may also require me to share your personal data with Thanet District Council to make sure your query gets handled appropriately. If you have any questions about how your personal data is used, please let me know. For full details about how I will process your personal data please see the Councillors privacy notice which can be found [here](#).

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Licensing-Representation-Form- RY.pdf

275K



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

Cllr-Heather Keen <cllr-heather.keen@thanet.gov.uk>
To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

17 November 2021 at 20:56

Hello

As the local Councillor for Cliftonville West I want to make a representation in support of Faith In Strangers retaining their license to open late at weekends. I have met with the owners and discussed the sound issues and been reassured that they have complied with all the original conditions for sound proofing etc, and, in fact, gone beyond them. They have no wish to disturb neighbours and have made every effort to avoid this, but a late license is a necessity for their business.

They have already shown their community spirit, hosting Power of women and a poetry evening to raise suicide awareness, to name two. I believe this business is a real asset to Margate and could attract more businesses to Thanet.

This was previously a nightclub, and the initial license for Faith In Strangers was granted in 2018, whereas the flat that seems most unhappy with it was not bought until 2019, when searches would have revealed that it had a late music license.

I hope that this information, and the many other representations in support of Faith in Strangers will be given full consideration and a resolution found that will enable them to continue.

Kind regards

Cllr Heather Keen

A note about how your personal data is used: As your councillor, I am the "data controller" of any personal data you provide to me. I will use this personal data to enable me to deal with your query or matter. This may also require me to share your personal data with Thanet District Council to make sure your query gets handled appropriately. If you have any questions about how your personal data is used, please let me know. For full details about how I will process your personal data please see the Councillors privacy notice which can be found [here](#).

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Licenses and Trading
Thanet District Council
Cecil St
Margate
CT9 1XZ

By email only to: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Copied to: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk / Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk /
Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

10 November 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing further to the Premises Licence Review of Faith In Strangers (FIS), 17 Ethelbert Crescent Cliftonville, Margate CT9 2DY. I am writing in my capacity as a local resident and user of FIS.

I was informed a matter of weeks ago that my workspace, FIS, was issued with a Noise Abatement Notice which triggered a Premises License Review. This is both deeply worrying and frustrating for a number of reasons which I've briefly outlined below. I implore you to take note of the implications of closing this space, and/or limiting its activities.

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself. I was born in Margate, and have grown up between Glasgow and London. The reason I chose to return to this town last year was primarily due to the growing cultural and creative scene – the galleries, the bars, clubs, coffee shops and inclusive spaces which are being born every week. The many residents I have met since tell me they were propelled by the same.

In the ongoing pandemic, a key consideration was finding a place in which to work and integrate myself into the community – **FIS has fulfilled this need entirely**. I work for the Public Interest Law Centre <https://www.pilc.org.uk/> based in London, but active across the country. We legally represent the most vulnerable people in society to give them access to justice. FIS has housed my work very successfully and allowed me to connect with local people - both old and new. Myself and my colleague are considering how we can grow our legal practice for local residents who require legal advice and representation, and how we can integrate this work with FIS's willingness to offer its space to community groups.

Should FIS be closed or restricted, it is not an exaggeration to say I will have to reconsider my location – I have a demanding job which I will not undertake at home. I will have to look elsewhere, and will most probably leave Margate.

Margate's Night-time Economy and Culture.

The actions brought against FIS are very reminiscent of the decimation of the night-time economy in London. In a report by the Greater London Authority in 2017, the following stats were recorded¹:

- *London has 103 fewer nightclubs and live music venues than it did in 2007, a decline of almost a third.*
- *London has lost 35% of its grassroots music venues.*
- *According to the Campaign for Real Ale, London continues to lose pubs at a rate of 140 every year.*
- *According to University College London, London's LGBT+ nightlife spaces have seen a recent intensity of closures. Particularly at risk are longstanding venues and those catering to women and Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups.*

I quote this not to be London-centric, but as a stark warning of what may come if Margate's nightlife economy is not protected by the Local Authority. It is no mystery why we are presented with such dramatic statistics – it is the direct result of nimbyism.² These particular residents are happy to reap the rewards of property price inflations due to a booming nightlife culture. Yet they are first in line to close down the very same once they are personally economically gratified.

The money brought into the local economy by this nightlife and culture must be recognised and respected. What research has been undertaken as to the percentage of local jobs which arise directly from these areas?

Homeowners, landlords and multi-property owners should not be platformed above this vital element of Margate's economy. If they are, it will only be a matter of time before those people who arrived in Margate to proactively contribute to a blossoming town, will leave.

If you have any queries about the content of this letter please contact me directly on

[REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

Ms Saskia O'Hara

¹ https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/culture_and_night-time_economy_spg_final.pdf

² <https://www.ft.com/content/f4690694-d529-435b-a977-fcb24f04e7e5>



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Licence Review Faith In Strangers

1 message

Amy Redmond <[REDACTED]>

15 November 2021 at 23:25

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it concerns,

I understand Faith In Strangers has had a Noise Abatement Notice issued against it, and a Premises Licence Review by TDC.

Faith In Strangers played an essential role in the production and delivery of our 2021 festival. Having to take our usually live festival online meant we were in need of a professional environment to film, live stream and share our festival with the world. Jeremy and Richard and the Faith In Strangers team were true community spirit in action.

Faith In Strangers provided us the space and technical support to deliver our festival excellently to the world. With global viewers and more digital content than POW has ever made, working with Faith In Strangers has taken our reach beyond Thanet to the world.

As a venue owner and festival director I know the realities of the hospitality side of their business. Being able to play music and serve drinks is a key part of their business. Without this they will be unable to offer the kind of support they did for us with the festival.

Also, on a wider level, the success of venues like Faith In Strangers is the success of the whole town. We need nightlife, safe places where people can socialise and enjoy their town. It would be a devastating shame if Faith In Strangers were unable to continue to do what they do so well.

Please reconsider this licence review, knowing that they serve a key demographic of Margates emerging creative community.

With thanks

Amy

Amy Redmond
she/her
Artistic Director
Power of Women festival
[REDACTED]



powthanet.com

 soul sound

15 October 2021

Dear TDC Licensing

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR FAITH IN STRANGERS

I am writing to show my support for Faith In Strangers as a business, including their late night activities.

I work in the events industry, which was absolutely decimated during lockdown, and we, as an industry, need all the venues we can get to get back on our feet.

My own business, Soulsound School Limited, trains live sound engineers and supports all live event technicians throughout their careers. I also freelance myself, and am the Production Manager for Power of Women Festival, which takes place in Thanet in March each year, and the Ramsgate Festival of Sound, which takes place in September.

Without suitable venues, it is impossible to put on successful festivals – festivals which provide opportunity for local artists, musicians, and performers as well technicians and other “behind-the scenes” staff to earn a living. Festivals and events also bring people to the area, which is one of the reasons for the recent influx of new people to our Thanet towns.

Faith In Strangers is a particularly important venue for events in Margate, as they have invested heavily in suitable equipment. In fact, without them, the Power of Women festival would not have happened at all in 2021 as we were able to go fully online this year using their top of the range equipment. It is also a venue we will be using for live events for future festivals.

Having spent quite some time in the venue, I can attest (in my capacity as a sound engineer) that the sound system is, in fact, very small and compact. I also see that although they have some daytime business, it is the night time business that makes the whole venture viable.

The space has a long history of being a night time venue, which any new buyer of the properties above would have been aware of if they'd done their due diligence before purchasing.

I am also a resident of Edgar Road, and we have had no problems at all with people leaving the venue. Edgar Road is, indeed, noisy at night, but this has always been the case with the social problems we have around here and cannot be attributed to Faith In Strangers.

Yours truly,



Darryn de la Soul

Director – Soul Sound School Limited

Production Manager – Power of Women Festival and Ramsgate Festival of Sound

www.soulsound.co.uk

AMBER MERCEDES TRENTHAM

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

10th November

Dear Alan Currie,

I am writing in support of FAITH IN STRANGERS which is currently under licence review. I am a screenwriter, moved to Margate from London two years ago, and I use the FAITH IN STRANGERS workspace as my 'office'. It is an invaluable space and provides a wonderful service for its local and global community. It was open all throughout lockdown, and served as a great solace and warm environment which gave us all an anchor/ safe harbour – emotionally and physically – during this difficult time. It has become an extremely important part of my life and somewhere that makes working outside of London feel viable. Envious even.

I also have enjoyed social and cultural events in the evenings at FAITH IN STRANGERS – always very well managed and respectfully run – the space provides a forum for cross cultural platforms and this is only set to grow and grow in the future.

Living in West Cliftonville, I feel that FAITH IN STRANGERS provides a unique haven at night time – it's a long empty stretch of residential houses, dark and deserted, and FAITH IN STRANGERS feels like perhaps the only safe and vibrant place to go in the midst of this. There are very visible social problems in the area, and I feel FAITH IN STRANGERS will only bring positive things to this, growing its accessibility and cultural programme along the way and attracting people from a broad spectrum to this somewhat desolate stretch.

I personally would be devastated if FAITH IN STRANGERS were forced to close. It is a place that serves not only myself, but also my community very well – and the potential for what it can become as a cultural / community hub is enormous.

Yours sincerely,

Amber Trentham



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Jan Ryan

16 November 2021 at 17:24

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk, Rob Yates <yatesr100@gmail.com>

Dear Licensing Department

We are writing this email in support of Faith in Strangers who we understand has been served with a Noise Abatement Notice and subsequent Premises Licence Review.

As you are aware, Faith in Strangers has a number of functions, including providing a meeting place and shared work space for the many creative practitioners who now live in Margate. Following the pandemic and the reduced requirement to travel to London on a regular basis, such a space has become even more important.


However, the economics are such that this is only viable if Faith in Strangers is able to earn an income from the music events which take place on Friday and Saturday nights and which attract mainly local people. If these events are not possible, there is a strong likelihood that the venue and all it offers to local residents, will cease to operate, along with the jobs it provides for young people from Cliftonville.

We understand that the directors of FIS have taken all reasonable steps to mitigate any noise disruption to adjoining buildings. Therefore, while we completely appreciate and support the needs of those living nearby, we urge you to find a solution which allows this venue to continue programming live events so that this valuable neighbourhood resource can continue to operate.

Best wishes

Jan Ryan

Co-Director - Cliftonville Cultural Space


www.cliftonvilleculturalspace.com



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

A letter of support of Faith in Strangers, Margate

1 message

Ed Wilson <[REDACTED]>

16 November 2021 at 21:05

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: galerj@parliament.uk, cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

My name is Ed Wilson and I am one of operational partners of Sargasso Restaurant on the harbour arm in Margate. My wife and business partner Josie Stead, joined forces with Mathew Herbert, the existing proprietor of Sargasso in July of this year to relaunch the restaurant. We are thoroughly enjoying being in Margate and engaging with all the wonderful, creative and diverse businesses that are here.

Alongside Sargasso, we also run a long established and successful neighbourhood restaurant in London.

I would like to show our support towards Faith in Strangers. A pioneering venue that delivers a unique space that encapsulates the creative demands of Margate, it's residents and visitors alike.

I believe it is incredibly important that Faith in Strangers is allowed to thrive and exist as a music, art and cultural venue. Those three elements are some of Margate's best drawcards. Without it being able to operate under restrictions, residents and visitors would lose out and Margate would lose a world class venue.

The negative impact on employment, local economy and being a creative hub should also be emphasised if restrictions are imposed.

I do hope that a positive outcome awaits this licensing review. I believe this is a very poignant case that carries great weight to the future viability of the creative businesses in Margate and Thanet.

Yours Sincerely

Ed Wilson
Chef Patron
Sargasso



Brawn





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

manon dehaudt <[REDACTED]>

16 November 2021 at 14:01

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "galerj@parliament.uk" <galerj@parliament.uk>

My name is Manon, I live in Westgate on Sea, I am an account manager at Custom Toys UK. I am originally from France and moved to Thanet about 6 years ago.

I have recently been made aware of complains made against Faith in Strangers.

Faith in strangers is a very strong asset for the Margate community it is a space that allows people to get together, it's a place for artists to perform and for the Margate population to find out about those great artists.

I have attended few gigs and spent several nights there where I had the chance to meet people from living in Margate. I have moved to Thanet 6 years from France and never had the opportunity to meet people and never felt like I was part of a community. I now feel part of the Margate community and I strongly believe that Faith In Strangers have played an important role in that integration.

The place is incredible and unique and like no other place in Thanet, it is a workspace during the day and I have many friends working there and they love it. They are also offering any charities or non profits for the venue for free, their

It would be a mistake if this place was forced to close we need more places like that in Margate in order for the town to grow.

I really hope you will take my letter into consideration,

Best regards,

Manon Dehaudt



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

Stephen Moshi Moshi <[REDACTED]>

16 November 2021 at 14:48

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

hello all...

I wish to write to you to add my voice to those vouching for Faith In Strangers, Margate and to support their right to build a business which to my mind is a net positive win for Margate and its community of residents and those that visit.

I am co-owner of Moshi Moshi Records and owner of PRAH Recordings and along with this run a management company that includes in its clients Metronomy, the Umlauts and (Margate resident) Falle Nioke. In addition to this I run PRAH Studios in Margate - a once empty building which now houses three music recording spaces and offices and desk space for creative businesses.

My income for the past 25 years and those of my colleagues is tied into the success of places like Faith In Strangers, a business that can be seen to be part of the "Night Time Economy" and although often seen as some to be threatening and or perhaps not real work is actually a vital part of community and also of British Culture, something which enables the growth and careers of a vast number of people in this country and internationally and also something which via exports of British music and creativity fuels both the country's GDP but also our standing within the world.

In the past few years which I have known Jeremy and Faith In Strangers I have seen nothing but an incredible amount of passion and care taken in every step of his efforts to take another, long empty, wasted space on a prime bit of seafront real estate in Margate and turn it into something both viable and vibrant. With a great amount of energy and I am sure is very visible a huge amount of investment what was once a long deserted, unloved space now seems to me to be a shining example of what thoughtful regeneration can be. I have seen the building be improved and thoughtfully developed to be a unique resource that people are travelling to both to visit it and use it as a space to be in and enjoy and increasingly for a long list of world class creatives to come and expose their skills and entertain. On every visit to the site care has been taken by the venue and their staff that there is as little inconvenience to those living nearby. Music has been played at considerate levels and there is no question that visitors are causing any more noise or problems than those visiting any other pub, restaurant or venue in Margate and certainly I have seen more people gathering outside the bowling alley on the same strip.

I would happily answer any more detailed questions if you have them for me but would strongly advise that the Noise Abatement Notice raised against Faith In Strangers should be thrown out and this business be supported as part of the new face of Margate and should be allowed to help the town to thrive and continue to become a better place to live for years to come. Margate is a much better place to be in and visit than it was when I first came to town 8 years ago we should encourage this growth and allow those with the foresight to invest and develop our shared spaces.

regards

Stephen Bass





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Jonathan Pearson I BluZinc [REDACTED]

16 November 2021 at 16:01

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Hello,

I became a paying member from day 1, and my company, www.bluzinc.uk has made a significant investment both financially and in time to support this excellent workspace, social and entertainment venue.

Due to the pandemic we have only seen the tip of the ice burg for the advantages and benefits of Faith in Strangers, which directly facilitates local employment and the growth of small independent companies with more £ pounds spent in the local economy.

I sincerely hope to be a member for many years to come during day time, evenings and weekends.

Yours gratefully,

Jonathan

[REDACTED]

CEO

BluZinc

Main residential address: [REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Angela's of Margate

16 November 2021 at 23:13

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: Cllr-Rob.Yates@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Helen Whitehead <Cllr-Helen.Whitehead@thanet.gov.uk>

To whom it may concern.

I would like register my support for the business Faith In Strangers in Margate.

I understand that they have recently been issued with an Abatement Notice and a Licensing review. This has happened to us at Angela's and I am concerned that there may be parallels between the two cases that should be addressed at this stage.

Business' like Faith in Strangers are incredibly important to the economy in this area and should be encouraged and supported. Premises of this size are very hard to find a use for as you can see all across the high streets in Thanet, especially post-COVID, and to take away their premises license and stop them playing music now (which would essentially amount to them being forced to close) seems to be a very short sighted policy.

This stretch of commercial property has been in use over many decades and nightclubs have existed in these premises in the recent past. It has a history of music being played at night and it should be allowed again. It seems unreasonable that residents are able to move somewhere that has a historic use and then be able to complain that this is happening once again.

I feel strongly that what happened to us with a vexatious complainant is happening again. We eventually had to go to a hearing and the councillors found in our favour. We have gone on to prove we are an important part of the local economy and provide work for 30 people in the area. I believe that Faith in Strangers should be offered this chance too.

Please feel free to contact me at anytime.

Lee Coad
Owner, Angela's of Margate.

--
Angela's of Margate



www.angelasofmargate.com



Bild Studios Ltd



To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Faith In Strangers venue and co-working space as I have big concerns over the recent news of an abatement notice and license hearing being served.

My name is Joanna, and I am Chief Commercial Officer of Bild Studios, a multi-million pound turnover technology company with offices in London and a virtual production film studio in Ruislip near Heathrow.

I have chosen to be based in Margate, and work from here (Faith In Strangers) in my role leading business development for our international client base that includes Warner Brothers, Apple TV, MTV, Dubai Expo 2020, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Eurovision, Beyonce Tours, Lady Gaga Tours and many many more.

My ability to do business in Margate is directly related to the fact that Faith In Strangers exists. Without this specific workspace and evening venue specialising in innovative live event technology and progressive cultural programming, Margate would be severely under resourced to cater for the new migration of digital technologists. This group can essentially work anywhere, but are seeking spaces that are at a professional level of design, comfort, community and cultural programming as they weigh up which location to settle in.

We need spaces that champion culturally diverse programming and allow for socialising, ideashare and economic development in the region. This is essential for ensuring the digital workforce keep spending their GBP in Margate, and are not taking them to London as a preferred location to socialise and engage in cultural activities.

Faith In Strangers has taken an active role in bringing world class DJs, producers and live acts to Margate, seeing sell-out shows drawing people from all over Kent. Personally, I have been able to bring my London professional network to Margate to these events, because Faith In Strangers is providing an evening venue and programming that is as good as London, if not better. People such as my Exceptional Talent in Digital Innovation Visa Alumni network (now Global Talent Visa) and prominent London Venture Capitalists have all made the 90min train to Margate and Faith In Strangers on my recommendation, and never been disappointed.

If you wish to discuss this further, please feel free to get in touch,

Joanna Alpe
Chief Commercial Officer
Bild Studios



Page 1 of 2	Bild Studios Ltd [Redacted] Company number 10859991. VAT number GB276247872 [Redacted]	2021-10-21
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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in community means faith in strangers

1 message

Magnus Alanko <[REDACTED]>

17 November 2021 at 19:17

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk, cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk, Rose Exall <[REDACTED]>

Dear council representative and Thanet community member,

An ever-more inclusive, vibrant community is something I'm sure you and I - the whole local community - hopes for and can get behind. Local businesses that create local jobs, stimulate the local economy, and contribute to local culture are pivotal to achieving this shared aim. So it is with sadness that I hear of the threat to the viability of Faith in Strangers - a local business that contributes all of the above.

As a local business (co)owner operating during perilous economic times, I know how vital it is to hone an agile business model that can adapt to the challenges of covid, seasonality and the fluctuating economic circumstances of the local community. This is something Faith In Strangers (FiS) clearly understands too, as evidenced by the rich diversity of the services they provide, from desk-space for local entrepreneurs and burgeoning businesses to cultural events, including a healthy contribution to local night-life. Each of these propositions props up the whole. The noise abatement notice, recently issued against FiS, doesn't only threaten one aspect of their business - it threatens its entire existence.

I encourage a re-appraisal of the situation to ensure that the viability of FiS isn't threatened, and that we can continue to grow collectively, as the Thanet community.

Many thanks

Magnus, Co-owner, Stingray, [REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Phoebe Cullingworth <[REDACTED]>

17 November 2021 at 15:03

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

To whom it may concern,

My name is Phoebe Cullingworth, of [REDACTED]

I work as a fundraising consultant for small charities, including those based in Margate. I have been able to work at Faith in Strangers over the last year as most of the charities I work for do not have premises. It has given me an opportunity to network to build better links between local charity work and residents. I am currently working with the youth arts charity, Arts Education Exchange, which is based around the corner, and have plans for them to be able to use the space and benefit from the artistic community that Faith in Strangers brings together. It would be a huge loss not just to the creative arts in Cliftonville, but to the community if the venue was not allowed to operate in the way it has been set up to sustain itself.

I do hope you take this into consideration.

Regards

Phoebe Cullingworth

—

Phoebe Cullingworth
Fundraising Consultant
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Kate Woosey [REDACTED]

17 November 2021 at 08:28

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Hello,

My name is Kate Woosey, i'm a financial planner and a member of the Faith in Strangers workspace, which I have been for ~2 years now. I live [REDACTED]

During my time at FIS, I have been able to meet people in my local community and have a productive place to work — which has been a lifeline during COVID-19.

I'm sad to hear of the recent events that may cause the venue to close down, from my knowledge, there isn't a similar space within Margate that offers the same service with a co-working space and evening bar. The nighttime trade is very important to Margate and it would be a shame that one of a handful of late-night venues is being shut down, especially one positioned in a historical club venue.

I see new people coming into the FIS community all the time. Often being one of the first things they do when moving into the area. Faith in Strangers is not only a workspace and bar, it is a connector for local people.

Kind regards,
Kate

Kate Woosey
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

FAITH IN STRANGERS

1 message

Polly Hope <[REDACTED]>

17 November 2021 at 16:00

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Polly Hope and I am a freelance Production Manager in the film / TV industry. My address is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am a member of Faith In Strangers and it is with much distress and disappointment that I have learnt that its licence is under review and it is threatened with closure due to a noise complaint.

As a freelancer who works a lot from home, even before lockdown made it a more common occurrence, I have personally found Faith In Strangers a lifeline. Freelance work can be terribly precarious and isolating and to have a community of like-minded people who you can share ideas and conversation with, or even just share space with, is incredibly enabling and provides untold benefits both personally and professionally. Faith In Strangers is not just a business opportunity for its founders or a networking opportunity for its members - it is a support structure and a community and, at the risk of sounding slightly pompous, a place where you can find your 'tribe'.

It strikes me that Faith In Strangers is exactly the kind of place Margate needs - a space where strangers come together, encourage each other to be more creative and industrious and end up no longer as strangers but as colleagues and friends. It is a place that originates ideas and generates livelihoods. We have all seen how Margate's economy nose-dived over the last few decades and left locals in a wasteland of deprivation and unemployment. Now there is finally a buzz and an excitement about the place, things are happening again and these fledgling businesses and cottage industries need to be encouraged, not extinguished before they have even had a chance to flourish.

Obviously this town is residential as well as commercial and the needs of all must be considered but I can't understand how stifling a business such as Faith In Strangers can be good for the local residents as it certainly isn't good for the local economy, which directly benefits those residents. We must also not forget that Margate was once a noisy, vibrant seaside town and regeneration means that it will and must be exactly that once again. Many of the business premises that are re-opening were occupied before but have been closed and silenced for years so people don't remember the sound created by a successfully-run enterprise.

I do hope and trust that you will take all of the above into account when reviewing the licence for Faith In Strangers as I believe it would be desperately short-sighted to curb this business and suppress its growth. It would be detrimental to this business, other local businesses and to the wider community and residents of Margate.

Yours faithfully,

Polly Hope

M: +44 (0)7974 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Kit Proudfoot [REDACTED]

17 November 2021 at 14:26

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: suzy@galemail.com

Kit Proudfoot



Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing with regards to the Noise Abatement Notice issued against Faith in Strangers, Margate and the upcoming Licence Review.

I am an artist, performer and producer living in Margate.

I understand that the majority of Faith In Strangers income relies upon a busy Friday and Saturday night. Which has led to me feeling compelled to write to you.

I have worked in the nightclub and hospitality industry to some degree my whole adult life. For this reason, I know that not all venues are made the same

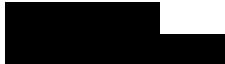
Faith in Strangers is a fantastic source of connection, joy and artistic experimentation that really is only just beginning to reach its full stride. The vision that Richard and Jeremy have for the space is extremely inspiring.

On one level I would say that Faith in Strangers is not like any other venue in the area and that would be true. But really it is not like any other venue I have seen in the country. We have a real chance to have a shining jewel in Margate's crown. One that artists and people interested in arts and culture could travel to from around the world.

I have met with Jeremy and Richard and heard first-hand their vision for the venue. Honestly, I have been blown away. I am always proudly telling people who don't live in Margate about the venue.

Yours sincerely,

Kit Proudfoot

Kit Proudfoot



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers | Letter of support

1 message

James Paton

10 November 2021 at 11:02

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Helen.Whitehead@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Rob.Yates@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Name: James Paton

Resident at:

Writing in respect of: Faith In Strangers, 17 Ethelbert Crescent

Dear all,

I write with respect to the Faith in Strangers, a venue I have personally used for over 9months. I'm a freelance sports marketer that uses the venue daily as a base for my business.

The venue has provided not only much needed affordable office space & high speed reliable internet connection (this is so so important), it has provided a community with which I could join and engage and build a network of contacts and friendships. Relocating is never easy and when I moved to Margate, FIS provided a fantastic way to meet locals of a similar ilk, which in turn has made settling into Margate far more enjoyable.

I'm of the opinion that should FIS lose it's licence for music which has the subsequent knock on impact of the venue no longer operating as a shared work space and being forced to close, Margate would be a worse place all round.

I've previously used WeWork and other corporate shared office spaces and frankly they suck. What the team at FIS have created should not only be welcomed by Thanet / Margate council, but championed. Margate desperately needs places like this if it is to survive.

Please think carefully about your decision with regards to this venue and others as I am strongly of the belief that they support the thoughtful, considerate and exciting regeneration of a town in desperate need.

Best wishes,
James





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers - Cliftonville

1 message

Lorelei Ricard

3 November 2021 at 13:58

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

Dear Thanet, Dear M.Mackinlay,

I am writing from inside faith in strangers. I moved from champagne, France in 2020 and was delighted to find that I could work at a venue as that would allow me to utilise my many years working as a sommelier in a prestigious champagne cellar in my Paris.

It is my ambition to have my own deli in town serving fine foods and wines and share my knowledge and french culture with the Margate crowd.

The managers of Faith in Strangers have helped and country to help me learn more skills to realise my dream and to feel part of a great creative community in Cliftonville.

My colleagues and I feel so lucky to have found a place where we can learn from each other and improve our skills everyday, helping the hospitality industry to evolve in this part of Margate.

All my circle of people around here are all convinced of the positive impact that Faith in Strangers bring to Cliftonville as such new places in the area.

Without this unique place, Cliftonville would be a much less interesting place and so I would without my job there.

If you please consider the whole community when you make your decisions, not just a couple of residents, it would also have a big impact on the motivation of people like me, who chose Margate to move and are planning to operate a new business in town.

Kind regards,

Lorelei Ricard

—



To: Licensing TDC

Ref: Faith In Strangers Letter of Support

Date: 16th Nov 2021

We write this letter to show support for our ally, Faith In Strangers, who is a valued contributor to the ongoing regeneration and resurgence of our arts and cultural sector by providing the much needed uplift in investment, provision of space as well as adding diverse and inclusive programming to our night time economy.

Margate has suffered for far too long without a range of businesses that together provide a variety of services, events and cultural programming. We need to place ourselves at the forefront of tourism and visitor experiences not just as a daytime attraction but as an allround destination spot for all to enjoy in and out of season.

We ask that this be taken into consideration when making your decision in respect of the limitations that may be imposed on their business.

Sincerely

[Eli Thompson](#)

Eli Thompson
Director
Olby's Creative Hub Ltd

Agenda Item 3

Tom Lathan
Writer and Journalist



3rd November 2021

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to voice my support for Faith in Strangers, which I understand is subject to a Premises License Review.

I am an author and journalist (writing for The Guardian, The Financial Times and The Spectator, among other publications). I've been living in Thanet since 2016. I discovered Faith in Strangers at the end of a lengthy search for a workspace, and I have been blown away by what the management provide there. As a writer, finding a good place to work can sometimes feel like an impossible task, but Faith in Strangers has far surpassed my expectations on every front. I've found the workspace to be a welcoming and creative place that, thanks to the ethos fostered by the management, possesses a real sense of community without sacrificing its professional atmosphere.

The meeting room, where I have access to high quality microphones, has also been such a valuable facility. For my book, which is being published by Picador, I am currently in the process of interviewing more than 70 leading environmental scientists from around the world via zoom – being able to do this in a soundproofed room, with a high-speed internet connection and professional microphones has made this usually fraught process as smooth, stress-free and, ultimately, as productive as I could have ever wished it to be. I've also found the space to be ideal for face-to-face meetings with my editors, as well as other collaborators who have visited me in Margate. Comparatively, there aren't any other spaces in the area where I would feel comfortable conducting face-to-face professional meetings like these.

The sense of community that exists within the workspace also extends to the bar, after hours. I am a bit of a quiet type, so it's rare that I find a bar or venue that I feel totally relaxed in, but that's what I've found here. I don't know if it's due to the ethos of the place, the name, or the passion for culture and community that the management have managed to instil, but Faith in Strangers seems to attract positive, friendly people, and bring those same qualities out of everyone else who visits

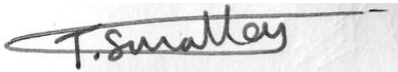
To wrap this up, finding a space where I can work alongside and meet other passionate and creative people, many of whom are doing extraordinary things both professionally and for

Agenda Item 3

the local area, has made a huge difference to my own work. It is the kind of space where ideas and inspiration just flow, and I've honestly never experienced this in a workspace before. If Faith in Strangers must close it will be sorely missed by myself and others. I also believe that this closure would be profoundly detrimental to the local community. Most of all, I'm most concerned about young local writers, who would lose this uniquely nurturing and highly accessible facility. In so many ways, there really is nowhere else like it.

Thank you for reading. If you would like to ask me anything further, please feel free to do so via the contact details above.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "T. Smalley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Tom Smalley
(pen name: Tom Lathan)

15th November 2021

Licencing Department
Thanet District Council
Cecil St,
Margate CT9 1XZ

Dear Licencing Team

RE: FAITH IN STRANGERS

For nearly 60 years, 17 Ethelbert Terrace has been a part of Thanet's nightlife. The Faith in Strangers team have sympathetically reinvented this popular location, creating a superb workspace and cultural, creative community.

All over the country specialist teams are being created to safeguard and support at-risk music venues / community spaces.

It feels archaic and counterproductive that a venue such as this is under review due to complaints made by residents who occupy property directly above the premises who knew full well they are buying above a music venue.

As a Surveyor, living in Margate, I frequently promote Thanet as an area open and welcoming to investment and development. Success stories such as FIS are well received.

For me personally, the workspace has been invaluable.

I love living in Thanet, watching its development year on year. It would be a terrible misjustice if such a loved community hub / grass roots venue was forced to close its doors.

My final comment is a quote from the FIS website

"There's an opportunity to break down barriers and unify people through art and culture; together, we could have a little more faith in strangers."

Yours sincerely,



P Settrington BSc (Hons) MRICS

To the Licensing Authority of
Thanet District Council,
Cecil Sq.
Margate CT91XZ

To whom it may concern,

I am writing today in support of Faith in Strangers, Margate after the venue received an abatement notice in regards to public nuisance from noise pollution. The reasons for doing so I will get to, but first I think it's important to understand as to where I'm coming from, as I feel it's not only relevant to, but instead exactly why it would be detrimental to the reinvigoration and development of Margate to re-evaluate the terms of the premises licence at Faith In Strangers.

I was born in Margate and spent many of my formative years in Thanet. I attended Dane Court Grammar school and then studied art at UCA Canterbury before attending the University of Westminster. When I was twelve I took the first of what would become a long line of jobs in hospitality, blowing up lilos on the beach for people down in Thanet for the Summer. (Hold the violin; I had a machine.)

Ever since that first job, I realised the value of working hard and loved the way that hospitality allowed me to have my own money at a young age and gave me a real sense of community outside my family and school. The friends I made in my teenage years working in Thorley Taverns pubs I still see regularly today and have a strong bond with. Many young people in the area I know have had a similar experience with hospitality. Pubs, bars and restaurants are clearly critical to the economy of Thanet, but also to the development and wellbeing of young people gaining meaningful connections and being introduced to the workplace in a way that inspires confidence and independence.

During my teenage years, I also got my first taste of the venue that was to become Faith In Strangers, though you wouldn't know it at the time. The floors felt as if they were coated in tar, and the speakers would blare out bass so intensely you could feel it in your organs. I couldn't say much about the decor as I don't think I was really ever able to make it out for the clouds of smoke which meant visibility limited me to see even my own hands at the best of times.

This was Chaos, an under 18s night true to its name by its nature. Part of Franks nightclub, and most people my age will have memories of being there. Before that my parents remember the Starlight Club and the Bowler's arms, where I am reliably informed they spent many a night sat in lines on the ground performing the dance to 'Oops Upside Your Head' (I assume the floor was a little less sticky at this point).

This is a common theme in talking to anyone about the venues that have accommodated the youth of Thanet for generations, and people tend to light up when thinking about them and the times they have had in them. I never got to attend the over 18s part of the club on the first floor, as it closed shortly after I was old enough. The years following this I considered the boarded up old purple blot on the seafront which was Frank's in the same light as many other locals; a contributor to the degradation of Margate and Cliftonville in particular, an area in which you didn't feel safe at night.

During the 90's I remember witnessing first hand the atmosphere of tension in Cliftonville in particular due to unemployment, alcoholism as well as racism and lack of opportunity. Cliftonville, an area which has some of Thanet's most beautiful town houses and once thrived on the success of people taking summer holidays at home in England, had become dilapidated. I remember the divide between local people and the increasing number of refugees being housed in the area as the London boroughs found it cheaper to do so here and Nigel Farrage gaining a seat in the town. I also remember the well documented increase of incidents of knife crime and other violence. As part of my job looking after students who came to study English here, I witnessed an incident in which the atmosphere of intolerance in Cliftonville led to locals violently attacking some students.

After leaving university, I, like most of my friends, left the area to find new opportunities. My area of interest was in Art and music, and at that time in Thanet there wasn't much going on in the Arts, and to make a living in that field, I would have to go to London or further afield.

In the end, I went to Australia and lived there for 8 years up until last September 2020. Here I was able to forge what became a career for me in hospitality. In England, I thought like many people that hospitality was a job that you had whilst studying or part time, one that was fun but ultimately didn't have much scope for progression.

By the end of my time in Australia I had been running a bar and restaurant and was inspired by how people were able to earn a good living through working in the industry. Because of the pandemic I was forced to move back home. My plan was to spend a bit of time here and then move to London. After living in a bustling community in Australia with so many opportunities in hospitality, I never thought that Thanet would be able to provide me with a career in the field anywhere near comparable, and I wasn't prepared to compromise on that.

During my time away I visited Thanet and each time was impressed by the improvements of Margate, especially the old town and the opening of many galleries, schools and Arts venues. I'm so glad that the investment in the Turner Gallery and high speed rail connections has sparked a regeneration in the area. Having been back for a year now I have been pleasantly surprised by the fact that many of my friends have started to move back to the area, partly due to the fact that there is a lot more to offer here since the late 90's and early 2000's. One of the positive things to come out of the pandemic is that many young professional people living in cities have re-evaluated what they want from life, and this presents seaside towns such as Margate a unique opportunity. Young professionals moving from outside the area have created demand for different tastes and needs which has in turn created new opportunities for locals to make money and boost employment.

For people such as myself, there is now a chance to use the skills that I have learned elsewhere to make a living right here in Thanet. If it were not for this regeneration in the area, I would now be in London or back abroad. Instead, I am now working at a venue that champions the Arts and Music, and does all in its power to create an environment that's inclusive of all people from all walks of life, and has supported me in my personal development and my aim to open my own venue in the future. If I was told this would be the case two years ago, and that place was in Cliftonville, I'd have laughed.

Faith In Strangers relieved me from my time in lockdown, and after not being able to find any employment and claiming Universal Credit for the first time in my life, I took a chance on taking an interview for what I thought would be a bar job for a few nights on the weekend to

keep me busy in April earlier this year. Upon meeting Richard and Jeremy, I realised that they shared a vision for what a hospitality venue could be, and what it could offer in terms of lifestyle to both workers and the wider community. Since May I have been employed full time by FIS, and have had the privilege to help mould our offerings as a venue, as well as being able to learn some elements of the business that I will need in the future when it comes to opening my own business.

I am now a manager at FIS, and have settled back into life in Thanet. This opportunity has allowed me to remain in the area and fulfill my desire to be part of something meaningful and unique. To me it is venues like this that offer an experience that breaks the mould and stands in stark contrast to the traditional nightclub format of debauchery and drunkenness that can really make a town special. Nightlife can generate huge revenue for an area such as Thanet, attracting people from all over England, but venues too often head down the route of what I touched on earlier; music louder than you can talk in and dark, dingy dance floors, with cheap drinks promotions, all of which contribute to not much more than sore heads in the morning.

Faith In Strangers is a place where great conversations can be had in a relaxing setting, with amazing cocktails and beautiful decor, and what's clear to me is that Jeremy and Richard have poured their heart and soul into the venue making no compromises in their vision. I have had the opportunity to be a part of some amazing events including (but not limited to) book launches, community talks and presentations as well as some amazing live music and nights where people have come to take part in experimental music making. This to me is the heart and soul of everything good about the changes seen in Margate over the last fifteen years. It's rare that you can pick out one place that can say so much about a town and it's potential for growth, but if anywhere, it's right here.

The last few years has been unprecedented in terms of its effects on the mental wellbeing of the general public all over the world, and I think most people have re-evaluated the way they feel about going out, spending money and socialising as the world recovers from the pandemic. For this reason I can't stress enough the importance of venues such as Faith In Strangers that offer a safe space to re-integrate and socialise once more, where everyone is welcome regardless of sexual orientation, gender or nationality. Faith In Strangers is one of the first venues in the area to offer something different to what many are used to in terms of hospitality in small seaside towns, and will certainly not be the last.

Throughout the summer I spoke to so many of our customers that had come from all over to see the venue, and had many great conversations with locals who love the venue and its unique offerings.

Having worked in many large bars open late at night, FIS has pleasantly surprised me in showing what is possible. On a Friday or Saturday night, you'll find FIS bustling with locals having a great time and dancing or chatting on the sofas. Our customers are lovely and always compliment the service and the cocktails as well as the fit out and it is a far cry from the former Frank's nightclub or any other venue for that matter.

During my years in pubs and clubs, my ears have taken a beating, and as a result, I suffer from Tinnitus. Because of this and other reasons I ended up quitting my job in Australia running a late night bar, trading it in for a restaurant where the hours were a little more civilised and I could hear myself think. Now at FIS I have the best of both worlds, as the music is always toned down so that conversation is never a chore, and as a result I don't have to wear any ear defenders.

It is for that reason that when FIS received a notice of application for review of premises licence in October I couldn't understand as to why this would be necessary. To my understanding the measures that have been implemented during the build have gone above and beyond what is generally required for sound proofing and Faith In Strangers has done everything within its powers to meet its Licensing objectives. Not only does it keep noise to sociable levels, we have a strict policy on verifying I.D.s, and we encourage a responsible service of alcohol through our offering of low and no alcohol drinks, and making sure that patrons aren't bothered by rowdy groups with a strict door policy and a code of conduct that patrons are required to adhere to based on mutual respect for the venue, its neighbours, staff and other patrons.

If Thanet wants to invest in hospitality and tourism, wherein to me lies its greatest chance to prosper socially and economically, this is exactly the place to start. Venues such as this offer a blueprint for increasing employment, and have offered a place for us to re-socialise in a post pandemic world. Now is the time for Thanet to embrace new opportunities as people rethink their ways of living and how they spend their money. Retail in Margate has been fading ever since the introduction of Westwood Cross and the demise of the high street in general as people change the way they shop. As a society we need to be reactive to changes such as this, and proactive in our efforts to look ahead and see the opportunities that lie before us.

During my time at FIS I have worked in the workspace during the day and met countless people who have moved to the area, citing its beautiful beaches, scenery and increasingly good restaurants and bars as inspiration. If we are able to continue to attract people like this from outside the area as well as encourage young professionals who grow up here to stay in or return to the area, Margate can enjoy the revival it deserves. Thanet is at a pivotal moment in time and we have to be forward thinking and encourage businesses like FIS as best we can to ensure that Thanet and the surrounding areas are able to provide a shining example of the potential for small seaside towns to offer a better way of living in the post pandemic era.

Having managed Restaurants and Bars in Australia, I have become acutely aware of how hard it can be to make money in the hospitality industry, and as the manager of FIS during service, I can say with absolute certainty, that it is imperative to the financial stability of the venue that we are able to continue to operate within the constraints of our existing licence. The vast majority of our custom currently comes between the hours of 1030pm and 1230am. This is, I think, due to the fact that we are a little out of the way in terms of a lot of the venues in Margate, and people tend to make it their last stop after visiting the bars on the seafront. Faith In Strangers has so much more to offer, and with plans for a kitchen and countless more cultural events, I am deeply concerned that if there were any changes implemented to our licence, it would affect all of our staff that we currently are able to employ, as late night trade is currently the only time we are able to get enough sales to financially justify the need for them. I'm also worried that without this trade, we will be unable to fulfill our future plans for the venue, and if this is the case, then the area will lose an iconic cultural venue which offers locals opportunities to showcase art, opportunities for employment and regeneration in Cliftonville as a whole.

It is therefore that I ask that upon reviewing the premises licence, that you are sure to balance the public's great need for venues such as this against any opposition, as I'm sure

that the former will vastly outweigh the latter. Thanks for reading my concerns and I sincerely hope that Thanet council will invest in this great and historical venues' potential.

Yours faithfully, Jack Eastwood,



To whom It may concern,

I am writing in support of Faith in Strangers located on Ethelbert Crescent, Cliftonville. As a staff member it concerns me that the venue is at risk of closure or having severe restrictions on our licencing which will have a direct impact on my livelihood. As an expectant mother and someone who is saving up to be a first-time home-owner keeping my job and being able to maintain working the number of hours per shift I currently do with our late licence is critical to me as no other venues in the Margate area offer this whilst also paying an hourly rate which is above the national minimum wage.

Not only am I concerned as a staff member but also a member of the community, I have always been local to Margate. I am passionate about preserving our local history having worked with Save the Margate Lido, a group invested in having the site re-developed into a multifunctional venue. In recent years we have seen some tremendous progress to the area, it would be deeply disappointing to see a venue close down so soon after opening, especially one as unique as Faith in Strangers. We are located on a site historically known for its nightlife, many of our customers are delighted upon arrival to see the old Franks nightclub refurbished and re-established as a late night, live music venue, a scene which sadly died off in the Margate area in the last few decades due to lack of economy. We have seen a huge amount of progress to the Old Town area of Margate and now Cliftonville is also improving after many years of neglect.

The last thing local people want is to see the site once again empty and stagnant especially as Faith in Strangers still has so much more to offer, the owners are planning to function as a restaurant in order to offer even more to the community and ensure there is something for everyone to enjoy out of the venue. They are already operating by day as a shared workspace for many local people who work from home to have a relaxed office space, without this this would have a huge impact on many local independently run businesses. The night life side of the venue gives an opportunity for many artists to play again and also for people to enjoy again as the recent years in the pandemic majorly shut down the live music industry.

All in all, it is important to meet the needs of many rather than the needs of the few, a huge fraction of the local community relies on this space either for work, for downtime or as a safe space to dance and listen to music on the weekends. It would be very sad to lose this and I'm sure many people would be disappointed in the Thanet council for making such a detrimental and backwards thinking decision for the local area.

Thank you for taking the time to read my opinion on the matter.

Lauren Burridge



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Adrian - LOADED <[REDACTED]>
To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

10 November 2021 at 00:01

To whom it may concern in the licensing department,

It's absolute madness to even consider taking away or restricting the license of Faith In Strangers. I don't know the finer details but passing by the other day i saw the blue sign on the front door.

My name is Adrian Handley. For the last 15 odd years lived here and I am part of the Save The Lido team that cleared out and surveyed the Lido space. I remember all the clubs and bars and how busy everywhere was, and now there's hardly anything to do. There's no jobs and the young people are leaving. Ive actually put on events in the old space which Faith In Strangers occupy, Franks back then?

Faith In Strangers is the only place I've been to recently that had all different types of people in there, a mixture of a lot of the people that grew up here and the new people that have moved down and nowhere else does that. It's magic!!!!!!

I put one of my friends that grew up here in touch early doors and they have employed her since and she's really happy there, but I guess she'll lose her job? I also noticed that they employ mainly young adults who also grew up in Thanet, they all seem super excited to work at such a great venue.

It's such a positive project and so great to see they took the risk to invest so heavily into Cliftonville and now Thanet are looking at taking that away, I don't get it because everyone is so nice there, you can't hear anything out on the streets and if you didn't know it was there, you wouldn't even notice it walking down the street. What could they possibly have done to warrant this?

Please take this letter as my full support of the venue and its operations and it will be very sad to see this place close down.

Regards,

Adrian Handley

--

Regards
Adrian Handley

Loaded Creative Studios
www.loadedstudios.co.uk



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Agenda Item 3

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Lynton Owen
Lido Complex



17 November, 2021

Thanet District Council
Licencing Board
Cecil Street
Margate, Kent
CT9 1XZ

Dear Councillors,

I write to you following the Premises Licencing Review issued against Faith In Strangers.

As a long standing licensee holder; resident; and having a good reputation with yourselves and the community, I do hope you consider my views on this matter.

Usually venues and establishments are at competition with each other, but I wish to convey my thoughts on the value and importance Faith In Strangers brings to the Margate community and hospitality sector.

We cannot forget, the positive outcome of digital delivery of content, which Faith in Strangers provided to the community, throughout the pandemic. They have also put their heart and soul into providing a unique space with advanced technology for events and broadcasting. Bringing young individuals off the street, into an environment and platform where they can be creative and explore new skills within music and art.

If the licence is revoked, limiting their capability, I am deeply concerned it will influence the sustainability of the venue; undo all the good it currently provides to the community; and more importantly bar staff would lose their jobs.

I do hope TDC will find a solution to ensure this venue can continue to remain open.

Yours faithfully,

Lynton Owen
DPS



8th Nov 2021

Dear Licensing Review Board and Thanet Councillors,

I am writing to express my support for Faith in Strangers (FIS) run by Jeremy Duffy and Richard Randles, which I believe has a proven track record of providing a platform for a wide variety of creative practices and enormous potential to continue bringing benefit to our community. I am aware FIS has been issued a Noise Abatement Notice and Premises Licence Review, both of which have the potential to jeopardize the venue's business plan and consequently close down the establishment.

Firstly as a professional sound designer and having performed at Faith in Strangers as a artist, I would like to comment on the quality of the sound system Jeremy and Richard have designed for Faith in Strangers. In distinction from other 'night clubs' the speakers at FIS are carefully calibrated to produce a high quality and broad range of sound -rather than just bass- which coupled with the interior acoustic treatments they have gone to great expense to install, creates a very carefully considered sound experience.

Beyond this detail which addresses the specific issue of noise, I would also like to highlight the need Cliftonville has for a cultural hub that integrates local charities, tech makers, and national talents. Faith in Strangers have only just had the opportunity to begin these activities -due to COVID restraints- and have a holistic business plan which relies on the bar and DJ night income to provide this. A good example of such an activity is their hosting of the POW! Thanet, Thanet's major annual multi disciplinary arts festival celebrating International Women's Day, who used broadcast facilities at FIS to stream their festival online free of charge along with contributing the cost of the British Sign Language presenter.

Secondly, I want to point out their openness to the community. As many community projects often don't penetrate real society because they are too specific and selective of their activities. Faith in Strangers have the proven interest and ability to intercross between communities and politics using art, design and tech as well as (almost more importantly!) food, drink and music to bring people together. We rarely see cultural hubs to cover all these activities; Jeremy Duffy and Richard Randles have found the way to run this adventurous activity with modest means but on an ambitious scale which could gain this unique venue in Cliftonville local, national and even international recognition. Such potential successes provide local residents with a platform to show their work and meet others and local businesses with potential revenue from tourists and visitors drawn to Cliftonville by Faith in Stranger's activities.

Finally I would like to point out the original use of the building which Jeremy and Richard personally renovated to house Faith in Strangers was Franks Night Club which shut down in 2009. The building thus has always been a music venue which the neighbouring flat owners would have been aware of when purchasing and renting their properties. This is a national issue which is repeating time and again and is causing a key part of the UK's cultural scene

to disappear. I feel it is worthwhile looking at the Agent for Change principle introduced into UK planning in 2018. While this legislation specifically addresses new building developments located near music venues, it also does follow that a resident who moves next door to a music venue would, in law, be assessed as having made that decision understanding that there's going to be some music noise.

As a resident of Margate, as a creator and as a designer, I cannot express more strongly that to remove the licence of Faith in Strangers will be a huge loss for the local community but a huge investment loss from Thanet.

Jeremy and Richard are committed to work over the next decade to build a true culture hub which has the potential to put Cliftonville on the map -don't let this entrepreneurship and passion to improve our local area go to waste.

I hope my comments are helpful and a sensible decision can be reached.

Yours Sincerely,

Yuri Suzuki
Artist and Partner at Pentagram Design Ltd

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yuri Suzuki". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Yuri" and "Suzuki" being capitalized and prominent.

Gillian Allan



16/11/2021

licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you regarding the upcoming licence review for the below venue -

Faith In Strangers
17 Ethelbert Crescent
Cliftonville
Margate
CT9 2DY

I am a local musician and event producer living in Margate.

I use the co-working facilities at Faith in Strangers and have attended several evening events there. In addition to that, I also organise a series of partnership events with them called 'Margate Modular'.

Margate Modular is a free and inclusive community event exploring sound and electronics. Faith In Strangers is a very unique venue with specialised equipment and a highly knowledgeable technical team. Without the venue Margate Modular would not be possible.

It is my understanding that Faith In Strangers has been portrayed as a rowdy nightclub venue. This could not be further from the truth. Not only is this perception inaccurate, it is in fact the opposite of what Jeremy, Richard, and the team are working extremely hard to create.

I have experienced this multipurpose venue first hand in it's different formats and have always found it to be a fantastic source of connection, opportunity and artistic experimentation. To lose Faith in Strangers at this stage would be a great loss for Margate and our local community.

If there are any aspects of this letter you would like to discuss in more detail, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours Sincerely,

Gillian Allan.



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers - Letter of support

1 message

Benjamin Poliak <[REDACTED]>

17 November 2021 at 17:27

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

To Thanet licensing team,
from: Benjamin poliak, Solution architect.
address: [REDACTED]

I was shocked to find out Faith In strangers is under a Premises License Review.

Although I'm a relatively new resident in Thanet, the place has already had an immensely positive effect on my life here and I'm surprised it had anything but a positive effect on anyone else.

When first deciding whether to move to Dalby Square, finding out there was a co-working space in the area was a huge bonus for me in theory but after coming in to see the place I had no doubt it would be my office while working in Margate. It felt like the perfect place to get to meet new people while having an environment which could facilitate cooperation and foster creativity.

A couple of weeks after moving in I was lucky enough to attend a live concert in faith in strangers which turned out to be the perfect setting for me to meet some more like minded people and convinced me Thanet is a place I want to live in being a part of a vibrant creative community.

Every time Friends visit the place is one of a number of shining examples of how Margate is different from what they were told to expect.

Faith in Strangers has helped me meet many long term local residents and instantly find a space that is open and welcoming and creates a much needed sense of community.

It would be a huge loss for myself and the area if the establishment is not able to continue providing these services and I hope this is not where we are heading.

Thank you.
Benjamin Poliak.



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers - Licence Review

1 message

sophie aslett <[REDACTED]>

15 November 2021 at 14:35

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "Cllr-Helen.Whitehead@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-helen.whitehead@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Rob.Yates@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-rob.yates@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-alan.currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-heather.keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-harry.scobie@thanet.gov.uk>

To Whom It May Concern,

I write to you as a member of the Faith In Strangers workspace, and also as someone who enjoys the social space, in support of the venue after their recent noise abatement notice and notification of licence review.

As a member, I use the space most working days (if not all), and rely on it for a comfortable, productive working environment. I work completely remotely and live alone and so there were times in lockdown where I did not see or speak to anyone for days. My work-life balance was also suffering, finding it hard to separate work and home life, and finish the working day at a reasonable hour.

It was, therefore, so very important for me to start my membership at Faith In Strangers as soon as I'd had both my Covid-19 Jabs. I moved to Margate not knowing anyone and, through Faith In Strangers, I have met some lovely people, all from incredibly interesting and creative backgrounds, with whom I can network but also socialise and make friends.

The impact of seeing and speaking to people every day, and perhaps having conversations which are not necessarily work related, are unmeasurable. Equally, I live in a basement flat, with very limited views to the outside and Faith In Strangers offers natural light with a stunning view and being close enough to the beach that I can go for lunchtime walks, even in winter. These factors are all so important and, without Faith In Strangers, I would genuinely be concerned for my mental health.

I moved to Margate because it is a vibrant town with links to art and culture and an active live music scene. These things are very important parts of my life and I wouldn't want to live somewhere that did not have this. It is also this which has attracted so many others like me, as well as thousands of tourists from different areas of the country - and beyond - each year. The new residents and the visiting tourists are fundamental to the local economy - contributing via council tax, inputting into the community, as well spending time and money with local restaurants, bars and entertainment venues.

Faith In Strangers is one such entertainment venue. Having previously been the home of Frank's Nightclub, the building has always been used as an entertainment venue. Faith In Strangers was always intended to be an venue in the evening, and, as such, the owners have done everything to adhere to planning regulations and limit noise disturbances.

They are also doing their bit to give back to the local community, ensuring that the majority of employees are local to Thanet or Kent, and by supporting local initiatives, such as the Power of Women Festival, by hosting art and cultural events and offering up the space for free to local charities and non-profit organisations.

It is also just a great place to kick back after work, socialising with new friends from the workspace membership, or to visit at the weekend and enjoy the Margate sunsets.

I am truly concerned that if this review is upheld and their licence is revoked that it will have a massively detrimental impact on Margate. If Margate loses venues like this, then I would seriously consider whether it was the right place for me to live.

Thank you so much for your time. I urge you to consider all aspects of Faith In Strangers, not just the entertainment venue and review the potential impact on so many should it close.

Kind Regards,

Sophie Aslett
Senior Channel Manager - VOD365 (contract/freelance)

10 November 2021

Jeremy Duffy
Faith in Strangers
17 Ethelbert Crescent
Cliftonville
Margate
Kent CT9 2DY

Dear Jeremy

Letter of Support from Turner Contemporary

I'm delighted to write this letter to you in support of Faith in Strangers.

Thanet is a deprived coastal district that has suffered economic and social decline. Deep-rooted, complex issues cut across deprivation, ethnicity, health, disability, and education. The gallery's mission is to enable access to, and participation in, culture within our community. We are committed to making our work even more relevant and accessible by working with local people. We engage individuals, community groups and businesses in conversations to develop our programmes and plans.

We believe your business is an important part of Thanet's creative industries. You have established a viable for-profit model through a workspace for creative individuals. By doing this you attract people with disposable income to visit, spend time here and contribute to the local economy. You also offer new leisure activities to people living and working in Thanet.

Turner Contemporary has been delighted to discuss several ideas for collaborating with Faith in Strangers. By working together, we aim to find ways for the not-for-profit and commercial sectors to benefit local people. By working with you and others, we hope to sustain regeneration and offer local leisure and employment opportunities.

We look forward to continuing our discussions and hope to work with you now and in the future for the benefit of our shared communities.

Best wishes



Sarah Martin
Interim Director



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers - licensing review feedback

1 message

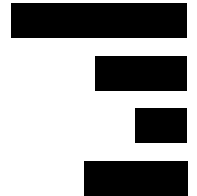
Robert Rutter [REDACTED] >

15 November 2021 at 11:29

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk" <cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>

Robert Rutter

15th November 2021

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in response to the upcoming licensing review for the Margate venue Faith in Strangers and would like to share with you my personal feedback and notes on the impact this business has had for me.

I run the Digital team at the Royal Society, the UK's national academy for science. It has been an incredibly busy and important year for science communication and at the Royal Society we have been at the forefront of providing government guidance on the science around COVID, facemasks and vaccines. Being able to have a workspace with business-quality internet capacity available to me whilst living in Margate has been incredibly important to me as I had a very limited internet capability at home. I have been able to run meetings and daily work/video and event management from Faith in Strangers. I would not have been able to do this without the ability to work from there.

Faith in Strangers has also been very important to me as a relatively new full-time resident in Margate. The social aspects of being able to meet and work with others who live in the area has really helped me to feel more settled in the town and the efforts of the owners to create a positive cultural space that is open and welcoming to all types of people is something I strongly believe is increasingly making Margate a resurgent town. It is vital to the wider community in Margate that places such as this are allowed to flourish and are encouraged as they make a real and positive difference to the lives of many people living in the area. It is places such as Faith in Strangers that have brought me to the town in the first place and in order to continue to restore Margate to a thriving cultural and welcoming town we need to support these ventures rather than threaten to close them down.

I hope that the Council considers the wider implications to the community and what this says about the new Margate that people are finally coming and investing in before rescinding the licence of Faith in Strangers.

With best regards

Rob

Rob Rutter

Head of Digital Marketing and Engagement

T +44 207 451 2517

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[6-9 Carlton House Terrace](#)
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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers - Noise Abatement Notice & Premises Licence Review

1 message

John Wake [REDACTED]

9 November 2021 at 11:52

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk, cllr-Mave.Saunders@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Thanet Gov & Cllr. Saunders,

I am writing this email in support of Faith In Strangers, 17 Ethelbert Crescent, CT9 2DY.

For the record:

My name is John Wake, [REDACTED] (Although I am in the process of selling and buying in [REDACTED]). My occupation is as a Director of my own company dealing in Sports Management and consultancy.

Faith in Strangers has provided a perfect workspace for me in the past 18 months, with a young family and two young children it is impossible to work from home. I was introduced to FIS through a friend and have enjoyed my time here ever since. There is a great community ethos and a work environment congruent with success and development.

I would really struggle without the space, previous to using the facility I would have to swap between coffee shops and hotels. It wasn't easy.

For the events space and bar – it is a innovative and exciting venue. Thanet needs more of them , certainly not less. I know a lot of people in London who are either in the process of moving down or are considering the move. Closing down a venue like this – in my opinion – seems against the attraction appeal that particularly Margate is offering to relocating Londoners. Its very good for the area to have venues like this... It would be disastrous move to remove it a dissuade future business owners from moving down and improving Thanet.

Best regards,

John

Mr. John Wake

[REDACTED]



Avid Sports & Entertainment Group

T:@avid_se I:@avid_se

F: Avid Sports & Entertainment Group

Agenda Item 3



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers - Support

1 message

James Selsby >

8 November 2021 at 21:17

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: galerj@parliament.uk

To whom it may concern,

It is very sad and concerning to hear that a noise abatement order and license review is being given to Faith In Strangers workspace and evening venue that potentially threatens its survival.

I have lived and worked in Thanet all my life. As a younger person I used to visit Franks nightclub and Thorley's as an under 18 on Friday and Saturday nights. Some brilliant memories which I hold dear to to this day.

Since 2011 I have worked and set up companies that provide social care locally to a range of different people. Much of my work has been within Cliftonville West and Margate Central and I have seen the area go through very dark times and struggle to provide employment, quality housing and wider social and artistic opportunities. I wondered at times if this part of Thanet would ever fully recover or get back to the 'good old days'.

Currently the local area has become vibrant, multi-cultural, artistic, creative, busy and most of all a place locals and visitors now want to visit and spend money. Something the council and local people have worked extremely hard on. The work at Dreamland is just one great example of how music and creativity can support the local economy. Begs the question what steps Thanet District Council are taking with Dreamlands music and entertainment events?

The stress and potential closure due to the measures Thanet District Council are now imposing on Faith in Strangers seem wholly disproportionate and bitterly disappointing to Members, visitors, their staff and the owners and investors. The amount of work and commitment put into what was a waste of space is commendable by any standard. It's created some unbelievable local partnerships and had untold impact on the local economy. My business has benefited from the membership and people we have met and partnered with. As a result some of the most vulnerable people in Thanet have been provided with outstanding services throughout the covid period. In health and social care specifically this has been an horrific time.

I think a more proportionate view should be taken with regards to this 'threat' and order.

It's truly mind boggling to see this venue, and all the business' and art being brought together through it, being treated seemingly different to other more established pubs, venues and bars in the local area. I am sure local people who have lived in this area for any length of time would see this as a huge loss and will no doubt support keeping it open. Everyone I know who has spent the night at Faith in Stranger would go back and appreciates what it's trying to achieve. It's truly one of a kind and something this area has been needing for over a decade!

Kind regards,

James Selsby
Avondalecare Kent Ltd & Changing Minds Kent



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

Denai Moore

17 November 2021 at 20:32

To: "Cllr-Alan Currie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry Scobie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather Keen (Councillor)" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, licensing@thanet.gov.uk
Cc: savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk

Hey,

My name is Denai Moore, artist and chef based in Margate.

The Arts, Food and Nightlife scene is very important to the creative enrichment of the community. With all the new developers in Margate, it is crucial to protect the art and culinary world. People who are passionate about progressing the culture in Margate. People who create environments and provide spaces to connect us all.

Faith In Strangers is an amazing venue/business that is apart of that movement that adds to the vibrant energy that Margate has always had.

During the pandemic, we've noticed how important these spaces are. I'm writing to you to emphasise this. Let's keep Faith In Strangers Open.

Many, Thanks
Denai



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers - A Community Cultural Asset

1 message

Tom Ranger

16 November 2021 at 21:40

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to give my full support for Faith In Strangers Ltd.

My name is Thomas Ranger, I live in Ramsgate and currently work for Forum Birmingham / Percolate Live but used to work for Dreamland Margate as Senior Programming Manager from Jan 2018 - Dec 2020 and I am still involved heavily in Thanet's music scene with projects The Dance UK working as a music promoter for Ramsgate Music Hall.

Previous venues I was working for in London also had various issues with noise abatement and neighbouring complaints with a consistent risk of closure hanging over the founders and team. I know first hand how stressful and damaging to mental health this is to people involved working tirelessly early mornings to late at night just to provide a platform for the community to utilise, creating jobs and - as FIS put it - bringing people together (age, gender, sexuality, race) as one community. People who run venues aren't doing it for money, they are genuine community champions who wish the best for their community and understand how important socialising and giving young and old inspiration and ambition is

Usually late night venues would have a much greater impact to neighbouring residents in terms of disturbance because of the nature of what they provide, however every time I've been to FIS it's hardly even noticeable that it even exists - a blessing and curse for the owners! You can barely hear the music from outside so I can only assume this is from the neighbouring properties directly above, who I know moved in afterward the building was taken on and the license was secured with TDC. This may not be relevant, particularly because the whole complex has such a history of late night entertainment but this is a very common story of people moving right next to or above businesses and venues knowing full well the history and (normally) is part of the reason for moving in the first place. It's short sighted and selfish in my opinion to only care when this is directly affecting the complainer and not thinking of the wider consequences to the community (let alone the employees) and the legacy the area loses if the project closes abruptly.

I've found throughout my career that environmental health have always seemed to be very one sided in which they have not been adhering to the parts of the licensing act that states the department should show the recognition of a businesses economic, social and cultural impact. It seems clear to me that in this scenario an abatement notice swiftly followed by a license review is proof of my experience to be true.

As a person with 15 years experience in this world, I would hope my thoughts will be taken on board and that you will not consider giving in to pressure from an aggrieved neighbour who knew what they were getting into when purchasing the property - if they didn't, I would be extremely surprised!

My very best
Thomas Ranger

Sent from my iPhone



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

FAITH IN STRANGERS AT RISK

1 message

Carrie Swatten <[REDACTED]>
To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>
Cc: "GALE, Roger" <galerj@parliament.uk>

14 November 2021 at 11:39

Hi there,

I'm writing to you in reference to the Premises License Review that is outstanding on the business Faith in Strangers.

I'm absolutely appalled to hear that it is under threat and wanted to write to you in support of the venue.

I know the team have worked tirelessly to bring an entrepreneurial spirit to the Margate community. They have successfully provided a nurturing space where small businesses can network, work from and foster the kind of business growth that the area so needed. A lot of this has happened under the roof of FIS over coffee and impromptu meetings, before lockdown and has only continued to grow after lockdown.

Whilst a lot of businesses across the country have been working from home I know a lot of freelancers and small business owners have been desperate to get back to the co-working space FIS even if it's just once a week for the state of their mental health.

FIS has also been crucial in supporting other businesses in their area, I am a board member for The Geekery which is a co-working space within the Tech industry and FIS has provided a lot of support and advice to the Founder Matt Mapleston about how to grow given their experience in the area.

I'd finally like to mention the venue in the capacity of a night venue. When I moved to Margate nearly 7 years ago the nightlife wasn't worth talking about. Over the years due to the influx of people from London the diversity of artists has grown and FIS has been the epicentre to these incredible artists.

We have had DJ's, producers, bands play at FIS that are from the rich tapestry of city's on like London, Manchester... and they are coming to the little old town of Margate to play at FIS and are absolutely loving what FIS have done. You only have to look at social media to see the hype this space has created, with all these visits of exceptional artists brings money, these artists need a place to stay, a place to eat, they tell their friends etc. It puts us on the map for entertainment and culture. Which in turn means more employment for all, more wealth for all, what's not to like?

This would be a total disaster if the license was to be revoked, all the hard work that's been put into building this space, with its high tech sound system and beautiful interior to give the previous space - Frank's nightclub, the refurbishment it so rightly deserved! Don't we want to hold on to memories of this amazing space? We have a generation from the 60's that talk so fondly of Frank's and the time they spent there, can't we have a generation from now talking about this in 20 years time saying this was the place that helped push Margate back to its glory days??

As a member of the community, small business owner and music lover, I plead with you to think about the message this would convey if you were to revoke the license on the overall regeneration of Margate.

Yours sincerely
Carrie Swatten
c/o Keep Good Company
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers licence review

1 message

John Ward <[REDACTED]>

3 November 2021 at 12:28

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "galerj@parliament.uk" <galerj@parliament.uk>

Dear Thanet Council,

Upon hearing of the review of its hospitality licence, I'd like to offer my support to Faith in Strangers (FIS) on Ethelbert Terrace, Cliftonville. Without a licence, FIS would be under threat of closure and I want to share with you why I feel this would have a hugely negative impact on the area.

From a personal perspective, I have been a member of FIS' daytime workspace for nearly two years and have witnessed the growth of this venue, not only as a workspace, but as a diverse venue for music and the wider arts scene. Historically, this site has been a leisure and hospitality space – Rendezvous Restaurant, Olympia Café and Bugsy's Bowling are resident in the same building now and Frank's nightclub was where FIS is now for a number of years. Frank's, in particular, was an extremely busy seaside nightclub, with upwards of 1,000 people over two floors – quite a different noise and street impact to FIS single floor establishment with a completely different tone and purpose. I have witnessed the extensive soundproofing FIS has undertaken over a few years (likely a hugely significant investment) all out of consideration to the local residents and trying to reassure of their commitment to being of good character in the area.

FIS has become a genuine community to many Thanet-based workers in recent times, especially during the pandemic. With restrictions on travel and enforced separation from my colleagues, when it has been allowed to open, I cannot overstate how crucial FIS has been to my work life and personal wellbeing.

From a wider perspective, I think removing FIS licence would set an incredibly dangerous precedent that would threaten the prosperity and financial outlook for the area.

What happens if someone buys a flat above a busy seafront pub and complains about noise? Is that pub's licence removed? What happens if someone living opposite one of the well-established pub in The Old Town and complains about the noise? Is their licence removed?

In three years as a Thanet resident ([REDACTED]), I've met literally 00s of people who've actually chosen to move to the area (and in many cases, bringing London wages with them), because of the development of the social, leisure and hospitality scene. They've invested personally and financially in Thanet, and in doing so making an enormous contribution through Council Taxes and supporting local businesses. Equally important are the people I know people **from** Thanet who've chosen to stay in the area for the same reasons, they feel like there's something for them here.

Some other pertinent points:

- FIS has provided free of charge meeting space to the NHS
- FIS has provided already employed a number of people in the area
- FIS members contribute hugely to the local economy, not least local shops, cafes, restaurants and bars
- I understand FIS has plans for a workplace mentorship programme for young people in the area

- FIS has partnered with the Power of Women and Margate Science Festival

If the area wants a thriving night time economy of bars, restaurants and nightspots (recognising that many of these venues open during the day too), then common sense judgement needs to be applied, **especially** when dealing with objections from the tiniest of minorities, and I hope FIS retains its licence.

Sincerely,

John Ward

Royal Institute of British Architects

[66 Portland Place](#)

[London W1B 1AD](#)



www.riba.org

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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers licence review

1 message

Thomas Twigg [REDACTED]

9 November 2021 at 12:16

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Thanet Licensing,

I am writing to express my view on the current treatment of Faith In Strangers by Thanet council from an investment point of view.

In short, I see the upcoming decision about licensing as being a litmus test for further investment into Margate in particular.

Having built a successful technology company with clients such as Ebay, Facebook and Twitter to name a few, which I sold in 2019 I am in the lucky position that I can invest in projects that I love. Faith In Strangers is the first bringing together my passions for technology and entertainment whilst bringing investment into one of the most disadvantaged parts of the country. It is no overstatement to say that I see this venue as being the beginning of something that will be talked about for many years and put Kent at the heart of the country's cultural output.

As it stands I have personally earmarked further investment in the area for other similar projects which I cannot commit because of the current situation.

On top of this I know of many other private individuals I had recently shown the Faith In Strangers project to who were interested in investing into other cultural projects in and around Margate. If Thanet Council/Licensing's decision is to hamper the night time economy to placate a few individuals who have purchased accommodation close to well known late night music venues then I cannot see how future investment in such enterprises is possible without significant risk. This will effectively stop many investors contributing to the regeneration of areas such as Cliftonville. As far as I can see the winter economy needs saving and the only injection that seems viable in my opinion is a healthy night time economy. These venues need protecting.

Thanks,

Thomas Twigg



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in strangers licence revocation

1 message

Rachel Stuart (Staff)

17 November 2021 at 06:13

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, Faith In Strangers <hello@faithinstrangers.co.uk>, "craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk" <craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>

Faith in Strangers

-

I have lived in Thanet for fifteen years. In that time, I have studied for a PhD and a lack of local job opportunities would have forced me to move if it were not for Faith in Strangers. I am currently employed by Brunel University and can carry on living in Margate because I can use the facilities that are offered by FIS. The inability to connect to fast Wi-Fi would have meant me moving closer to Brunel if it were not for the facilities that FIS offer such as UNIFI. Being able to access their facilities does not only allow me to overcome connectivity issues it allows me to alleviate the negative impacts that working from home has on my long-standing mental health issues that are a consequence of complex PTSD.

For several years while studying for my doctorate I was exempt from council tax, and it would be a shame to move now I can repay the investment that Thanet has made in my education because of the lack of infrastructure in Margate that is symptomatic of coastal towns. I do not want to leave but if I cannot connect digitally to my workplace, I will be forced to move. I pay council tax and the money I spend in the local economy would be lost if I had to relocate. It is now perceived that Margate is within the computer belt but the lack of investment in things like UNIFI that FIS offers will cause issues as more pressure is put on local connectivity. Withdrawing the license from FIS is a short-sighted remedy to an issue that needs to be considered in a wider community context.

Dr Rachel Stuart
LLM Criminal Justice and Human Rights
Lecturer in Deviant Identities

Recent Publications

<https://sti.bmj.com/content/early/2021/10/26/sextrans-2021-055088>

<https://www.doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Left-out-in-the-cold-full-report.pdf>



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers Licence

1 message

Charlie Blightman <[REDACTED]>
To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk, gajerj@parliament.uk

15 November 2021 at 17:24

To whom it may concern

I am writing to express my dismay that Faith in Strangers Licence could be in jeopardy due to a single complainant.

As a supplier to the business, I have been extremely impressed by Faith in Strangers dedication to creating a much needed cultural space for Margate, employing locals and developing and encouraging conversations on a huge range of topics, including my specialist field, wine education. I feel Faith in Strangers has really understood that to enjoy this product in a more considered way it is vital to get young people excited and interested and talking about alcohol as a cultural product, beyond being just a drink. Faith in Strangers was especially interested in serving local wines from the Kent area in their bar.

As a local resident of Margate since 2019, I have been really impressed and grateful to have somewhere to work, and relax after work, on my doorstep. It is top of my list whenever I am asked for recommendations of things to do when visiting Margate (I get asked A LOT!), therefore they are also instrumental in bringing visitors to the area as well as the work they are doing for local residents.

I do sincerely hope that Thanet District Council does not make a knee-jerk decision on this issue and I trust my local MPs to recognise when they have something unique and dedicated to improving Thanet and will protect these things.

Yours,
Charlie Blightman
[REDACTED]

Keeling Andrew & Co

Charlie Blightman | Sales
Keeling Andrew & Co.
[REDACTED]

<https://keelingandrew.co.uk>
@keelingandrewco
@cblightman



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers Licencing

1 message

Main Email [REDACTED] >

16 November 2021 at 20:49

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk" <craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>

To Whom it May Concern,

We are the owners of K.G Winters, Cliftonville, Margate.

We are Kate and George Winteringham, a married couple who moved to the area 8 years ago and set up our small business three years ago in 2018.

Throughout our time here, we have seen great changes take place in the area. This has been because of an exciting increase in the number of bars, restaurants, shops and other small businesses like ours, opening and thriving, creating a fantastic buzz that has been publicised nationwide. Enjoyed not only by the residents new and old of Margate, but also the visitors to the area. We have personally seen this improve year on year.

The work of the individuals who have created these businesses in a challenging neighbourhood and very challenging climate, have provided job opportunities for locals, community hubs, safe spaces and through a wider network of all these businesses have improved the overall experience of the Margate. Specifically, bars, restaurants, workspaces, yoga and Pilates spaces, exhibition spaces, local makers, coffee shops and late night music venues that have created a new backdrop to the area.

That said, as a relatively new, and fragile community of businesses, we need support from council members to ensure that this dream stays alive.

So it is with great concern that we hear that Faith in Strangers is at risk of losing their licence/s that were granted by TDC and in turn are now facing closure.

Faith in Strangers have bravely taken a huge risk and have brought life to a disused and overlooked property in Cliftonville, bringing professionals, musicians, artists, and tourists to the area to make use of the workspace, bar and enjoy tastefully curated music events showcasing the fantastic talent available to us in Margate.

They have worked closely with many of the small businesses in the area for these events, K.G Winters have been directly involved on multiple occasions for catering for various events, which has been incredibly supportive for our business.

Small businesses such as these, have cemented the community and brought tourism to the area which has created a great deal of associated media coverage and attention. The advantages of which have been enjoyed by TDC over the last few years. Its sad to think that in their time of need, small businesses such as Faith In Strangers, are not offered the support they need.

To remove the licences from this business would be equal to closing it completely.

In these times, where business ownership is a daily struggle, the support of the council is paramount to the ongoing success of the businesses and the wider community. It sets a worrying precedent, not only for us, but potential future businesses looking to open in the area.

We ask that you consider our points as residents and small business owners and kindly think about the impact this will have on a growing yet fragile business and residential community.

Yours Sincerely,

Kate And George Winteringham



K.G.WINTERS LTD

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

t 01843 293247

e; info@kgwinters.co.uk

i @kgwinters stores

t @kgwinters_

w; kgwinters.co.uk



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers License Hearing

1 message

Michael Mikkelsen

15 November 2021 at 19:55

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Having recently visited Faith in Strangers to discuss rejoining the co-working space after having worked from home during the lockdown, I became aware of the pending license hearing and wanted to register my support for FIS.

Faith in Strangers served me well as a co-working space during the six months I was a member before lockdown. Providing a unique offer for those of us engaged in work of a more commercial nature, it struck me as a great and necessary addition to the many more arts-based spaces available for rent in Margate.

Additionally, Richard and Jeremy's support of several projects all of which offer great value to the local community struck me as an example of how a space like Faith in Strangers should be run. Personally I have attended and benefited from several such gatherings at FIS, but the event enabling locals to connect over a shared passion for synthesis and electronic music-making has to be the stand out example for me.

With the above in mind, I sincerely hope Faith in Strangers will be allowed to continue operating in a way that is commercially viable so as to ensure that events of the kind described above will continue to be made available to the people of Margate.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Mikkelsen



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers Licensing Issue

1 message

Skate Pharm [REDACTED] >

15 November 2021 at 16:05

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

After attending Faith in Strangers the other night to discuss a future project I was astounded to hear that they're facing issues with their music license due to new owners of a property above.

The fact that this is even a thing is absurd, surely it's common sense that if you buy a flat above a licensed venue the issue is yours alone. It would be like buying a house next to a railway track and asking British Rail to stop running trains past!

I have fond memories of spending my formative years in Franks nightclub, it's not like that venue hasn't always been a music playing venue and I dare say it's a lot quieter now than it was back then.

I was sad to see Franks close but times change and Faith in Strangers have done an amazing job in creating a great community asset for modern Margate. Its a great space full of positive energy.

If Faith in Strangers were to lose their music license it would likely be the death of the place and sets a very worrying precedent for all other music and entertainment venues in the area. It seems that one couples attempt to increase the value of their newly purchase property shouldn't really outweigh the benefits of a local business that employs people and is a valuable part of our community.

I really can't for the life of me understand how Faith In Strangers are even having to deal with this so I trust you'll make the obvious sensible decision regarding this matter as it would be a real shame to lose this place.

Regards

Nic Powley
Owner
Skate Pharm
Margate



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers licensing review application

1 message

English Coordinator [REDACTED]

15 November 2021 at 16:16

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Hello,

My name is Jay Taylor and alongside my colleague Sophie Asquith we act as the Music Venues Alliance Regional Coordinators for England. I am writing to you on behalf of Mark Davyd, CEO, Music Venue Trust.

Music Venue Trust is a UK registered charity with the aims of protecting, securing, and improving grassroots music venues in the UK. We work to gain recognition of the essential role these venues fulfil, not only for artist development but also for the cultural and music industries, the economy and local communities. We aim to preserve and improve venues, making them more efficient and improving the experience for performers and audiences. The Music Venues Alliance is a network of around 950 such venues spread across the UK.

Please find attached a letter from Music Venue Trust regarding our concern at the licensing review application for Faith In Strangers music venue and the recommendations contained within.

We would like to urge you to consider our letter ahead of the representation deadline on Wednesday 17th November, and we encourage you to work alongside the venue to ensure that this important grassroots music venue is not forced into measures that could drastically compromise its future.

With such a tight deadline time is naturally of the essence but we'd be happy to discuss further, be that myself, Sophie or a representative from the venue.

Many thanks for your time,

Jay Taylor

Jay Taylor

Music Venues Alliance Regional Coordinator / England

[REDACTED]

he/him

2 attachments**249367021_1832187586988620_7551110614391330393_n.png**
106K**MusicVenueTrust- Supporting Statement-Faith in Strangers.docx.pdf**

977K



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers licensing review impact on Margate investment

1 message

James Bott <[REDACTED]>

9 November 2021 at 13:06

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

I have recently visited Margate in order to see what investment potential the area has for bars / restaurants and other businesses. During my visit I met with the directors at Faith In Strangers and was extremely impressed by the professionalism of the venue and the impact it is making in Cliftonville. After a brief discussion I was horrified to discover that their business is under threat from a licensing review which I fear is being overlooked by the local council

As a serial entrepreneur I understand that businesses accept risk as part of operating, but hearing the story of how Faith In Strangers is being hit hard by the council due to the complaints of a tiny number of residents makes me wonder whether Margate is the kind of place I wish to invest in.

For some background I have investment interests in 7 companies having built and sold 2 companies of my own. I am planning to invest £1.5m in the hospitality industry and given the Kent Coast's growing reputation as an area of growth I am currently examining options in Margate and the surrounding areas.

To be blunt, if off the back of a very small handful of complaints, the council decides to strip a historic music venue which has been recently and lovingly renovated in order to stimulate growth and attract people to the area is stripped of its license, then it puts a large grey cloud over the area as a whole, which in my opinion would be huge shame and detrimental to future investment in the area.

I will be watching the decision closely as I am sure many other people looking to invest in the area will be as well.

Kind regards,

James Bott
Sage Green Investments



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers licensing review

1 message

Dan Nash <[REDACTED]>

11 November 2021 at 21:36

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Hi there,

My details:

Name: Dan Nash

Address: [REDACTED]

Occupation Digital Marketing

I'm sending you this message as I feel very strongly about the current events with Faith In Strangers and the impact they could have on myself and the wider community.

I've been going to Faith In Strangers (FIS) nearly every day for the last 18 months since I moved to Margate. It was the only thing that kept me sane over lockdown. As someone that works on their own it has massive benefits to my mental health to have a space with similar people and an amazing work culture cultivated by the founders.

Without FIS, there are no similar spaces and I'd be forced to work in my flat (very badly set out for working every day there and I have been trying for the last 6 months to find somewhere else to rent with no joy) and have to spend a lot of time on my own which would really affect my mental health.

I've made great connections with the amazing community here and we support each other in many ways, especially others who work on their own too. It would be heart wrenching not just for me but for everyone to lose that community that we've spent so long creating - there really is nothing else like it in Margate and it would take years to establish something like that again.

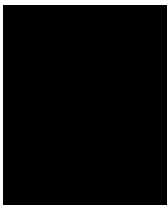
In addition they have curated an amazing series of cultural events that have been lacking from Margate, all in a beautiful space. The atmosphere is always special there and I can see it gives people an outlet that they don't currently have in Margate plus it's also given a platform for a lot of local emerging talent that wouldn't otherwise get seen/heard.

I understand of course the concerns that have been raised. However I'm pleading with you to allow FIS to carry on. On a personal level it's such a huge part of my mental health and happiness in Margate plus it creates a working environment essential for me to grow my business which has been very tough for me over Covid.

But also I can see how much happiness and joy it brings to others in the community. It would be a travesty if it had to close and a terrible omen for other businesses here just as Margate is really starting to thrive and become a unique cultural centre in the UK.

Thank you for taking this into consideration and I wish you all the best.

Kind regards,

**Dan Nash**

Director, SixEight

[REDACTED]
sixeightagency.com

10 November 2021

Jeremy Duffy
Faith in Strangers
17 Ethelbert Crescent
Cliftonville
Margate
Kent CT9 2DY

Dear Jeremy

Letter of Support from Turner Contemporary

I'm delighted to write this letter to you in support of Faith in Strangers.

Thanet is a deprived coastal district that has suffered economic and social decline. Deep-rooted, complex issues cut across deprivation, ethnicity, health, disability, and education. The gallery's mission is to enable access to, and participation in, culture within our community. We are committed to making our work even more relevant and accessible by working with local people. We engage individuals, community groups and businesses in conversations to develop our programmes and plans.

We believe your business is an important part of Thanet's creative industries. You have established a viable for-profit model through a workspace for creative individuals. By doing this you attract people with disposable income to visit, spend time here and contribute to the local economy. You also offer new leisure activities to people living and working in Thanet.

Turner Contemporary has been delighted to discuss several ideas for collaborating with Faith in Strangers. By working together, we aim to find ways for the not-for-profit and commercial sectors to benefit local people. By working with you and others, we hope to sustain regeneration and offer local leisure and employment opportunities.

We look forward to continuing our discussions and hope to work with you now and in the future for the benefit of our shared communities.

Best wishes



Sarah Martin
Interim Director



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers Licensing Review

1 message

Felix Cohen [REDACTED]

15 November 2021 at 14:07

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: Cllr-Helen Whitehead <Cllr-Helen.Whitehead@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Rob Yates (Councillor)" <cllr-rob.yates@thanet.gov.uk>, cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

I am writing regarding the License Review (and related Noise Abatement Notice) that has been issued against Faith In Strangers. I would like to wholeheartedly support Faith In Strangers in this matter.

Margate, and the wider Thanet area, has a vibrant and growing nightlife economy, and it's vital that the industry is supported by the council - it is a very significant employer and engine of local economic growth, and a major part of the draw the area has in terms of both tourism and folks choosing to live here.

In this case, and potentially more in future, a resident who has moved in near to a venue operating within the terms of their license (and operating a well defined dispersement and noise management plan), objected to the operation of that business, and is now threatening many jobs and economic benefits to local suppliers and businesses. As I'm sure you're aware, Faith In Strangers operates as a community hub and space for charities and local groups to meet and work (such as the use of the space for the recent PoW festival), and this work is supported by them being a thriving business on weekends - it would be a terrible shame to lose the faculties they are able to offer because of the objections of one neighbour who were aware before moving in that they were purchasing above an entertainment complex.

I hope that this matter will be resolved in favour of Faith In Strangers - while I do have sympathy for the affected residents, I hope that we will be able to set a good precedent here for future cases where people have 'bought cheap' in the knowledge that they are likely to be affected by venue operations, and wish to stifle local business in the interest of their own property values, and continue to make Thanet a world class destination for hospitality.

Many thanks,

Felix Cohen

[REDACTED]
https://www.instagram.com/daisy_margate/
<https://www.instagram.com/manhattansproject/>



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers Margate Noise Abatement Notice.

1 message

Ingrid Durant [REDACTED]

16 November 2021 at 09:29

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

Dear Thanet District Council Licensing Team,

Re: Faith In Strangers ...address Margate CT... Noise Abatement Notice.

We are writing in support of the above business, Faith In Strangers in respect of their forthcoming License Review.

Whilst we are sympathetic to the concerns of local residents, we have experienced first hand both here in Thanet and in London how devastating noise abatement can be to local emerging and fully fledged businesses and their economies.

The potential negative impact cannot be underestimated because of the way in which local business eco systems evolve and the individual businesses and people support each other directly and indirectly.

Faith In Strangers, operating both during the day and night would seem a perfect example of this, feeding into the local economy in a variety of ways.

Through offering a diverse range of services from daytime meeting and work space to recreational evening events, they offer something for local people of all ages.

To achieve this FIS employ a variety of staff, both skilled and unskilled from the surrounding area and have created a unique and successful business mix.

In the 'always on' economy we all now inhabit, this isn't easy but it's vital for the future of the area that local business continue to prevail and even more so in these uncertain times.

As we said at the start, whilst we are sympathetic to the impact on locals of any business, whether it be the arrival of the Tesco HGV to unload cages of goods or the local store that opens their shutters at 6am, when you move next to/live by a business you do so knowing there will be noise and the potential for disturbance.

Consequently we must put our support behind the continuation of FIS as a business in its current form.

Yours sincerely,

Ingrid Durant.

Johnny Chandler .



TDC Licensing <licensing@thamet.gov.uk>

Faith in strangers Margate

1 message

Scott Humphrey [REDACTED]
To: licensing@thamet.gov.uk
Cc: galerj@parliament.uk

17 November 2021 at 19:38

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you with regards to the noise abatement and the premises license review that faith in strangers are facing.

I am a local musician/Dj and have been performing in and around Margate for the past 5 years. Faith in strangers is big supporter of artists like myself since they have been open. Venues like this have given us a platform to express ourselves artistically and also help with having an income.

As Margate grows, (which it certainly has in the years I have been living here) we need to have a hospitality & night time cultural economy that thrives and is supported by our local council. To have a mixture of venues across the town will only benefit us as a community and the local businesses surrounding them, with trade and also employment for the local people.

Knowing that the there was a night club is the building where Faith in strangers is some years ago, it seems suited to have a business that can fill the large voided building that had been sitting there empty. The work that has gone in to creating such an impeccable venue with such attention to detail cannot be matched in Margate. With conscious acoustic treatments and speaker placement to protect the surrounding neighbours from being affected.

Please consider the local community that is currently in a progressive faze in making Margate in to one of the most exciting and beautiful places in the country. The fall out from this could be very reactive to what future the night time economy has.

Kind regards

Scott Humphrey
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers noise abatement Notice

1 message

Beatrice Hawkins [REDACTED]

17 November 2021 at 18:43

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "galerj@parliament.uk" <galerj@parliament.uk>

To whom this may concern

My Name is Beatrice Hawkins, I am a Margate local and have been a Bartender in Margate for years. Growing up as a teenager and young person in Margate music venues and nightlife were few and far between and often felt unsafe for young women.

Faith in Strangers has created a fun safe space for all people to come and enjoy amazing drinks and wonderful music, often by local musicians. Nightlife is integral to Margate's local community, and especially important for visitors and holidaymakers to keep Margate thriving.

I hope for the sake of Margate Faith in Strangers remains as one of Margate fantastic spaces to enjoy local music and events.

Thanks,
Beatrice Hawkins

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Faith In Strangers: Noise Abatement Notice**

1 message

Will Donoghue <[REDACTED]>

4 November 2021 at 13:11

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-Charlie.Lays@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Horace.Shrubbs@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Cedric.Towning@thanet.gov.uk

To Whom it may concern,

My name is Will Donoghue and I am a freelance graphic designer and a member at Faith In Strangers in Margate.

I just wanted to put forward my thoughts on the current situation regarding the Abatement order at Faith in Strangers and give you some context on how this venue impacts my life.

I currently live on [REDACTED] with my wife Phoebe and 1 year old Etta, we have been living in Margate for four years all over, from Trinity Square to Prices Avenue and like many moved from London to find a better way of life for our family.

I joined Faith in Strangers in October 2019, at the time I was working for a company based in Asia in the footwear industry, working remotely on my laptop from local coffee shops. My wife was working at Walmer Castle in Deal and between us we were not meeting many new people so I decided to join a co-work space to treat as a base and to hopefully meet some people with similar interests. Since joining my entire social circle in Margate has been formed through Faith in Strangers, it has meant that I have worked collectively with others on projects professionally, go for lunch and meet up on the weekend with new friends I have made and frequent the building daily to work and to get out of the house. To be quite frank I would be lost without it.

Over the pandemic it was very hard for us having a baby and not being able to socialise or leave the house, no NCT or help from family was tricky for my mental health and Faith in Strangers provided a space I could work from with no distractions, provided friendly faces and conversation and was a massive help in keeping me sane through a very trying time.

This summer myself, wife and baby spent a few months back in our home town Cambridge to share some time with grandparents, uncles aunts etc. We were thinking about potentially moving back there to be around loved ones. After 1 month we really missed Margate and for me personally Faith in Strangers was a big part of what I was missing. Needless to say we decided not to move back to our home town and made the decision to stay in Margate and raise our family here. We are now looking to buy a family home in Margate after selling our previous house on Prices Avenue. We currently live and rent on Dalby Square and our flat looks out on to the building where Faith in Strangers is based, we have seen no trouble and experienced zero disturbances from the venue and it is fantastic to be so close to a place where we can pop in for a drink to meet friends on the weekend.

I'm truly confused about the abatement order that has been issued, it seems to me that Jeremy and Richard (who run the venue) could not have done any more when it comes to considering others. They took a closed public space once used as a nightclub, refurbished it with their own money to an incredible standard and now provide a space for cultural, social, professional purposes employing local staff and being welcoming to all. Surely Margate needs more spaces like this? I must be missing something?

This space is a massive reason so many people (not just me) are able to work from Margate, live in Margate, pay council tax here, shop here, eat here etc etc.

The list is endless of how this space benefits Margate and the people who live here and frequent it. It seems a real shame that there are noise disturbances to those living above, I can empathise that if living above the venue there may be vibrations and noise from below. However, is this not going to be the case if you live in a space above a venue designed for the community? Surely it must have been much noisier when it was a night club? Perhaps this should have been considered by anyone buying above such a venue?

Faith in Strangers has genuinely impacted my life in a positive way, it's given me a place to work, new friends, a place I am proud to show others professionally as my working spot, it's supported me through the pandemic and even helped me to decide not to live near my family and hometown but to choose Margate as my home. My family love Margate and all it has to offer, Faith in Strangers has played a large part in this for me.

I'm very happy to discuss further, or not, but wanted to put forward my views.

I hope that potentially collectively the council can look at this case with a sensible perspective, seeing the huge negative impact it would have in closing such a venue, not just to me but to the rest of the community that has been built around it. Without evening trade on the weekends how can a space like this expect to survive, it's a miracle they weathered the storm of the pandemic, it would be such a shame to see this place disappear and I believe it is an inspiration to new businesses in the area setting the bar high.

Yours sincerely,

Will Donoghue



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers - Premises Licence Review

1 message

Elliot Evans <[REDACTED]>

4 November 2021 at 15:18

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear all,

I am writing in response to the Premises Licence Review of Faith in Strangers (FIS), [17 Ethelbert Crescent, Margate](#).

I live locally in Cliftonville and have been a workspace member at FIS for the past 18 months. I work as an Associate Professor at the University of Birmingham, however since the outbreak of Covid I have been working remotely and decided to relocate to Margate where my partner has lived for the past three years.

Without FIS I would not have been able to carry out my job, since my home has limited private space and a very unreliable internet connection. The ability to book the private spaces at FIS, and a secure internet connection meant that I was able to continue to teach students throughout the pandemic.

Beyond this, FIS is a fantastic and supportive work community, and an incredible space from which to work. I have met curators and editors who I've made connections with professionally, and I hope to help contribute to the cultural events FIS is planning for the future.

If FIS were to close, I can't think of a similar space I could continue to work locally. I sincerely hope that won't be the case.

Thank you for your time, sincerely,

Elliot Evans

Dr Elliot Evans, FHEA
Associate Professor in Modern Languages
University of Birmingham
Ashley Building 417

New book: *Queer Permeability*
Co-organiser, *Critical Sexology*



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers Premises Licence Review

1 message

Chanza Chanzo <[REDACTED]>
To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>
Cc: Rob Yates <cllr-rob.yates@thanet.gov.uk>

4 November 2021 at 17:34

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have become aware of the issues that Faith In Strangers and Thanet District Council are having with neighbouring residents. I understand that this has led to a Noise Abatement Notice and triggered a Premises Licence Review. I would like to show my support for Faith In Strangers and all other businesses that may be affected by this type of issue.

I am a professional Engineer/Technologist working across industries e.g. defence, art, education and across disciplines e.g. software, electronics, prototyping and innovation. My accolades include a Scientific Achievement Award by NATO Science & Technology Organisation and I held an official World Record due to a project I delivered for Sony. I have been running my own technology company for almost ten years, half of those from Margate where I also run Thanet Technology group with monthly socials, skill-sharing and educational events for free by our network of enthusiasts.

I was one of the earliest members of Faith In Strangers and used their daytime facilities for my day to day work. Until they opened their magnificent facilities workspaces were very limited in Margate. Sharing studio space with artists, hot desking in another business' office or working on my kitchen table did not really offer what I needed. Faith In Strangers supports scores of businesses by offering unique venue very well suited to freelance knowledge economy workers and a varied and vibrant community of entrepreneurial ambition. That community is beginning to make it possible for people to move here to live ***and*** to work without keeping one hand in the pocket of another area.

Faith In Strangers offer extends beyond workspace with their cultural programme. They supported our Raspberry Jam event where we had lots of electronics, coding and Raspberry Pi computer experiences for children. This was free, supported by enthusiast members of Thanet Technology and Faith In Strangers was an excellent venue (not only because it was offered for free). Remarkably, although there are hundreds of these events around the world, this is the only one to have run in Kent. Venues such as Faith In Strangers, when operating as they do with a strong community-mantra have a lot of hidden influence and potential.

They are also encouraging others to open their own workspaces to cater for various workers' requirements. Faith In Strangers' Jeremy and Richard were instrumental in my decision to open The Geekery in Margate. A smaller workspace for 4 offering high technology workshop facilities. They are leading the way and others are following to create a multitude of opportunities 365 days a year.

The issues experienced by Faith In Strangers could affect other businesses. The decisions being made in this case set a precedent that we are all nervously watching. Will Thanet continue to be a forward looking place of exciting opportunity and strong identity? Will these economic green shoots be crushed for the sake of house prices and property development?

Yours sincerely,

Matt Mapleston

Director, Chanza Chanzo Ltd.



www.chanzachanzo.com

Agenda Item 3

Founder, The Geekery, Fullers Yard, Victoria Road, Margate CT9 1NA

www.thegeekery.uk





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers re noise

1 message

john.cripps5 <[REDACTED]>
To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

4 November 2021 at 14:02

Good Afternoon, i would like to write this in support of Faith in Strangers, i was a born and bred in Margate and have great memories of the Starlight club in mid 70's, it was one of many night clubs in the town, the sound system was of the day and comprised of many large speakers, the flats in question that have complained about noise, as i understand have just moved in to the flats, the sound in there at present is nowhere near the level it was then, the place is part of margates seaside heritage and sadly being lost like so much else in the town. Faith in Stranges provides a meeting hub for people to work and relax, music is part of that, always has been and will be, if there is one thing that has kept this country together during the covid pandemic it is Music, so please would do everything in your power to resolve the issue, and look favourably to keeping the venue open. It was closed for 10years before being bought, we need open for margate to survive.

Yours John Cripps local resident.

Sent from my Galaxy



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers testimonial (FAO – TDC licensing officer)

1 message

Paul Hazelton <[REDACTED]>

9 November 2021 at 11:45

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Dear TDC Licensing Officer,

I'm writing today to voice my concern about the upcoming Premises License Review for Faith in Strangers. I am was born and have lived in Thanet for 59 years. As a local person from a working class background who has made a successful career in the arts, I hope that my testimony will be helpful to TDC in assessing the benefits that this organisation brings to the area.

(I've been told you need some basic information about me, which follows below)

My name is Paul Hazelton and I work as an artist. My work has been exhibited internationally, including at the Museum of Arts and Design (New York), Thomas Olbrecht Collection: ME Collectors Room (Berlin), and Guildhall Art Gallery (London). My work has also featured in several exhibitions at Turner Contemporary. My full address is [REDACTED]

As a lifelong resident of Margate, I've witnessed the regeneration of the area over the past decade. I've seen the difference that the influx of new investment and businesses has made to local people, not least of all, to young people. In the 1970s, when I was growing up, educational opportunities for people like myself, who were interested in the arts, were virtually non-existent. In the 1990s and early-2000s, when my daughter was growing up, things had barely changed. Now though, Margate has become a place uniquely situated within the British cultural scene: possessing a world-class contemporary art gallery, a vast network of smaller, satellite art spaces, an art school, internationally acclaimed artist residents, and a community that largely embraces the arts. There are also now far more opportunities available to young people in a broad range of sectors beyond the arts, thanks to the economic uplift provided to the entire area.

At the heart of all these successes, I believe, has been a close working relationship between Thanet District Council and the local arts and cultural scenes. I've seen this, first-hand, during the work I've done myself to develop the local art scene. In 2002, I founded Limbo – an artists' studio and gallery space located within the old electricity substation on Margate high street – which I also managed for over a decade. Before this, I was on the founding group committee of Margate Rocks Art Festival, and was its exhibition coordinator in 2003. More recently, I've also made an effort to exhibit my own work at local, non-arts venues, to encourage public engagement with art outside of the confines of traditional gallery spaces.

So often, throughout my involvement in the local arts scene, Thanet District Council seemed to understand the value of the arts and the economic benefits they attract, especially within deprived areas. However, I believe that the Premises License Review of *Faith in Strangers* represents a colossal misstep in this regard. Not only is it a backwards step for the local arts scene, but a loss for every resident of Cliftonville, who stand to miss out on the broader economic uplift that an organisation like this brings to an area (as has been demonstrated time and time again, over the past decade).

I cannot imagine the difference it would have made to my life if I'd had access to somewhere like Faith in Strangers while growing up. But I can look back and tell you what came before it. More specifically, I remember the violence that spilled out onto the streets on Friday and Saturday night when the space was called 'Franks.' I remember the deafening sound of the music as I drove past, and the weary faces of local residents who had to put up with this as part of their daily lives.

Faith in Strangers could not be more different to this: a friendly atmosphere and carefully curated music, played at a reasonable level (and at a fraction of that at Franks). Add to this a cultural programme of events and exhibitions (not only within the arts, but the sciences and other fields, too) that entertain and educate, and draw visitors to a corner of town far off the typical tourist trail. Then, during the day, the space transforms into

an affordable, accessible workspace for people of all professions: the kind of resource that has been proven, especially in the current, 'work-from-home' era, to improve the mental health of users enormously.

That anyone from the local community can so easily access all of this from one organisation is something that Thanet District Council should be celebrating, rather than jeopardising, and I sincerely hope that your licensing decision will reflect that fact.

Best regards,

Paul Hazelton



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers / Margate

1 message

Rob Waller <[REDACTED]>

8 November 2021 at 14:48

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk" <cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk>, "cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk" <cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk>, "louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk" <louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Thanet Licensing,

I am writing to you in support of Faith In Strangers (FIS), one of the most innovative and professionally run venues I've come across. I have visited as a patron, as well as hosted two after show events there for the recent Dreamland concerts I put on. It is no overstatement to say that Faith In Strangers is a shining light not only for Cliftonville but in all of Kent.

I'm in charge of organising events in Kent with Live Nation UK and a director of Last Dance Festival, Funk & Soul Weekender and Soundcrash concerts, plus am currently being consulted by my company on investing in larger venues in the area.

I have around £1m-£1.2m budget for concerts at Dreamland in 2022 with a pending partnership with FIS along with numerous other plans in the pipeline, however the news of Thanet potentially restricting FIS's license seems to send out warning signs over whether music destinations are important to the local economy and certainly makes me consider my own long term views on investment. I personally think that Margate is at a crossroads, it could become a key music destination within the UK. Something that other councils that I currently work with spend millions in trying to achieve.

I was and still am increasingly surprised and deflated by the news that Thanet could issue a planning and license permission and then back out of it, and in particular to a building with such history and obvious commercial and leisure use. Hampering a business such as this sends alarm bells. I would highly recommend using FIS as a way to promote Thanet and market to future investors and it seems to me to be the type of business that the local council should be proud of and support.

Rob

Rob Waller

Managing Director - Soundcrash (Live Nation)

Farmiloe Building, 30 St John St, London EC1M 4AY

**SOUNDCRASH MUSIC :: SOUNDCRASH CLUB NIGHTS :: FUNK & SOUL WEEKENDER :: TITAN CARDIFF :: THE LAST DANCE FESTIVAL
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Agenda Item 3

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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers, Cliftonville

1 message

Jimmyherman [REDACTED]

17 November 2021 at 18:08

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this email to express my support for the cultural/events space, Faith in Strangers (FiS), located on Ethelbert Crescent, Cliftonville. It has been brought to my attention that FiS has recently received noise complaints, which would threaten their current licensing, therefore I feel that it is my duty as a local resident to put in to writing the massively positive impact that FiS is bringing not only to Cliftonville, but to Margate more generally.

I primarily use FiS as a social space, and think that Jeremy Duffy and his team have done an amazing job, at turning around a decaying and derelict nightclub, into the contemporary arts/working/events space that now provides a creative hub for locals to work and socialize within. Personally, I have used the space to entertain my friends and colleagues, some of whom now are actively looking to invest into the hospitality sector within the Margate area, directly as a result of seeing the amazing success and vision of FiS.

It sends the wrong message to the creative and entrepreneurial sectors, that having spent large sums of money in improving a space (which has always been a nightclub since the 1950s), it is possible for a number of individuals to threaten the success of this thriving new business in Cliftonville. I certainly think that if the licensing of FiS were to be curtailed in anyway, several of my close colleagues would reconsider the investment opportunities they are currently assessing within Cliftonville and Margate.

This is an opportunity for the Council to show that it supports local entrepreneurs, and is 'open for business' – FiS stands as a shining example of how empty, run-down spaces can be turned into thriving new venues.

Kind Regards

James Herman
[REDACTED]

Occupation: Investment Banker / Investor



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers, Cliftonville

1 message

Sophie van Winden <[REDACTED]>
To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk
Cc: galerj@parliament.uk

7 November 2021 at 18:17

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing in support of Faith In Strangers, Cliftonville.

I'm an interior designer who moved from London to Margate about 18 months ago. I chose Margate out of many other seaside destinations for my new home mainly for its sense of community, and I can passionately say that it is businesses like Faith In Strangers that play a huge part in this community spirit, and make Margate an attractive and viable destination for both tourists and London expats like myself.

On hearing that the venue is under threat I feel compelled to speak up for them as it has become a huge part of my, and many of my friends, new Margate life and is an integral part of the town.

My friends and I love the venue and frequently go there to unwind, relax and socialise. It always has a good atmosphere, and the noise is kept to a level where you can still hold a conversation. (On more than one occasion someone from my group has asked the venue management to turn up the volume. This has been flatly refused by the managers who keep the music to a level much lower than other bars of a similar ilk).

It is a venue that you feel very safe in, which as a woman is a hugely important factor when choosing a place to socialise. On one particular occasion I was there to listen to my friend, Jit Coulter Patel, play records. Two police officers arrived, which drew a lot of attention and it turned out that they had come to assist a female who was using FIS to seek refuge from an aggressive male. Safe venues like FIS offer an option for female and vulnerable people in tough situations and that is not highlighted enough.

Also, as an aside, I currently commute out of Margate frequently for work. However, their workspace might mean that I could change that situation and is something I am looking into. Out of all the places I have looked at it is the one that suits my needs the best and would mean I could spend more time (and therefore money) in the town that I love.

Thanet Council should be celebrating this venue instead of reprimanding it.

Kind regards,

Sophie van Winden

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Kind regards,

SOPHIE VAN WINDEN

OWL



Instagram: @owldesignlondon

WWW.OWLDESIGN.CO.UK



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers, Margate

1 message

Ben Millar <[REDACTED]>

17 November 2021 at 18:28

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-

Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Hello,

My name is Ben Millar and I am writing to you after hearing about the problems Faith In Strangers are having with TDC.

I am a volunteer with Our Kitchen On The Isle Of Thanet. We offer good, nutritious, affordable food for people who are financially struggling. And as you know, a lot of households in Thanet are struggling. When Faith In Strangers found out what we were doing, they asked if they could help. I had a meeting with them and we decided we would do a music streaming event. They agreed to provide the budget, space, resources and expertise to make this event happen. I would never have been able to do this event on my own, and the money we raised would not have gone to Our Kitchen. They brought a knowledge of IT which was way beyond mine. Everything I needed for the event was provided by them, including a large amount of time that they were not paid for.

I have nothing but respect for everyone at Faith In Strangers. They displayed to me great concern for the area and it's inhabitants, and a real commitment to promoting the cultural life that has been so vital to the regeneration of Margate. I will work with them again, be it professionally or as part of a fundraiser for Our Kitchen, because they have already proven to me what a vital part of the community they are.

I hope these problems can be resolved so Faith In Strangers can return to the good work they are doing.

Yours,
Ben Millar



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers, Margate

1 message

Steve Nash <[REDACTED]>

12 November 2021 at 09:13

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

Dear Sir / Madam,

I'm writing to you in reference to the proposed closure of Faith in Strangers, Margate.

Having proudly spent many years organising events in Margate (International Beach Cross in tandem with Thanet District Council), Frank's Nightclub was a venue we would regularly hold our community meet ups after a day's racing.

It was somewhere we, competitors and individuals from all over Europe, would go to immerse ourselves into the then Margate culture. Walking into the dimly lit, burgundy stairwell and immediately hearing dancefloor bangers; we always knew we were in for a good time.

There was always a buzz, and we'd regularly recount the brilliant times spent there partying with the local community to celebrate a successful event.

Faith in Strangers now stands in its place, a destination that has sympathetically recreated the culture that Frank's once held. My first time visiting immediately smacked me in the face with nostalgia and good memories of the times we had in that space, and hearing of the proposed closure made me question the direction of Thanet District Council's vision for Margate and its reborn culture.

Its owners have mastered how to form a community, and designed an environment that people can continue to have brilliant times and form more lasting memories. To see it disappear would be a huge step backwards for the folk of Margate.

Please reconsider these plans and instead look to work with Faith in Strangers to build what Frank's once had.

Yours sincerely,
Steve Nash



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers, Margate

1 message

Simon Purnell [REDACTED] >

15 November 2021 at 13:13

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: galerj@parliament.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern;

I am sending you this letter in support of Faith In Strangers and how they operate as a business.

It cannot be understated how important Faith In Strangers is to the local community and to those people who visit the area on a regular basis. As the creative community in Thanet expands to become more diverse and settled venues such as Faith In Strangers are increasingly more important to the future of these creative industries and having a venue such as this in Thanet should be supported and championed by the local council as it provides a well run, safe and high quality outlet for local and touring musicians creative endeavours.

I am part of the local creative industries running record labels in Margate and I rely on Faith In Strangers to support my business and the artists I work with so not only do I enjoy spending time in the venue for the excellent entertainment they provide, I also rely on it for the survival of my business.

The music and nightlife aspect of their business is going to be crucial to their long term survival and those of the jobs they provide for local people so there is a lot at stake for the local community should they not be able to operate in this way. I would hope you all can see the benefit of having this business and others like it in our local community and would want to work with the owners supporting them so they can continue to provide this unique, world class and much needed creative outlet in our area.

Yours sincerely

Simon Purnell - Record label owner



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

Bar Nothing [REDACTED] >

17 November 2021 at 22:52

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

We are writing in support of Faith In Strangers venue.

Our names are Kevin Morpurgo and Aldene Johnson, and we are concerned after hearing the news of the Faith In Strangers abatement and license hearing.

We as venues provide so many benefits to the community, jobs, socialising helping with mental health and attracting further investment into the town.

Venues need all the income they can get particularly after the pandemic and also over the winter months.

Faith In Strangers are an integral part of the Margate night time economy and are so important in Margate and Thanet as they champion culturally diverse programming.

Many thanks

Kevin and Aldene

Bar Nothing



www.barnothing.co.uk



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

faith in strangers

1 message

RASI.DOUSE@london-fire.gov.uk [REDACTED]

17 November 2021 at 14:55

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk, cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-alan.currie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-heather.keen@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-harry.scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk

Dear all,

I hope this email finds you in good faith.

I moved to Margate in March 2021, Splitting my time between London where I work as a firefighter. My colleague is one of the owners of faith in strangers and has been known to me for many years as we are based at the same station. He told me good things about Margate and definitely a factor in me moving there. He told me how inclusive Margate had become and more multicultural, with an array of restaurants and chic coffee shops not too dissimilar to London.

Since being in Margate I have seen this to be true and have enjoyed my experience so far with exception to the lack of recycling facilities available for regular household items within a fairly close proximity. This along with the eyesore of over spilling bins awaiting collection.

Faith in strangers has been breath of fresh air for me, a place for people of all nationalities, cultural backgrounds and the LGBTQ community to unwind in a safe space. I can socialise without judgement and hear good music that is a big part of my culture. There isn't a creative space like it anywhere in Margate. With the influx of London money coming into Margate where you obviously get a lot more for your money its important for places like faith in strangers to remain open to help bridge the gap caused by the imminent gentrification which can sometimes be a double edged sword.

Faith in strangers in a sanctuary for myself and many others where I am able to look out onto the sea and de stress and shake off the responsibilities and pitfalls that come with work.

I would ask Thanet council to think very carefully about any limits put on faith in strangers in a time where hospitality is on its knees, mental health episodes are on the rise and wellbeing is at the forefront of peoples minds. Consider the effects on the community as a whole.

Many thanks

Rasi Douse, [REDACTED]

**Rasi Douse****Firefighter****Red Watch/A30**

[REDACTED]

london-fire.gov.uk



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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Alaina Crystal [REDACTED]

8 November 2021 at 11:45

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "Cllr-Ruth Bailey (Councillor)" <Cllr-Ruth.Bailey@thanet.gov.uk>, cllr-David.Saunders@thanet.gov.uk, "Cllr-Mave Saunders (Councillor)" <cllr-Mave.Saunders@thanet.gov.uk>

Hello,

I am writing to offer a perspective on the benefits that Faith in Strangers provides to the Thanet area and to offer my support of their licence.

My name is Alaina Crystal and I am a resident of Broadstairs at [REDACTED] have been a Faith in Strangers Workspace member and have also visited on weekends for the music programming that FiS puts on. As a Workspace, FiS has given me a great opportunity to focus on my work as a communications strategist, and also to connect with other people in the Thanet region, expanding my community and my connections in ways that are immeasurable for a person new to the area.

It can be hard to meet people when you move to a new town, and FiS provides the perfect backdrop to work, collaborate, socialise and experience the vast culture of the Thanet region and community. I would hate to see that compromised and I offer my full support of FiS' licence and their important place within the community.

Thank you for your consideration,
Alaina

—

Alaina Crystal
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers' - Application for Review of the Premises Licence.

1 message

Emma Wilcox

17 November 2021 at 10:58

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: Louise Askew <louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Sir / Madam

I am writing in relation to Faith in Strangers' recent Application for Review of the Premises Licence.

Faith in Strangers is a key part of Creative Estuary, contributing to our region's cultural and economic vibrancy through the provision of a new model of workspace and cultural venue and through their dynamic and exciting events programme. Our vision is to transform 60 miles of the Thames Estuary across Essex and Kent into one of the most exciting cultural hubs in the world. Margate is a vital part of that vision.

Faith in Strangers have ambitions to continue to grow their offer and in doing so to create new employment opportunities, increase visibility and strengthen the networks that the creative and cultural industries thrive on. In 2010 Kent published their cultural strategy, which Thanet was a partner in shaping and which set a clear aim for Kent to be "welcoming and co-operative host to the creative industries".

The strategy was refreshed and now states more definitively the ambition to create a place where:

- Our investment in creativity and innovation ensures that entrepreneurs and extraordinary cultural practitioners choose to invest, live and work in Kent.
- Enchanting, surprising and innovative things happen.
- Diversity is celebrated and thrives.
- Our transformative cultural product, achieved through collaboration and ambitious, resourceful cultural planning, is recognised nationally and internationally

The review of this premises licence offers an opportunity for Thanet DC to demonstrate this intention. The loss of Faith in Strangers would be a blow to our shared ambitions for Margate, Thanet and for the wider region and send a poor signal to other entrepreneurs, investors and creative businesses.

With best wishes

Emma

Emma Wilcox (she/her)

Project Director | Creative Estuary



@CreativeEstuary #CreativeEstuary

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Creative Estuary is supported by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's Cultural Development Fund which is administered by Arts Council England.



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

adam weymouth [REDACTED]

12 November 2021 at 13:44

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-steve.albon@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Helen.Crittenden@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Corinna.Huxley@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Thanet Council,

My name is Adam Weymouth, I live at Plains of Waterloo in Ramsgate, and I am a writer and journalist. I have been a member of Faith in Strangers since September, and I am extremely saddened to hear that its licence might be under threat.

I first heard about Faith in Strangers from someone who I met in Ramsgate, who told me what a good work space it had been for them. I live in Ramsgate, but I was keen to find a reason to spend more time in Margate, as a way of getting to know the area better. I have two small children at home, so working from home really isn't an option for me, but there is nowhere I have found in Ramsgate that has space where I could work. So Faith in Strangers has been perfect for me. Being a writer, I need someone that is quiet that allows me to focus, but I also find that sitting by myself all day can be a bit isolating at times. Faith in Strangers allows for those little chats while making a coffee or having lunch, the sort of working environment that I've found really lacking as a self-employed person when I do try and work from home. The rates are extremely reasonable, and the flexible hours and welcoming space really allow me to get on with my work. I've found it a very productive, inspiring place to be since I've joined, and I had really hoped that it would be available to me for many years. It's also been a great way to get to know people in the local community.

A bit about me: I work for a wide variety of newspapers and magazines, including [The Guardian](#), [The BBC](#), [The Atlantic](#) and [Granta](#). My first book, [The Kings of the Yukon](#), was published by Penguin in May 2018, and tells the story of a four month canoe trip across Alaska, examining the decline of the king salmon and exploring how that decline is impacting on the many communities, and the ecosystems, which depend on it. The book won both the [Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year](#) and the [Lonely Planet/Stanfords Adventure Travel Book of the Year](#). I am currently working on another book, about Italy, to be published by Penguin in 2023. I had very much hoped that Faith in Strangers would be the place that I would write it.

Please don't close this vital community space!

Thank you,

Adam Weymouth

--

www.adamweymouth.com

@adamweymouth



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Sam Roberts [REDACTED]

13 November 2021 at 17:54

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk
Cc: cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Counsellors & licensing at TDC,

I would like to add a brief personal note in context to the ongoing discourse surrounding licensing at Faith in Strangers.

I have been using FIS as a workspace for well over a year since moving to Margate. In that time I have greatly benefited from meeting and making new collaborations with all types of creatives and small business owners who are either new themselves or already established in Thanet. This has definitely helped cement myself settling here and to pursue new business opportunities in the town, particularly using my skillset as an art documentation & lifestyle photographer.

I have witnessed how incredibly hard Jeremy & Richard have worked putting their all into this new multi-functional space for Margate. From surviving building this startup during a pandemic, they are now already attracting and showcasing diverse and brilliant artists, social empowerment groups, creators and musicians within a space that would be unique in London (not just Margate).

It feels like an exciting time to be in this town and a real tipping point for where it goes next: on the cusp to explode into an even more diverse and modern town. I believe the success and crucially the support for places like Faith in Strangers have a real cascading effect in making this happen: by attracting and giving the important confidence that other new projects need to invest and establish themselves here also.

With best wishes,

Sam Roberts
[REDACTED]

--
S A M R O B E R T S P H O T O G R A P H Y

tel: [REDACTED]

web: www.samr.co



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Berit Block [REDACTED]

10 November 2021 at 11:40

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

I have been made aware that Faith in Strangers is in danger of losing their licence and having to close as a result of it.

This would be a huge loss for Margate and Thanet overall as FIS offers a unique concept to the area. I have recently moved to Broadstairs and even before moving I looked into the option to work from a co-working space and the only larger space available is FIS. Having this space was an important factor for us along with infrastructure, schools, and the cultural offering of the area.

I am a marketing lead for a large tech company with offices in London and instead of commuting I have chosen to work remotely. Throughout the pandemic I worked from home but found it really difficult for my mental health to live and work in the same space. I also have two small children and having separation between home and work has been beneficial for all of us. Faith in Strangers hasn't only benefited my productivity though, I have also met many like-minded people, which is invaluable as a new resident to the area.

The founders have invested heavily into making this an amazing space for the community. It's important to remember that many of us that work here contribute to the local economy, for example by using a local childcare provider, supporting local small businesses by getting coffees, lunches or shopping more generally.

Please consider the broader impact the potential closure could have.

Many thanks,
Berit Block





TDC Licensing <licensing@thamet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

S /HE
To: licensing@thamet.gov.uk

November 2021 at 13:02

Hi,

I have been made aware that the licensing for Faith in Strangers is up for review.
As such, please see my letter of support attached. It would be a shame to lose such a venue especially in a building where its 'Use' class has remained yet improved.

Kind Regards,

Hubert

We are Studio HE

www.studio-HE.com

twitter: @wearestudio_HE

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**Faith In Strangers - Letter of Support.pdf**

65K

S /HE

In support of Faith in Strangers

To all interested parties

By email

12th November, 2021

To Whom it may concern,

Letter of Support to the business & premises of Faith In Strangers

My Name is Hubert Green & I am the director of Studio HE, A design practice working within the fields of architecture, interiors & the arts (based in Margate). I volunteer on CAAG (Conservation Architecture Advisory Group Margate) & volunteer critique for the MA Architecture/Interiors program at Canterbury University of the Creative Arts.

I first met *Richard Randles & Jeremy Duffy* 3 years ago prior to relocating myself & business to Margate. I was inspired by their enthusiasm and dedication to creating a 'creative & cultural space'. This gave confidence in my decision to relocate to Margate, knowing that there would be an establishment here on par with any in London offering digital & working spaces. Further to this, a place where both individuals or industries could network, meet & potentially collaborate. The promise & opportunities seemed endless & a real asset to a growing community.

They have always kept an open door policy allowing the community to approach them with ideas to trial or test. As a result, a group of us in Margate (developing Margates 1st design based fair centered around 'home') approached them to discuss hosting our planned event in the new year. As we are starting in infancy, Faith in Strangers gracefully agreed to allowing us utilise their space & facilities free of charge.

Faith in Strangers was our ideal space for many reasons, its digital & audio abilities, its 'lounge' atmosphere (akin to home), the food/drink facilities & the flexible spaces.

However, of recent I have contacted them with regards to a 'campaign' I came across. Without going into details & in respect to privacy, I will not elaborate on this. I can say, my experience with Faith in Strangers has always been favorable. It is a respectful business that has a mature and conscientious clientele. They are very aware of how they curate their interior environment both in terms of sound & capacity. As such I was shocked by the statements & allegations being made.

With their license up for review, I wanted to voice my fears of limiting a business just at the infancy of its promising development. They have taken great pains to deliver a crafted space (I have personally seen the amount of soundproofing & dedicated care in construction). I hope all those of interest see their contributions so we don't lose this!

Regards,

Hubert Green
Studio-HE

hello@studio-he.com | www.studio-he.com



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanel.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Carlotta Allum [REDACTED]

15 November 2021 at 14:38

To: licensing@thanel.gov.uk

Cc: savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk

To whom it may concern

We were very surprised and upset that there is issue with the renewing the license of the 'Faith in Strangers' building in Cliftonville. This organisation and building has breathed life into a forgotten corner of Margate and is well used and respected. In fact I am moving the charity I run to a nearby property - as this part of Cliftonville is benefiting from such creative investment. We have worked with the building as they gave the space for free to do our community consultation for free as they support local causes. I also know people that work in the space and have attended evening events, that range from spoken word to music, for which they do not charge

I think Faith in Strangers is an asset to the community and I look forward to working with them again

I would urge you to rethink

Carlotta Allum
Director

www.stretch-charity.org

@thegaytraitor

@STRETCHcharity

@kissmyartUK

@OutsiderArtFest

Vote for us now !

<https://www.tech4goodawards.com/finalist/stretchlab-at-the-mustard-tree/>



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in strangers

1 message

dean stalham [REDACTED]

15 November 2021 at 14:52

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Carlotta Allum <stretchme@mac.com>, Faith In Strangers <hello@faithinstrangers.co.uk>

Dear Tdc / I am writing this of my own free will and violation - faith in strangers is a much needed organisation - they are a supportive and forward thinking force of nature / especially in these times / times when the arts are really needed- as they help greatly to raise confidence and low self esteem issues - the covid situation has caused a great swell in depression - faith in strangers helps all of to see the light at end of the tunnel - for them to be shut down especially in this transitional time would bring me and many of a great sadness - long live faith in strangers all the best dean Stalham (stretch charity)

Sent from my iPhone



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Gareth Fairlie [REDACTED]

16 November 2021 at 11:35

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

Good afternoon,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to you as I understand the team at Faith in Strangers have been issued with a noise abatement notice and a subsequent review of their license. This is a difficult situation but I wanted to get in touch to highlight what a positive contribution their organisation is making to the area.

I have been a resident here in Margate twice in my lifetime. The first, 15 years ago and more recently, I moved back from Edinburgh in 2019. Upon my return, I hadn't expected to find such a vibrant version of the town I fondly remembered. I was especially surprised that the impact of this visit resulted in me moving back to the area permanently.

Richard and Jeremy have grown Faith in Strangers from humble beginnings, delivering upon all their promises of such a unique, multi-use venue. They have navigated the closures brought about by the pandemic, continue to provide a far-reaching community platform, and offer enviable event programming of all varieties.

As a business owner myself, something that they don't advertise is the support they themselves provide for local businesses. For myself and many others like me, it is often the first port of call when seeking advice, feedback, and collaboration. In many ways, it has established itself as an open business forum, something which personally I find of incredible value.

It's apparent that without their events offering their business model becomes effectively untenable. The effect of this will result in the loss of every positive contribution I have listed above, which goes without saying would be incredibly detrimental to the area, to precious culture and nightlife economies and the wider Thanet community. It's clear that day visitors to the town are now converting to overnights, a fact that is of benefit to all. Something they are helping to drive with their unique offering.

I understand every issue has at least 2 sides to the story and hopefully, this can be solved in a way that benefits both parties involved but I wanted to write to you to support them and the services they provide.

I loved Margate the first time around, and I love it even more now. Without the vibrancy of organisations such as Faith in Strangers I perhaps would not have been compelled enough to move back, something which now seems almost unthinkable.

I ask you to take into consideration all of this when choosing how to progress this process.

Thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely

Gareth

--

Gareth Fairlie
Director and Founder

[REDACTED]
www.blackaxethrowing.com
@blackaxethrowingco

Agenda Item 3





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Grace Harding <[REDACTED]>

11 November 2021 at 18:53

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Hello,

I'm writing to you regarding Faith in Strangers, which is currently under threat of closure.

I'm a Margate resident and have been a member of Faith in Strangers since April 2021. The venue was a big part of why I chose to move to Margate from London. It stood out from other local workspaces thanks to its incredible sea views, cultural events, and friendly, responsive management.

As a long-time freelancer, having somewhere to work outside my home is extremely important to me. Most of my clients are in London, but knowing that I'm in a dedicated workspace gives them confidence that I'm working efficiently. If the space closes, I'll have to seriously consider whether it's feasible for me to continue working from Margate.

Faith in Strangers has also allowed me to make wonderful friends in the area – a key reason for why I started looking for a property in Cliftonville with my partner. Being able to work in the space during the day and socialise there in the evening is really special. Jeremy and Richard, the owners of Faith in Strangers, have done a fantastic job of creating a safe, supportive and inclusive environment and it would be a real loss to the area if it were to close.

Best regards,
Grace

Grace Harding
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Harry Stephens <[REDACTED]>

16 November 2021 at 10:25

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk" <savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk>, "Cllr-George.Kup@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-George.Kup@thanet.gov.uk>, "galerj@parliament.uk" <galerj@parliament.uk>

To Thanet Licensing,

My name is Harry Stephens and I live at [REDACTED], and I grew up in Thanet. I am writing this email as a supporter and employee of Faith In Strangers.

Faith In Strangers is an amazing workplace, with very warm and supportive colleagues, manager and owners. I feel very lucky to have been offered a job here through an old friend who is currently the manager. Over the past year I have suffered a lot with my mental health having to be stuck at home for a long-time caring for my sister who is extremely vulnerable, having almost died from covid 19 last year. Once my sister had improved and my mother received more support for her care, I started to look for work but after many months no avail, until Faith in Strangers had a position available, and I can honestly say, being back to work and working in an environment like this has had a dramatic positive effect on my mental health.

Faith In Strangers as a business is one of the most exciting opportunities in the local area, offering a warm inviting workspace, exciting bar with a great drinks menu and a venue space which has been used for a number of events, including birthdays, wedding parties, anniversaries and live music. Since working for FIS, I have heard no negative feedback about the venue, if anything the complete opposite, many of our new customers are there by recommendation, and are thoroughly surprised to find us and what we have to offer. As FIS is only open as a bar Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, my hours for these days are crucial to keeping me financially stable, and if our music were to be turned off after 11 then people would not wish to visit our venue and the lost in customers would mean earlier closing and therefore less hours for me, which simply isn't an option, it would eventually put me out of work because I could potentially lose up to 12 hours a week. Most of our customers choose our venue for its later opening hours, making our most profitable time later in the night but recently I've been noticing an increasing number of customers asking staff or the owners to turn the music up and then leaving when they owners feel restricted due to this current situation and can't do so, having a hugely negative impact to the business.

Please understand the impact that this will have on the business and to the people that rely on this business to live, also to the impact on the community denying them the experience of amazing venue with so much potential.

Yours sincerely

Harry Stephens

Employee at Faith in Strangers

Virus-free. www.avast.com



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Chief Lover

12 November 2021 at 18:58

To: cllr-ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Good evening,

I do hope this falls in front of the right eyes.

I've just heard some rather sad news, and resultantly I'm writing after being informed by some friends in the Margate community that Faith in Strangers is at risk of losing its license and subsequently, I suppose, it's ability to trade full stop.

I'd like to make it clear that I have no personal affiliation with the venue and would rather you keep my correspondence private altogether. Whilst not directly related, I do however feel an affinity to the venue, and a sense of sadness crept over me when I learnt of its possible closure yet it's with my own interests, I'm rather more concerned.

I keep a very keen eye on the Margate scene and regularly enjoy the burgeoning culture that has been bubbling away for some years, and before the sudden revival in the area 'Franks nightclub' that was FIS's predecessor. Although years of sea air and low trade clearly took their toll, Franks was a wonderful place to meet locals and let off some steam and enjoy oneself into the early hours.

I'll get to my point. I run a very successful establishment in East London and we have been keenly looking into the feasibility of opening another venue in Margate.

We have used the FIS co-working space extensively since it opened and through it, have been fortunate enough to meet many wonderful local artists (some of which we have brought to perform at our London venue), as well as many small business owners and charities with whom we planned to work.

The uncertainty surrounding the future of FIS as a physical entity, and moreover and perhaps more pertinently, the diverse community inhabiting it, has given rise to some serious concerns as to the viability of our proposed endeavours.

In a similar vein, we would be looking to establish a nightlife entertainment venue which would operate at a very similar level, in terms of quality, ethics and safety as FIS.

We have run and now owned venues for years and it's concerning that if a safe and well managed space such as FIS is at risk of potential closure, despite what I hear is an almost overzealous approach to crowd and patron safety, what would stop the council imposing similar rules on business following suit.

Can someone in planning please call me on Monday to put my mind at rest and shed some light on the situation. The rumor mill is rife and I don't want some second hand news ruining our opportunity if it's nearly hearsay.

I hope for the guys at FIS it is, I have only met them once but they seem jolly nice.

Best,

Jamie Chapman



Agenda Item 3



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Jade Spranklen

10 November 2021 at 14:45

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to state my support of Faith in Strangers on Ethelbert Crescent, Cliftonville and provide a testimonial as a resident in the vicinity of the space and a previous member of the incredible workspace that they provide. I have lived in the area for over 7 years, long before Faith in Strangers took over the space and transformed what was a disused and derelict space to the forward thinking, cultural and community space that it is today. I stand by Faith in Strangers as a invaluable asset to Cliftonville and Thanet as a whole, offering a safe and considerate space to work and socialise while creating a cultural buzz that Margate needs and is striving for. It's presence in this part of Cliftonville has only had a positive input on the area, bringing back tourists as well as locals to a piece of Margate history that was but a ghost before.

Best

Jade Spranklen
Sprankenstein Studio Ltd

Jade Sprankenstein
Lead Creative Direction



www.sprankensteinstudio.com
@sprankensteinstudio

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Company Number: 11545518

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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

Katie Albion <[REDACTED]>

5 November 2021 at 16:26

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: galerj@parliament.uk

To whom it may concern

I'm a business owner in Margate. I own and run a clothing boutique called Albion Stores, located at [REDACTED]

I'm writing to you now to highlight a very worrying situation. It's come to my attention that a fantastic local event space - Faith In Strangers - has been served a noise abatement order, and a premises review.

While I appreciate the council has to from time to time investigate such matters, I sincerely hope that any decision taken will not involve changing the status of Faith In Strangers as a bar and music venue.

Faith In Strangers brings an enlightening and interesting cultural focus to Margate, Cliftonville and Thanet. It's a splendid and well thought out space in which to present local music artists and host music events. It's a space that in my opinion, is not bettered as a venue to hear live music and performances, with a carefully planned and expertly executed audio system. And it's a venue that is absolutely needed, bringing employment and cultural interest to an area that desperately needs rejuvenating.

As I understand it, Faith in Strangers is located in a building that was previously a music venue. And the location historically has been home to music venues and night events that help draw local and out of town visitors to the local economy.

As a business owner, I see Faith In Strangers as a necessary and very welcome edition to Margate's cultural landscape. I always suggest Faith In Strangers to visitors who come to my shop asking for bars and venue recommendations. I believe that the more events and night time venues we have for people to visit, the more local business and the economy benefit.

We mustn't let the small complaining minority diminish the vibrancy and interest of this town for the majority, and for the visitors who come here looking for experiences they will remember and share.

Margate's night time economy needs to be supported and encouraged if we want to see Margate recover, and continue to blossom into a place where people want to live, visit and enjoy.

Please don't change Faith In Stranger's status as a bar and music venue. Our town very much needs it.

Thank you

Katie Barber

albion-stores
margate

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Luke Alder <[REDACTED]> 15 November 2021 at 13:37

To: "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk" <craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>, "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, "savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk" <savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk>

Luke Alder

**Re: Faith in Strangers**

To Whom it May Concern,

Having moved to Margate in 2019, I quickly recognised the importance of community and the support neighbours, businesses, residents, and visitors offered one another. Margate's success and continual development relies on a solidarity of spirit and the belief in a diverse, inclusive, forward-thinking environment, in which we can all work and socialise together. To me, Faith in Strangers is the epitome of this favourable consciousness and promotes a Margate which is enticing, welcoming, and is an emblem for a fantastic future.

I work as a lecturer at University of Kent (Canterbury), and throughout the Covid-19 lockdown and subsequent alternative work structure, I have had the pleasure of using Faith in Strangers as both a professional and recreational space. The venue is an incredible asset to area and promotes people coming together to share ideas and friendship, and has a joy in Margate and the surrounding Thanet area.

Myself, and my colleagues, all consider Faith in Strangers a great benefit to the area and have only ever known the venue as a positive addition to the community. The events, both day and night, have drawn people to the area and shown what a bright future stands ahead. This is something which should be celebrated and promoted.

As I am a resident on the same road as the venue, I think it is important to note that I have never known any disturbance from noise or the clientele from the space; indeed, I have felt safer and more confident in my neighbourhood since Faith in Stranger has been in operation. This is to be applauded.

As a professional resident within the Margate community, I am proud to be a patron of Faith in Strangers and hope that the space will be able to continue, and its future is secure. On hearing of potential limitations on the space, myself, colleagues, neighbours, and friends were all saddened. We are huge supporters of the people and work that Faith in Strangers is doing and give our full backing to this valued and important community-based venue.

I hope great consideration is given to the future of such a cherished environment.

Yours sincerely,

Luke Alder PhD

Lecturer in Applied Linguistics (UKC)



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Lisa Glass [REDACTED]

16 November 2021 at 11:10

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Hi

My name is Lisa Glass, I live at [REDACTED]. I am a freelance writer and editor and I use the Faith in Strangers coworking space, which is essential to my business. It has enabled me to access a professional working space and to network with other local professionals, and to have a space to conduct calls and meetings. On a personal level it has been essential to have this space to separate my work life from home life, which as a remote worker, working and living at home (particularly throughout the COVID pandemic) has had a huge impact on my wellbeing.

Venues like Faith in Strangers are essential to making Margate an attractive place to live, especially as so many now have the option to work remotely and are leaving the cities for other locations. Without options like Faith in Strangers for work and recreation, those individuals will not be as drawn to live in Margate, and this will impact on the local economy, having a negative knock-on effect for the whole community.

I hope that the council will make the correct decision, in favour of keeping Faith in Strangers open, as it is a valuable asset to the town and a huge part of what makes Margate a great place to live, for myself and many of my friends who have relocated here in recent years.

Best regards

Lisa



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

MICHAEL GREEN <[REDACTED]>

15 November 2021 at 11:08

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

I'm writing today to let you know of my extreme disappointment and concerns regarding the possible closure of Faith in Strangers in Margate. I want to let you know what Faith in Strangers has done for me, personally.

I relocated from Kettering (Midlands) to Margate in August to grow as a person and further my freelance career in animation. Putting it shortly, Faith in Strangers has changed my life. I've gone from working remotely in my flat every day, to working in an environment full of creative and inspiring people. It's been a huge change for me, a change that was needed; I can feel it improving my mental health and self esteem. That's a feeling I haven't had in a while, a feeling of self improvement and it feels fantastic.

From working remotely to now working with lots of creative and talented people has had a significant impact on my wellbeing. My general outlook has shifted, I'm now much more positive; I look forward to going to work. I know that throughout the day I'll be able to speak to and collaborate with others plus, seeing other people working is contagious. The environment and atmosphere of Faith in Strangers is special; it allows you to knuckle down and get work done, but, at the same time, allows you to speak to others without it feeling awkward or intrusive. It overlooks the sea, it's very calming. Margate is extremely lucky to have a space like it, it's unique.

In the short time I've been here, my outlook is now more positive, I'm beginning to feel creative again and feel like anything is possible. I believe that anything is possible with the right mindset, something that has held me back for a while now. The community within Faith in Strangers has been encouraging me to work on new things and they have opened my eyes to new technologies that are relevant to my industry, it's very motivating. I've not yet met everyone who works within the Faith in Strangers but I'm excited to. A place such as this opens doors for lots of people, it's important it remains open for the growth of them, and also the growth of Margate, which is a town bustling with creativity.

That's how Faith in Strangers has helped me over the last three months. After speaking to some of my coworkers, I already know that they would also be severely impacted if it was to close. As for Margate as a creative hub, it's obvious that it will have an impact on many of the local businesses. I'd also imagine it may even make people reconsider whether to move / live here, especially if they are freelancers, like me, looking for a community to work alongside. Please help to keep it open, it's important for lots of people.

Yours Faithfully,

Mike Green

[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

Maria

14 November 2021 at 20:08

Reply-To: Maria <mariagorretie@yahoo.com>

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Council Members,

I am extremely concerned with the news that thriving Faith in Strangers has been issued with a Noise Abatement Notice, as well as a Premises Licence Review.

I moved from Uganda in 2001 to live in Cliftonville, I remember watching the town begin to decay as many local businesses including the nightclub that used to operate in the same premises as Faith in Strangers, shut down. This made it extremely difficult for me to find substantial work. In recent times, businesses like Faith in Strangers have given me an opportunity to form my own business and employ several people.

The bar is a business that has already, in such a short period, cultivated a community and space where business owners can meet in a relaxed setting to discover ways to improve themselves, their business and Thanet (the areas they work in). In doing this, Faith in Strangers also continues to provide essential work for many local businesses. This includes contractors such as myself, tradespeople, restaurants as well as other food, drink, utility and material suppliers.

Faith in Strangers is a great business for the Thanet community. If its business operations were stopped, it would severely hinder all other businesses that have come to depend on the income that they provide. Hence, I implore you to drop the Noise Abatement Notice and Premises Licence Review.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,

Maria Gorretie.
Managing Director.
Extreme Clean Plus.



co.uk/



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

Mr Wood

11 November 2021 at 10:07

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "cllr-alan.currie@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-alan.currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "cldr-heather.keen@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-heather.keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "cldr-harry.scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-harry.scobie@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Sir / Madam,

I was extremely disappointed to hear of TDC's decision to serve Faith In Strangers with a Noise Abatement Notice and Premises Licence Review.

Faith In Strangers has provided a much-needed service to the local community over recent months. It has in itself returned an unused nightclub (which in its day pumped out loud music virtually every night of the week) into a social space which in turn has provided benefit for many businesses and individuals alike.

To serve Faith In Strangers with a Noise Abatement Notice, followed by a Premises Licence Review, due to such a small number of complainants makes little sense. It puts not just the future of the Faith In Strangers business at risk, it impacts all those in the community, businesses and individuals alike, who use it.

Thanet, in particular Margate and Cliftonville, has seen a hugely positive upturn in recent years from those looking to start small businesses and help regenerate the community. TDC should work with these businesses and individuals alike to nurture rather than stifle growth.

I would very much like those involved in this case to ensure every possible option is considered to allow Faith In Strangers to continue operating in their current format. Changing this, such as removal of the hospitality side of the business, would in all probability lead its demise which in turn would directly impact a large number of local businesses and individuals.

Yours sincerely,
Alastair Wood



Faith in Strangers

1 message

Nigel Cruttenden

15 November 2021 at 18:00

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, galerj@parliament.uk

To Whom It May Concern:

I hope this email finds you well. My Name is Nigel Patrick Cruttenden, I live at Chapel Hill Close, Margate. I am a self employed Business Technology Consultant

I am writing in support of Faith In Strangers for which I use both professionally and for recreation purposes.

The reasons, I choose to rent space at Faith in Strangers, was it offers a wealth of advantages for the self employed, including networking opportunities, daily structure, and increased productivity.

Here are 9 bullet points, in no particular order, of the benefits achievable at Faith in Strangers

1. Networking and community events
2. Reduce loneliness; increase connection
3. Access to shared and private spaces
4. Flexibility and cost savings
5. Remote access
6. Enhanced productivity
7. Breaking out of your comfort zone
8. Wellness and work-life balance
9. Bring structure to your day

These benefits of course depend on your business needs.

Until the pandemic I used to rent an office at Discovery Park in Sandwich, but with restrictions I found this was not viable. After Lock down I need to get out of my home office for my sanity and chose to go to Faith in Strangers. This had an economic benefit to me, as it was cheaper in rent; and my travel costs and carbon footprint were vastly reduce. This was important to me as being self-employed I was not entitled to any grants from any of the covid schemes. If Faith in Strangers closes due the consequences of the review I will again have to find other office accommodation or go back to working alone in my home office.

I have used Faith in Strangers for recreational purposes for networking and relaxation. I am sure that the licensable activities help to fund the drop-in workspaces and should be allowed to continue.

The closure would bring not only financial problems for the owners of Faith in Strangers but cause business difficulties to the small business community who benefit from the share offices space.

I remember before Faith in Strangers it was "Frank's Nite Club" and it was a constant problem of disorder at closing time. The Music played there was a far louder then than it is now. I don't recall noise complaints then. Since Faith in Strangers opened I do not recall hearing of any public disorder offences being associated to the premises.

I appreciate that noise can have a negative effect on health or the quality of life. People tend to be more sensitive to noise at night, when there is likely to be less background noise. If I was a key worker on night shift and lived in Marine Terrace would you close the arcades on that road because they kept me awake during the day? Taking this to it logical conclusion would you restrict or ban the ringing of church bells or silence the chimes of Margate's iconic Clock Tower if a person complains?

People move to Margate, to take advantage of our lower house prices, should do their research first before buying, to find out about the neighbourhood. There are reasons why a flat commands a lower price in one part of the town than others areas.

Remember any decision you take in regard to licensing matters you could be setting a precedent, which could have ramifications to the town.

Thank you for taking time in reading my email.

Yours Sincerely

Nigel Cruttenden



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

Pedro Figueiredo [REDACTED]

14 November 2021 at 23:00

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Ruth.Bailey@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-David.Saunders@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-Mave.Saunders@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Madam or Sir,

My name is Pedro Figueiredo, I live at [REDACTED]. I am a software engineer working in the field of Big Data, for a financial services company.

I am writing to you about the Noise Abatement Notice issued against Faith In Strangers, and the subsequent Premises License Review by Thanet District Council, which is threatening the hospitality side of the business.

After several visits over the last few months, I have recently moved to Broadstairs. When looking for a space to work, a friend recommended Faith In Strangers, so I signed up for a trial and thus made my first acquaintances in Thanet.

I cannot stress enough how welcoming and enthusiastic everyone was toward me. I quickly realised Faith In Strangers is a lot more than a co-working space, even in the short time I have been here - it's a community of people working in an incredible variety of fields, with all the benefits that yields through the exchange of new ideas and cross pollination of interests.

It would be a great loss for the area and the community should Faith In Strangers have to close down its doors as a result of this review, as the majority of their income relies on the weekend evenings.

Best regards,

Pedro Figueiredo



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith In Strangers

1 message

Paul Murphy

5 November 2021 at 11:27

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

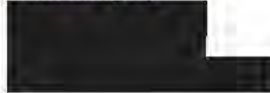
Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

To whom it may concern,

Having been a resident of Margate since 2015 I have been witness to a vast change in the area in such a short time. When I first moved down and first met local residents, there was a general feeling that there wasn't much opportunity for jobs in the hospitality industry and they had resigned to the fact that they would have to travel further afield to seek employment. In the last 6 years there has been so many positive openings in this field and the desire to leave Margate for this type of work has been dramatically reduced. Better pay, fairer working conditions and more promotion opportunities have kept the younger generation from leaving for the cities. There's far more and exciting work opportunities now and it's thanks to places like Faith In Strangers. They have put so much hard work into their place and have listened to local residents through out and you couldn't meet two more friendly and accommodating people. It's become such an integral part of the community and is respected up and down the country by musicians and DJs. This place needs to be protected so please consider this when making your decision.

Your sincerely,

Paul Murphy
Director
Claremont 56

**Paul Murphy**



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Faith in Strangers

1 message

Rachael Grocott [REDACTED]

10 November 2021 at 11:08

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Hi there

My name is Rachael Grocott, I'm a Product Designer and I live at [REDACTED]

Having just moved away from London to Margate I was thrilled to learn about FiS as a coworking space. I have taken up a remote job which has allowed me to move to the area, but with that, can come drawbacks. Faith in Strangers coworking space has filled the gap in my life dedicated to time away from home (which is also now my work). Having a disconnect is a great benefit of a coworking space. Not to mention the mental health benefits; I enjoy my walk to FiS on a morning, through the park, then on to the sea front. I also enjoy the 'commute' feel of popping into Forts coffee shop for my morning coffee (and contributing to the local economy), and popping into the number of food establishments around Cliftonville for my lunch.

FiS also allows me to host guests which means my colleagues are able to visit Margate and we can meet one another in real life, and work together in person. Again, this also benefits the local economy as my guests and I will dine out for lunch and an evening meal.

Then, there's the social aspect of FiS. Having moved to an area, where I know literally no one, FiS is a great opportunity to network and make friends. This is made somewhat easier as the venue is also licensed, therefore I'm able to bring along my husband and talk to the locals in a safe and friendly environment.

If FiS were to close, the impact would be detrimental to me personally so I urge you to take the benefits of the venue into consideration.

Kind regards,

Rachael

--

[REDACTED]
Product Designer
Co-founder @ Triangirls





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

FIS license review

1 message

Spencer Heron [REDACTED]

10 November 2021 at 10:14

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

Dear Councillors,

I'm a visuals artist of 15 years, with a history of working with artists such as La-Roux, Annie Mac and Skepta in many large scale venues across the UK and the world. I moved to Margate last year, during covid lockdowns and have worked with Faith In Strangers during that time, creating content for their video and lighting arrays, which quite frankly are far beyond anything else I have come across outside of London.

Put simply, FIS is the stand out venue in Kent by some distance and the notion that you guys would review their licence doesn't bode well for artists such as myself looking to call Margate home.

Please look up my work here www.rebeloverlay.com and feel free to contact me if you require any further info.

Regards,

Spencer Heron,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

—

Spencer Heron
Creative Director
[REDACTED]www.instagram.com/rebeloverlay - www.instagram.com/rebeloverlay_lab



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

FIS

1 message

Alice Walton

11 November 2021 at 09:38

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk



To whom it may concern at Thanet licensing,

Having recently moved into this constituency from Faversham Kent, I have been trying to integrate myself into the community.

I am a Freelance Print Designer and Artist in my 30's.

One of the major draws to buying my first ever home in Cliftonville was the creative scene here. After living in London for over ten years it was a huge decision to leave all of the benefits of the city behind. I was considering if there would be enough interesting, cultural things going on and places to go in Margate.

One of the main things that helped me to make this decision was Faith In Strangers. I thought that having somewhere like this to be able to work from in the day would give me the best opportunity to meet new people, network and feel like I had somewhere friendly to go and be productive. It's the only place to my knowledge like this within walking distance from my home. Likewise in the evenings, at the weekends it is one of the few places nearby with music and a scene that without it Margate would be completely lacking. I feel it is a hugely important place, it brings life into this area of Cliftonville.

When I initially went to look round the space it made me feel excited for the potential and opportunity that they want to bring to local projects, their ethos and their ideas that could be achieved once more established.

I would feel extremely saddened to see this venue be forced to close when it is serving such a huge number of people in the town and those that it brings in from out of the town too.

In fact it really scares me to consider that after moving my life here, with the feeling of the economy and energy being on the up, only to learn that potentially venues may start to be shut down instead, that is a depressing thought. Surely, places such as FIS need to be treasured and supported.

So I urge you to please help secure the safety of Faith In Strangers.

Yours sincerely
Alice Walton



Friends In Strangers Margate under threat of closure

1 message

colin UK

11 November 2021 at 10:47

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Ruth.Bailey@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Ruth.Bailey@thanet.gov.uk>, "cldr-david.saunders@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-david.saunders@thanet.gov.uk>, "cldr-mave.saunders@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-mave.saunders@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "margate-town-deal@thanet.gov.uk" <margate-town-deal@thanet.gov.uk>

Hi

It has come to my attention that my workplace /office is under threat of closure. This has come about due to Thanet Council licensing issuing a nuisance order, unacceptable noise levels license revue.

I operate a Buildings Structural CAD draughting Service and was previously operating out of my office in London and occasionally coming down to Broadstairs but it was never feasible or practical for me to operate from Broadstairs or Thanet as a whole.

I did search for a suitable office but there was nothing available. By chance a friend of a friend recommended inquiring at Friends In Strangers, who were just starting up in Margate. On the first visit it was clear that this was a very different office set up and the plans to grow their business were/are extremely positive and beneficial to the area.

Because Friends in Strangers offer a very high-level office environment it prompted me to move my business and myself down to Broadstairs and this is now my base. Over the following months I've watched Richard and Jeremy transforming a very rough building space into a very high level office environment attracting a high level of innovative and creative business people (many of whom have now relocated to Margate). providing invaluable contacts for my business; their attention to detailing making sure everything is compliant, environmentally friendly and properly sound proofed within the limitations of the buildings structure in this particularly neglected and delapidated part of Margate is commendable.

I also understand that the person making the complaint recently purchased their property at a very low cost and in my opinion looking to make a profit in the future, this is fair enough however they would have been well aware of the fact that they were purchasing above an entertainment venue (that was previously a dedicated nightclub) and as such there would be an increased noise level.

The nature of Friend In Strangers is to provide a working space during the day and also host cultural events in the evenings and the weekends, making the business viable as a whole.

I've attached the Margate investment plan for those who have not read it, and basically Friends in Strangers fit directly into that plan and also feature in the plan above.

In a nutshell Friends In Strangers are:

Investing in and making use of what would be just another run down building in a run down location.

Bringing innovative and creative people into the area.

Hosting music and cultural events that attract people into the area.

Bringing businesses like myself into the area.

Bringing investment into the area.

Supporting other businesses in the area.

Attracting younger professional people into the area.

Advertising and spreading the word that Margate and Thanet as a whole is progressive and open for business.

I also believe they are involved in various community projects.

It's disappointing that Thanet council is basically seeing Friends in Strangers as just another night club and their Town Investment Plan as just a definition of noise nuisance. This is a serious contradiction and point of concern for other business's I would say.

Friends in Strangers is a unique business and cultural centre supporting numerous businesses and as such should be supported and encouraged as stated in the Margate Investment Plan not penalised.

All of the above is are my own experiences and opinions and I'm sure shared by many who use and attend Friends in Strangers.

I look forward to hearing your comments

Regards

Colin Apel

Director CA CAD DESIGN ltd



Margate-Town-Investment-Plan_TIP1_201211_facing-pages-1 (1).pdf
16363K



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

FW: Faith in Strangers

1 message

John Walters

16 November 2021 at 13:20

To: "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>
Cc: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Councillors,

Please see below my letter of support set this morning to the Licencing team.

Apologies but I had entered the incorrect email addresses for you all hence this email now.

Really hope this offers the support Faith in Strangers need.

All the best,

John Walters

From: John Walters**Sent:** 16 November 2021 12:23**To:** licensing@thanet.gov.uk**Cc:** craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk; Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk; Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk; Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk**Subject:** Faith in Strangers

Hello,

I am writing to you to show my support for the local business 'Faith in Strangers' located at [17 Ethelbert Crescent, CT9 2DY](#) as I understand they are experiencing some challenges regarding a Noise Abatement Notice, and a Premises Licence Review by the council.

I have been a resident of Margate for 14 years, although I was a regular visitor for 4 years before my move, so I have memories of 'Franks Nightclub' which operated out of the same space Faith in Strangers now occupy for many years, in fact the whole building when it was originally designed had that first floor space designated as a club.

Since 'Franks' closed down, that space became derelict, fell into disrepair, and became yet another empty, unloved, eyesore, a blot on the community, and was used for illicit and illegal activities.

Richard and Jeremy's vision for the space, and the realisation of that dream has created the most incredible, technologically advanced work and play space unrivalled by anyone or anything in Thanet and as such they should be getting applause, credit, thanked, celebrated, marketed and enjoyed, yet it seems they are being demonised and picked on for completely the wrong reasons.

Agenda Item 3

I live in Cliftonville and I have seen in these past years, a part of Margate that was many times considered 'no-go', to dangerous to be in, it was a space of disrepair, of incredible deconstruct and decay. Yet these recent years it has become a destination, a creative quarter even, the phoenix is rising and it is considered a bohemian, cool, effervescent place to live...it really has had new life breathed into its ever expanding lungs, and Jeremy & Richard, with Faith in Strangers are part of this regeneration....DO NOT LET THEM GO!!!!

For 12 years I commuted into London daily for work. However commuting came to a halt in March 2020 and from that moment, not only did my work style change, so did my understanding of what work meant to me, what family meant to me and what living in Thanet meant for me and my family.

My business partner and I became members at Faith in Strangers in June last year when I founded our new business Questae Collective, an organisation wholly concentrating on, and promoting wellbeing in the workplace. I in particular was struggling with working from home and the feelings of claustrophobia caused by living and working in the same space 24/7, so Faith in Strangers was an absolute god-send and a space for me to travel to and separate work and rest.

The concept and culture of the Faith in Strangers community was realised by me and my business partner almost immediately. We were meeting other people, other small business owners and humans who were experiencing the same, or similar, day to day challenges of running a business, having a professional space in which to work, having those un-planned networking conversations and socialising experiences that working from home could never offer.

The community grew and we started to socialise within the space, it became a space for work, creativity, thought, concentration, fun, socialising, coming together, sharing of ideas, testing ideas, having a coffee, eating and breaking bread together, it became an absolute haven and heaven.

I use Faith in Strangers to work, I also use the space to attend events that are designed for ALL the community, I use it socially for a drink (best negroni ever!), it really has become a home from home, at home here in Margate and I would be devastated if we were to lose such a jewel. Cliftonville would be deprived of a most incredibly welcoming, warm and wonderful space, a huge loss to Margate and Thanet.

I really do hope that my words will be heard and that sense, justice and community will prevail.

Yours, in faith,

John Walters

John Walters

Co-Founder & Director

[Redacted]



questaecollective.com

[LinkedIn](#) [Instagram](#)

Agenda Item 3

nourish | thrive | expand

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Questae Collective Ltd is a company registered in England and Wales. Registered number: 12706320. Registered office: [182 Park View Road, Welling](#), Kent DA16 1ST



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

In relation to the licensing review at Faith In Strangers, Ethelbert Crescent Cliftonville

1 message

Nikolaos Dafermos [REDACTED]

14 November 2021 at 14:57

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk, galerj@parliament.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing this email to you for the licensing review at Faith In Strangers pub as I was devastated to find out that the license is under review. In my sincere opinion the music was never loud in the premises and there was no noise pollution. On the other hand I would say that it was a very chilled bar, nice music and you were easily able to talk with friends. It would be a big loss for the community to lose such a wonderful bar (the fact is that not many of them have such a great taste of music and design, combined with some wonderful cocktails), it is a place where you can always take your mind off and relax.

I hope that on your review you will see the point of view of a client and you will understand how nice and chilled this bar is.

Kind regards

Nikolaos Dafermos DVM MRCVS

[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

In Support of Faith In Strangers-Margate

1 message

Cyndi <[REDACTED]>
To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk
Cc: peter.babudu@southwark.gov.uk

17 November 2021 at 18:05

My name is Cyndi Anafo of [REDACTED]
I am a freelance creative who works as a grassroots events promoter/DJ in South London, primarily Brixton and Peckham.

I also am a consultant on regeneration versus gentrification who started up the anti-gentrification campaign Reclaim Brixton in 2014 and am also a co-director of Peckham Palms- a multi purpose business retail hub set up to preserve existing Black business in Peckham and to primarily support Black female-led business within the community.

Whilst I do not deem to say I know the borough of Thanet intrinsically, I have had the pleasure of visiting Margate regularly over the past few years. These visits have been in part because of creative outlets like Faith In Strangers who have in my opinion, reinvigorated the image of Margate as an inclusive, progressive place for all to visit in Britain.

I was saddened to hear that FIS may now lose their business by way of a minority of objections to licensing hours as in my opinion, they have, in their short tenure, actively endeared themselves into both the creative and wider residential community.

I would urge Thanet Council to consider what the future of Thanet regeneration looks like and consider how vital it is for independent, creative community-minded ventures like FIS to be able to thrive and inspire and bringing much needed interests: ie. business, investment, appreciation.

As a case study, areas like Peckham and Brixton have been able to turn around a once difficult to invest area into one that now has an over-subscription of the former.

Make no mistake that the new found interest in areas like Peckham and Brixton was down to equally passionate, maverick attitudes of businesses like FIS who provide a glimpse of what progressive development can look like for Thanet in the midst of a new era where traditional business high street business models continue to miss the mark, failing to ignite consumer confidence and investment to an area.

I sincerely hope that you will take into consideration all of the benefits highlighted that businesses like FIS is bring to the table and urge you to reconsider obstructing their ability to trade effectively with licensing.

Kind regards,

Cyndi
[REDACTED]

[Handson Family](#) | [Brixton Village Lates](#) | [Peckham Palms](#) |



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

In support of Faith In Strangers

1 message

Meesh Nah <[REDACTED]>
To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

17 November 2021 at 21:54

To whom it may concern

I am writing to you in support of Faith in Strangers as a key cultural and community focussed business in Margate.

I understand that their license is under threat due to the Noise Abatement Order issued against them.

I would like to explain, I am currently not a resident of Margate but I was until 2 months ago, and plan to return in 2022 to live and work there. As an artist and as a resident of inner London for the prior 15 years, I was both inspired and excited by Margate as a town and a community.

As I was also very impressed by the level of integrity and dedication the team behind FiS demonstrated in creating a business that has a vision of creating opportunities that benefit the entire community. And not just having the vision but actually putting those visions into practice.

Allowing the Noise Abatement Order to stop FiS from essentially trading is giving the signal that other independent and entrepreneurial businesses are also at the mercy of the wrong side of gentrification. The side that benefits only a small minority and stifles any authentic and long term regeneration of an area. Something I have unfortunately witnessed firsthand over the years in the London Borough of Hackney and Tower Hamlets.

Please consider the long term implications of allowing such a misguided agenda to be pushed through.

Yours sincerely

Meesh Nah



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

In Support of Faith In Strangers

1 message

Ben Bashford

8 November 2021 at 15:09

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk, karen.constantine@kent.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

I have learned that Faith in Strangers (FIS), the co-work space I use for my business, is under threat. A noise abatement notice has been issued, followed by a premises license review.

I am deeply worried that Faith in Strangers is at risk as I feel it is a key hub of the vibrant creative culture in Thanet and a huge draw for new business in the area.

During the day I work as a strategic design consultant and creative director from FIS. I have hosted many successful meetings and creative workshops for global tech clients (eg Google) in the space. They love the change of scenery and immersion in the thriving creative culture that Margate is now famous for. I have also made strong connections with creative businesses, found new collaborators and developed great relationships with local freelancers and business owners.

During the evening I have also entertained clients and hosted events at FIS when it is a bar and music venue. The service, the decor, the attention to detail and the quality of the music programming is more impressive than any global member's space (eg Soho House) I have been to and more inclusive due to a far more welcoming door policy. Typically a members venue would exclude the less privileged and create division, but FIS provides access to all.

The owners obviously care deeply about their responsibility to help put Margate on the global creative map, and it's clearly working. Some of the clients I have brought to the space were so impressed with what's happening in Margate they are strongly contemplating a move to Thanet to set up operations. Many of them now visit Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs regularly as tourists.

So, it pains me to hear that a venue that was previously a nightclub, in an area known for its nightlife is under threat, despite their considerate behaviour and cultural sensitivity. The music is never at pumping nightclub volume, never aggressive and the clientele are respectful, well behaved and highly conscious of the neighbours.

In my opinion, FIS is not only a model cultural hub and events venue for Margate it's one for the UK, and the world. If Thanet's long term creative and tourist economy is important, then maintaining (and celebrating) venues like this is critical. It would be tragic if FIS was lost.

Yours Sincerely,

Ben Bashford

Strategic Design Consultant, Creative Director, Sound Designer and Musician

**Bashford Limited**

Strategic design and invention for omnichannel digital products

bashford.limited



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

In support of Faith In Strangers

1 message

Ant C

15 November 2021 at 14:35

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in support of the important local venue Faith In Strangers, who have been issued a noise abatement notice and are under a premises licence review by TDC.

The restrictions that are being proposed would mean the end for this important venue and community resource.

Our local history tells us that this space has been a venue for many years, formerly as Frank's nightclub, before failing into disrepair.

Faith in Strangers have taken on the upstairs of this space and made it into something new.

Significant investment has taken place.

It is a resource for local people to use as a place to work.

It has created jobs for its staff.

It is also a social hub with a growing cultural programme, creating a space that other creative people can use to host their own events.

It also makes space available for local community groups.

We have seen this problem time and time again across the country.

Creative people move to a regeneration area and make it attractive through their creativity and entrepreneurship, only for others to complain about the things that have helped to improve the area and make it more attractive.

It is my understanding that the people who live nearby would have been aware of the venue space when purchasing or renting the properties. Certainly, it is common sense when moving anywhere to check these things.

It is unreasonable of them to move into a space knowing this and then complain about the noise.

The worst kind of NIMBYism.

It is also concerning to me, as somebody who works within our entertainment industries, that spaces like Faith In Strangers can be threatened so easily.

We have lost many venues in recent years through gentrification and even more due to the pandemic. This area does not have enough spaces like Faith In Strangers available as it is.

If we lose Faith In Strangers in this way - what other important local spaces will be next?

I ask that the licensing department reconsider the proposed restrictions.

I ask that our local councillors step up to support this important local venue.

I ask that my MP, as somebody who states he is on the side of our local businesses, to intervene.

Yours hopefully,

Antony Carrington

Independent event promoter, music producer, collaborator and DJ as AntC/Northdown

Concerned local voter



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

In support of Faith in Strangers

1 message

Katy Lassen [REDACTED]

8 November 2021 at 13:53

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: karen.constantine@kent.gov.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

To whom it may concern

It has come to my attention that Margate venue Faith In Strangers has had a noise Abatement Notice issued against it followed by a Premises Licence Review.

I wanted to get in touch in support of FIS as I feel it is an invaluable asset to the Margate/Thanet creative community and economy. I have worked from FIS in its capacity as a co-working space where I have made connections with other businesses, found new collaborators and developed relationships with local freelancers and business owners. I have also visited FIS as a bar and venue and hosted a very successful event there. In my opinion FIS is an invaluable cultural business and venue in Margate and if Thanet is to continue to grow and thrive as a creative and tourist economy then maintaining venues like this is vital.

FIS is situated in an area with a good number of entertainment venues and was previously a nightclub so it seems unbelievable that they should have their license threatened. This is a worrying development in an area that is becoming increasingly known for its unique cultural, artistic and creative economy.

Your sincerely

Katy Lassen

Also Journal We Sea Faces

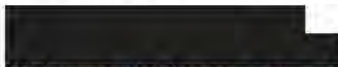


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Katy Lassen

Stylist | Co-founder of Also Journal

alsojournal.com

Web: www.katylassen.comInstagram: [@katylassen](https://www.instagram.com/katylassen) / [@alsojournal](https://www.instagram.com/alsojournal)Models.com models.com/people/katy-lassen



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

In support of Faith in Strangers

1 message

Stuart Bevan [REDACTED]

11 November 2021 at 19:09

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk, galerj@parliament.uk

Cc: suzy@galemail.com

Dear Sir Roger and the Thanet licensing team.

I have recently been made aware that the license for Faith in Strangers has come under review. I am writing to implore you to continue their license and keep the venue alive. What they have achieved there is truly astounding in terms of creating a destination venue for visitors, artists, and local residents alike. Their contribution to culture and the arts is outstanding as well as providing a base for many local freelancers and entrepreneurs. I have a record shop that directly benefits from the people and artists that the venue attracts to Margate so it will be a huge loss to me and many others if the venue was to close.

Please keep this very special venue open as it is a huge asset to the area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely
Stuart Bevan

SUNWAX
RECORDS



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

In support of Faith in Strangers

1 message

Tim Burrell-Saward

15 November 2021 at 21:36

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-barbara.young@ramsgatetc.org.uk

To whom it may concern,

I wish to register my support in Faith in Strangers (17 Ethelbert Crescent, Margate, CT9 2DY) with regards to the ongoing Noise Abatement Notice.

As an independent designer who moved to Thanet during lockdown, I rely on FiS as both a workspace and a community hub. Spaces like these are vital in encouraging growth in the creative industries, which is something Thanet should fully embrace given its growing reputation as a welcoming destination for world class creative talent. FiS is completely unique in its offering within Thanet, offering a well designed work space, high spec services, diverse membership and refined night time venue. Were it to lose its license and become financially unviable, the negative impact on the local creative community would be felt immediately. You should recognise its importance and protect it fiercely.

Kind regards,

Tim Burrell-Saward

Artist and game designer, BAFTA member

Tim Burrell-Saward

Playful things from hardware, electronics & code.

he/him

www.motherultimate.com

@tburrellsaward



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Keep Faith In Strangers Open

1 message

Sev Furneaux

17 November 2021 at 23:37

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Helen Whitehead (Councillor)" <Cllr-Helen.Whitehead@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Rob Yates (Councillor)" <Cllr-Rob.Yates@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan Currie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather Keen (Councillor)" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry Scobie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, galerj@parliament.uk

Dear Thanet District Council,

I'm writing in regards to keeping the bar, kitchen, music and arts venue **Faith In Strangers** open in Margate.

My understanding is there is a Noise Abatement Notice against the venue. However, I can say from a personal and professional perspective that Margate would be severely lacking without Faith In Strangers.

Having moved to Margate myself in August 2019 and subsequently being one of the first members of the workspace at Faith In Strangers, the venue opened me up to meeting new people on a personal and professional level.

Ultimately, if Faith In Strangers hadn't existed at that time, I would have severely lacked the ability to meet and interact with like-minded self-employed people, and wouldn't have obtained new business opportunities with other workspace members.

On a broader note, the founders Jeremy and Richard care passionately about the local area, and are eager to encourage local and external talent to either work in the workspace, eat or dine in the evening or perform in the venue.

It is imperative that Faith In Strangers stays open, for the benefit of Margate, Thanet and the arts and culture sector as a whole.

It would be incredibly sad if they were forced to close.

Yours sincerely,
Sev Furneaux

Occupation

Website programmer (Developer)





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Letter in support of Faith In Strangers, Margate

1 message

Jiten Coulter-Patel [REDACTED]
To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

12 November 2021 at 10:10

Please find below and the same attached.

Jiten Coulter-Patel



12th November 2021

Letter in support of Faith In Strangers, Margate

To whom it may concern

I am a marketing consultant and also a DJ and events organiser who in March this year moved to Thanet with my wife and young family. I am also of Indian origin, my wife is white and our children have mixed ethnicity. Moving from Birmingham, a hugely multicultural city, I had my reservations of moving to an area that is predominantly white and has been widely reported as somewhere with social issues especially with regards to the acceptance of people of varied ethnic backgrounds into the area. Prior to moving to the area we researched the various social offerings that were in the area that we felt would facilitate things we enjoy and also hopefully be accepting of us as people. Faith in Strangers was on that list and from the first time we ever visited we have felt welcomed, safe and at home in the place. True to their name, though I hardly know anyone in the area, they have put their faith in me, a stranger, and have booked me to DJ at the venue. Though in life it should not be an issue, I can unfortunately assure you as an Indian man, new to the area, I did not think I would find anywhere to play music that would look past those things in such a positive way as have Faith in Strangers. I can also see from all the artists they book that they fully embrace people from all walks of life with zero prejudice, a booking policy purely based on artists talent. Having worked around music and nightlife all over the world for over 20 years, I can honestly state what Faith in Strangers is doing is a unique and beautiful thing and flies the most positive of flags for Margate and Thanet.

With this all in mind, it is with great shock that I am hearing that Faith in Strangers may be stripped of their right to play music. Though they have created a beautiful space which houses lots of amazing community events, it is the curation of their music offerings that really makes Faith in Strangers such a positive beacon for itself and also the area. Take away their right to play music and you rip out the heart of what they are doing there.

The time I have performed at the venue, the team at Faith in Strangers were the most mindful of sound levels I have ever experienced at a venue. It was absolutely clear they are trying minimise any sound issues and are operating with a compromising mind set to alleviate best possible any negative impact of what they do there.

I desperately hope a solution can be found to ensure Faith In Strangers and what it offers musically and culturally continues.

Regards

Jiten Coulter-Patel

Agenda Item 3

 **FIS letter.docx**
8K



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Letter of support for Faith In Strangers, Cliftonville

1 message

Tom Furse [REDACTED]

17 November 2021 at 18:00

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Helen.Whitehead@thanet.gov.uk

Hello,

I'm writing in support of Cliftonville venue, Faith in Strangers (FIS), which has has a Noise Abatement Notice issued to it. Faith in Strangers is a valuable asset to the community as a venue and a workspace, and the team there have done an excellent job creating a space which attracts attention from all over the country. That kind of cultural infrastructure is essential to the redevelopment of Cliftonville and the surrounding areas. Jeremy and team at FiS are good people and I'm sure solutions can be found that satisfy both parties whilst retaining this important part of the local nightlife. I've spent the last 16 years as a professional musician, touring many venues throughout the world and FiS is a rare example of a venue run by people who care about what they're doing, and put love into their space. This is something to be valued.

Hoping a solution can be found.

Many thanks,

Tom Furse
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Letter of support for Faith in Strangers, Margate

1 message

Rosy Ross

16 November 2021 at 15:09

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk" <craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>

Good afternoon,

I have been concerned to hear about local music venues in Thanet receiving noise complaints, and particularly concerned that Faith in Strangers (FiS) has had a Noise Abatement Notice issued against it and a Premises Licence Review by TDC on the cards. FiS has reasonable operating hours and has rejuvenated a beautiful building in Cliftonville - and is contributing to the renewed interest in the area - bringing more people to live and visit there which ultimately funds the council. What are the advantages of responding to the complaints of a minority who clearly have no interest in being part of the community here?

My family moved to Thanet from London in 1995, and even as a child I remember noticing and regretting the relative lack of creative activities and opportunities in the area, especially in the autumn and winter seasons. This resulted in me and many of my peers moving out of the area as soon as we could - meaning an ongoing lack of diversity in the community, less money, less variations of culture. Thanet was forgotten and had a reputation as a bad place to live.

Now, Thanet people are moving back to their home towns, along with new families and individuals, all feeding into a palpable sense of pride in the area which overall benefits everyone, not least the young people here, who have more opportunities. There is still a great deal of work to do - Thanet ranks high in the Indices of Deprivation - but studies show that engagement in cultural assets is consistently and positively associated with subsequent life satisfaction and negatively associated with mental distress. For example, a recent study proves this and also shows that relationships between engagement in community cultural assets and well-being were stronger in more deprived areas (Mak HW, Coulter R, Fancourt D., 2021 <https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/10133969/1/CCE%20IMD%20moderation.pdf>).

I want to see Thanet District Council leading the way in a regeneration of this area which is clearly loved by many. This must include protecting cultural venues, which are spaces for community and attract visitors and attention from further afield. People moving into the area must understand (as they do, in general) that they are joining a community as well as a vibrant, creative and hopeful one! The seafront of a lively town, its high streets and artistic quarters cannot be silenced - and there are plenty of more remote and residential spots about.

I will be following these developments with interest and will support the protection of FiS and other venues every step of the way. It's time that TDC had a refresh and put more efforts into celebrating, nurturing and protecting the communities, residential and commercial spaces and green spaces in Thanet - there's so much potential for it to be a healthier place to live.

Kind regards

Rose-Anne Ross





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Letter of support to Faith in Strangers venue

1 message

Burnip Helen <[REDACTED]>

15 November 2021 at 22:36

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk" <craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>

To whom it may concern (cc'd Craig Mackinlay as local MP),

I am compelled to write this letter on discovering the disconcerting news of the potential closure of one of Margate's most unique venues. It's an absolute privilege to have this workspace/creative hub on our doorstep and the thought of its closure is unfathomable.

I met the owners one evening when the business was in its infancy, and I recall being quite taken aback by their knowledge of the building's history and their future vision, but what struck me most was their keen involvement of the community and how the venue could benefit all. I am not an artist or a creative, I work in radiology for the NHS, and I was humbled by their enthusiasm for my thoughts on what future direction would most appeal to me. A few days later I was emailed a survey which confirmed to me their genuine commitment.

I've been frequenting regularly, lockdown restrictions permitting, and due to their distinct programming I can truly say I've regarded Faith in Strangers a place of solace throughout a very tough 18 months.

I ask that you act in the interest of the community rather than one single complainee. How will Margate continue to grow its unique diverse community if one of its leading venues is forced to close?

Kind regards,

Helen Burnip.

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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Letter of support to 'Faith in Strangers' venue

1 message

Crognale, Paul <[REDACTED]>
To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>
Cc: "craigmackinlay.mp@parliament.uk" <craigmackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>

9 November 2021 at 12:02

Paul
Crognale

Margate

To whom it may concern (+cc Craig Mackinlay as local MP)

I understand that there has been a noise abatement notice issued against Faith in Strangers and would like to show my unwavering support of the venue.

I have worked in audio for 15+ years for one of the most reputable (audio) companies in the world, and have been lucky enough to visit many of the world's leading music performance spaces, studios & theatres. I also have plenty of personal experience in music programming.

I can safely say from experience that the gentlemen who run Faith in Strangers have an infectious creative vision for the venue and are slowly starting to put their Margate venue on the map as one of the most forward thinking venues not only in the UK, but across Europe.

When I bit the bullet and moved from my beloved London in 2018 to Margate, I did so simply because of the creative community I experienced and witnessed in Margate. With so many creatives moving to Margate, having a 'hub' for creatives is so important, and Faith in Strangers offers this very niche. The cultural infrastructure of Margate is very important if Thanet wish to continue attracting creative people with a vision.

I have been to the venue a great number of times, and have never witnessed anything but professionalism; and have certainly never experienced sound that would be described as too loud or bothersome. The venue's sound is more akin to those known as 'listening bars' in London and Tokyo where it is about sound quality, rather than volume.

I would assume that whomever has issued the compliant knew full well they were buying/renting a property ABOVE A LICENSED VENUE, so their motive for the complaint, at least from my perspective seems callous.

Thanet Council should be doing all it can to protect Margate's creative economy.

Regards

Paul



Paul Crognale | Senior Manager, Global Marketing, Musician & Consumer Audio



[shure.com](https://www.shure.com)

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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Letter of support

1 message

mario spagnuolo [REDACTED]

17 November 2021 at 18:10

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk, galerj@parliament.uk

To whom it may concern

I am writing in support of Margate business Faith in Strangers who are due for a licensing review in the coming days

I believe this business is an important addition to the growing freelance creative entrepreneurial and entertainment movement and offers a diverse space for networking and growth of ideas and particularly small business productivity

Please accept this email as an addition to your review as a positive supporting statement of Faith in Strangers and their unique and in my opinion much needed business plan

With thanks

Mario Spagnuolo



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

License Hearing: Faith in Strangers

1 message

Georgie Hurst [REDACTED]

17 November 2021 at 11:47

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "galerj@parliament.uk" <galerj@parliament.uk>

To whom it concerns,

I am emailing to voice my support for Faith in Strangers in advance of their License Hearing.

My name is Georgie (alias jaw-g). As a young musician and DJ, the venue has been one of the few to offer well-paid DJ opportunities in the area, and offer a platform for me to grow and experiment. I know from hearing the owners ideas about growing in the future that they will only continue to provide this platform for musicians in the area, which I think will inspire the next generation of Margate's youth to fulfil their potential, because the opportunities are on their doorstep, not far off in a city. We need Margate to be a place that young people want to stay and contribute to, not run away from. If their license were to be changed, this would seriously damage the musical community, where young artists need as many supportive local venues to foster talent. Without the infrastructure (I.e. venues), Margate's artistic community will seriously suffer. I believe this artistic regeneration is a huge contributor to the recent upsurge in visitors in Margate.

I wonder what kind of message these actions send to others considering investing their time and money into Margate's creative and night economy? What will others with the funds to do so think of the council squashing entrepreneurship in the area over a very small minority of residents who moved into a flat above a **historic** music venue space. This is the cultural heritage of Margate. These spaces are hugely important for improving the livelihood opportunities of young creatives, and provide valuable economies to the area (both night-time and creative) that aren't solely reliant on tourism, which I would argue is a fickle economy and not sufficient for residents who need year-long, not just seasonal, employment.

That all it takes is a single resident, who **chooses** to move near a music venue, to shut it down entirely if they so wish, and in so doing destroy the community and employment opportunities it provides, is shocking and appalling.

I very much hope you will allow the venue to operate at their full capacity, and reach their full potential. The amount of hard-work, sacrifice and determination that has gone into spaces like Faith in Strangers should be celebrated and nurtured in our society, not down-trodden because it doesn't suit the whims of a very small minority.

Yours faithfully,

Georgie Hurst



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Licensing Review Hearing

1 message

Crybaby Jazz Rooms <[REDACTED]>

16 November 2021 at 18:16

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "galerj@parliament.uk" <galerj@parliament.uk>, "cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk" <cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk" <cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk>, "louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk" <louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk>

Good evening,

I am sending this email regarding an upcoming licencing review for the hospitality venue 'Faith in Strangers'.

As a (soon to be) Hospitality venue in Margate. I thought that we should be showing Unity with the venue in hopes that it may have some effect on the outcome.

Over the last 10 years now we have all seen a resurgence to the Margate area and it is very quickly becoming a vastly more desirable holiday destination and similarly more comfortable place for residents.

Venues such as 'faith in strangers' have really helped the area become a true far-cry from what it once existed as. As Locals from birth ourselves, you would not believe how thankful we are to all the businesses that are popping up and really bringing diversity and unity to the area. Not to mention the vast employment, cultural and economic benefits that venues such as the aforementioned, bring.

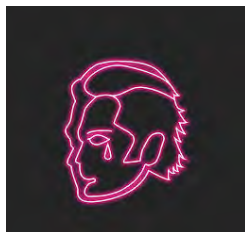
The cultural identity that Margate is slowly and surely slipping into is positively wonderful. Therefore, we are sending this email, crying out to Thanet district council to stand with the local businesses and protect our local night-time economy.

Regards,

George Grossmith

Director

Crybaby Jazz Ltd



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanel.gov.uk>

Licensing review, Faith In Strangers Ltd

1 message

René Steuns <[REDACTED]>
To: licensing@thanel.gov.uk

17 November 2021 at 19:10

Dear licensing team at TDC, I hope this email finds you well.

The news that Faith In Strangers in Margate may face the loss of their licence following an isolated noise complaint shocked me greatly.

Since joining Faith In Strangers as one of its founding members, I have seen the profound and positive impact this business has made within the local community.

Since the very beginning, Jeremy and Richard had a clear and comprehensive vision for this space, which has since then grown into a reliable support hub/facilitator for start-ups and creatives, and is increasingly becoming one of the very few cultural amenities in the area too now.

It has taken a tremendous amount of time and money for Faith In Strangers to get where they are, and losing their licence would mean that they would no longer be able to sustain themselves.

Consequently, many freelancers, entrepreneurs and small businesses in the area would instantly lose their newly found base and support network. This would be a great tragedy.

Thanks for taking the time to read this, please think about these ramifications in your review.

Kind regards,

René Steuns

—

René Steuns
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Noise Abatement Notice: Faith in Strangers [The Glass Jar]

1 message

Hello GlassJar [REDACTED]

16 November 2021 at 21:48

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

In regards to the Noise Abatement Notice issued against Faith in Strangers, we would like to show our support for a fellow licensed premises.

We believe Faith in Strangers has proven itself to be a positive contribution to our nighttime economy of Margate and Cliftonville and it would be a great loss to us all if their license were to be revoked.

Regards,

Luisa Smith, Manager
Nicola Coppin, OwnerThe Glass Jar
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

NTIA - FAITH IN STRANGERS Ltd - License Reference Number LN/201800535

1 message

Michael Kill

15 November 2021 at 23:51

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: galerj@parliament.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk, cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk, David.smith2@kent.gov.uk, stephanie.holt-castle@kent.gov.uk, michael.hill@kent.gov.uk, geoffmiles@maidstonestudios.com, sarah@sarahdance.co.uk, deborah.shaw@marlowetheatre.com

For the attention of:**Licensing Manager**

Thanet District Council

Cecil Street

Margate

CT9 1XZ

15th November 2021By email: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Sir

Re: FAITH IN STRANGERS Ltd - License Reference Number LN/201800535

This letter is to express our concern and support for Faith in Strangers Ltd [17 Ethelbert Crescent, Cliftonville, CT9 2DY](#). The NTIA is responsible for being a voice for the sector and increasing awareness and understanding of its contribution and benefits to the local and national economy.

We work across the UK and are regularly involved in venues and operations in Kent, working very closely with the Regional and Central Government teams on direct issues around culture and licensed hospitality premises.

With this involvement comes a level of understanding of the professional operators which contribute to and support regeneration, creating jobs and enhancing the UK's international reputation. Faith In Strangers Ltd and its management fall within this category.

Faith In Strangers should be held as a shining example for regeneration of Margate and has a unique contribution between culture and hospitality. It is an asset to the community and the area, especially in times of COVID-19, when it is vitally important to support local business and community rather than stifling local economic regeneration and creative opportunities.

Thanet's recent impact study produced in December 2020 (https://www.thanet.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Margate-Town-Investment-Plan_TIP1_201216_compressed.pdf) at no point considers a Night Time Economy Strategy or the requirement for an Equality Impact Assessment to really understand the requirement for cultural diversity within Thanet District, in particular around Cliftonville area which is one of the most deprived areas within the UK.

We are extremely concerned that Thanet District Council have not considered the environment that has been created around lockdown of businesses for 20 months, and the impact reopening of businesses will have on communities.

It would set a dangerous precedent, particularly as it has received public funding in support of this very model, to place restrictions on this business, following its survival during an exceptionally difficult period of closure without considering the impact on businesses and community within the area.

We have full trust in Faith In Strangers Ltd as operators and believe they will deliver a safe, considered and valuable space for the wider area.

In light of the benefits that this business will have not only economically, but also for its ability to enrich culture and become a mainstay of the community as part of the broader regeneration strategy for the area.

Yours faithfully

Michael Kill
Chief Executive Officer



Website: www.ntia.co.uk / www.savenightlife.com
Social Media: @wearethentia

TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER



Letter Faith In Strangers NTIA Support.pdf
124K



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Objection to Faith in Strangers licensing review

1 message

Eleanor Searle [REDACTED]

15 November 2021 at 10:32

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "suzy@galemail.com" <suzy@galemail.com>

Eleanor Searle,
[REDACTED]**15th November 2021****OBJECTION TO FAITH IN STRANGERS LICENSING REVIEW**

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to express my concern over the ongoing licensing review for the venue **Faith in Strangers, 17 Ethelbert Crescent**.

The regeneration of Thanet by independent businesses and the arts community is what attracted me to invest in this area and build a home here, as a member of the creative industries who works remotely and lives alone. From what I understand, this is also something that the local government is also heavily invested in – and therefore I am concerned to see that closing down an independent business at the heart of the arts community, in such a deprived area of Margate, is under consideration.

I work remotely as a brand manager and consultant in the fashion industry, currently building a start-up brand and formerly working on events and marketing for Victoria Beckham, Topshop, Reiss and others. I also hope to offer mentorship to young members of the community in which I live and work, who may not otherwise have access to the industry that I work in and the opportunities that come along with it. When I discovered Faith in Strangers, I was encouraged and delighted to have found a venue that shares the same ethos and that offers a safe and accessible space for me to both work and socialise and, in the future, somewhere I can support and share my resources with. In addition to remote working opportunities, Faith in Strangers is the only nightclub in Thanet that, as a young woman, I would feel comfortable and safe spending time in, and to take my friends and colleagues to.

The owners of Faith in Strangers are incredibly kind, caring and conscientious, with a passion for supporting local and, in particular, marginalised communities through their business, whilst also investing significant sums of their own money into regenerating one of the most deprived areas in the country. To see their hard work go to waste over the demands of one resident would be an incredible injustice, and a huge loss for the area and, of course, also for the local members of the community who have been employed by the venue.

Given that the building in question has historically housed a nightclub, as well as a bowling alley, one has to question how it is fair that one resident can command the closure of an entire venue, that contributes so much to the local area, when they chose to purchase property above a commercial building that has always been used for that purpose. Having recently bought a property of my own, I don't understand how due diligence was not carried out prior to the resident in question making that purchase.

I sincerely hope that you will take my thoughts into consideration.

Agenda Item 3

Regards,

Eleanor Searle



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Opposition to Noise Abatement Notice & Premises Licence Review for Faith In Strangers

1 message

James Ornate <[REDACTED]>
To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk
Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

16 November 2021 at 16:40

Hi,

Hope you are well. As a resident of [REDACTED] Cliftonville, I have been made aware of a Noise Abatement Order and Licence Review being directed at a local business, Faith In Strangers. This was brought to my attention by several friends who use the premise as a work space to help run their small businesses.

I would like to share my experience of Faith In Strangers so that I may formally register my support for the business and log my disagreement to the threat of them having their Licence revoked in the hope of helping save this great venue, work and community space.

As a frequent customer of Faith In Strangers and someone has also supplied my services as a DJ, I am extremely surprised and very disappointed to hear about this order and review which could lead to its closure, the unemployment it will create as well the hole it will leave as a safe and inclusive space for LGBTQ+ and other minority clientele as well as locals.

The owners along with the staff have always gone above and beyond to ensure and enforce that the sound stays within the legal limits and in consideration for their neighbours.

Also regarding complaints regarding noise outside the venue I have only experienced customers leaving and entering very cordially. The same cannot be said for the youths who hang around the arcade and other venues in that location, which I imagine is where that noise is coming from

I really believe that if they are no longer permitted to operate as a late night music venue, this will be to the detriment of Margate, Cliftonville and its residents.

Please consider this email as my support for Faith In Strangers to be allowed to continue to operate as it currently is and the Noise Abatement Order be dropped and the threat to their Licence removed.

Regards

James Thomson



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Please save Faith In Strangers!

1 message

paul@mixandmatchltd.co.uk

10 November 2021 at 07:03

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "galerj@parliament.uk" <galerj@parliament.uk>, "suzy@galemail.com" <suzy@galemail.com>

Good morning,

Hope you're well.

My name is Paul Keighley, I am a proud resident of Margate community and director of the events company Mix and Match Ltd. I am also a long-time member of the creative co-work space Faith In Strangers (FIS) on Ethelbert Crescent in Cliftonville. I am writing to you in support of the movement to save this wonderful venue from being served a Noise Abatement Notice and losing its licence, which would make the venue unviable as a business and force it to close its doors.

My family have lived in Thanet for 20 years, and I moved here from London with my wife and daughter 4 years ago. Since then we have been thrilled and stunned to see how quickly the regeneration of this beautiful town has progressed. A large part of this has been driven by the vast number of creative types that have moved here in recent times, helping to create an exciting community hub that rivals our previous residence in East London in its vibrancy and diversity. I can honestly say that FIS has had a significant hand in this with their business model, attention to local needs and desire to bring like-minded people together. They employ young local people and give them a viable career path, host interesting exhibitions and showcases, create a calm and productive workplace and champion local artists. Most importantly (in my opinion) they have spearheaded the development of a unique nightlife scene that was sorely lacking in the area. Fantastic cocktails, creative music playlists and impeccable service make this a go-to for so many people in the area.

For this venue to have to close because one person complains about noise would be an absolute tragedy and set a dangerous precedent. How many other evening venues will follow like dominoes as a handful of short-sighted residents lash out at the very businesses that are increasing their homes' value and building Margate into a well-known destination to visit? This simply cannot happen. I implore you to reconsider this move, otherwise the community will suffer sorely. Everybody wants to see Margate continue to rise, please allow businesses like FIS to facilitate this in peace.

Many thanks in advance

**Paul Keighley**

Director



Visit our website:

www.mixandmatchltd.co.uk

@mixandmatchlimited



@mixandmatchltd

Registered office: Mix and Match Ltd. 84 All Saints Avenue, Margate, Kent, CT9 5QL Registered in United Kingdom. Company No. 10190475



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Premises Licence Review of Faith in Strangers, Ethelbert Crescent

1 message

Emma March <[REDACTED]>
To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk
Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

16 November 2021 at 11:07

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in light of the Premises Licence Review of Faith in Strangers, Ethelbert Crescent.

I am a local business owner, having moved my home and business from London to Margate in 2015.

In the time I have lived here, I have been very happy to watch as other businesses have moved to the area and I am very proud of the varied offering, infrastructure and community that this has helped create.

I want to go on record to support the team at Faith in Strangers. They (and other businesses like them) are a hugely important part of the developing Margate community and economy. The venue itself has brought such a positive renaissance energy to the area. The fact that the team were prepared to invest so much time and money into developing what was a derelict building, into a wonderful hub of community and culture, by way of shared workspace and hospitality venue is incredible and should be celebrated.

Since it opened it has had such a positive impact on the local economy, employing other local residents, creating a safe place to work from and to socialise in. I have many single female friends who particularly value the space as a place they feel comfortable to visit on their own.

From a business perspective, it offers a professional environment where I can hold client meetings. When I have clients visiting from out of town, I feel very proud to take them to Faith in Strangers and many cannot believe that something so brilliant even exists here.

I also know that musicians and DJs from across the country, and the world, have travelled to Margate, sometimes a place they had never even heard of, to perform at Faith in Strangers. It really is something Margate should be very proud of and protecting.

I believe that many of the other burgeoning businesses that have opened in Margate in recent years by other entrepreneurs, have been inspired by the vision and success of the Faith in Strangers team and that in turn, the risk of potential closure, will have a very negative and damaging impact on future businesses looking to invest in the area.

I urge you to consider the value of allowing Faith in Strangers to continue to trade, versus undoing all the good work that has been done to date and the potential future positive impact it will have on the community and economy.

Kind regards
Emma March

—
March Studio Ltd
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Proposal to review license of Faith in Strangers

1 message

Lucy Edematie [REDACTED]

17 November 2021 at 16:45

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-

Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Wednesday 17 November 2021

To Whom it may concern,

Re: Proposal to review licence of Faith in Strangers, Margate

I am a local freelance writer, resident in Cliftonville since 2017. I am writing to communicate my concern at the proposal to review the licence of Clintonville-based venue Faith in Strangers, and to express my support for this business.

Faith in Strangers operates as a co-working space during the week, of which I was a member for eighteen months. It offers a vital facility to local professionals who are freelance, do not travel into work, or are unable to work at home. In turn, members purchase lunch and other items in local outlets, thus contributing to the local, daytime economy.

Operating during licensing hours at the end of the week and weekend, Faith in Strangers also makes a not insignificant contribution to the night-time economy locally; a matter that I believe should be considered. Having visited and walked past Faith in Strangers on numerous evenings, I cannot comprehend the reason for the noise abatement order, as I have never personally seen or heard anything to give me cause for concern.

Curtailing the activity of Faith in Strangers would risk jeopardising the livelihoods of its owners and those of the local staff employed by the venue. Members of the co-working space would lose a vital resource, and the loss to the local economy must not be ignored.

As a local resident myself, I recognise that the needs of residents must be balanced against those of commerce. Surely, however, that can be done without completely upending the operations of a business. I very much hope that a resolution can be found which permits Faith in Strangers, and similar businesses, to exist alongside residents in Margate.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Yours faithfully,

Lucy Edematie





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Re: Faith in strangers

1 message

beachfit uk <[REDACTED]>

11 November 2021 at 12:20

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Allen.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk

Dear TDC,

My name is Clint-Sanyika Odiete, I live on Athelstan Road and I own and operate BeachFitUK.
A personal training and wellness business.

<https://www.instagram.com/beachfituk>

I was very upset to hear that Faith in Strangers was under threat of having its licence reviewed and restricted. As a local resident and small business operator in Cliftonville, I know how important it is for the council to support residents in creating new businesses that add to the community and create employment. I live nearby from the workspace and I've never experienced any issues relating to their present situation. And to be honest you don't even notice the venue is even there when you walk nearby. It's incredibly discreet.

I'm a frequent visitor at Faith in Strangers, I'd never have thought such a venue would have appeared in Cliftonville. The courage and out right balls shown, to come and invest in an area of high deprivation, only to be shut down by the council appeasing a handful of residents doesn't make any sense.

I grew up in Lewisham, a culturally diverse part of London and was really apprehensive about moving to Thanet in light of the lack of spaces and venues where a black man would feel welcome and not intimidated. Equally, when moving here I didn't want to just socialise in places that were exclusively for Londoners. Uniquely Faith in Strangers has managed to successfully unite the local community in Cliftonville and it's an asset to the area. Faith in Strangers represents a progressive, diverse option in a town that is lacking many things. Faith in Strangers was a key reason that I stayed in Margate. Cliftonville in particular needs a night time economy to create jobs and employment, which is exactly what Faith in Strangers is doing, I believe all of their staff are born and raised in Thanet.

I've suggested that the owners buy the flat above that is complaining in order to come to a compromise but I was told that the flat owners have asked for double the market rate.

How can this be allowed to happen?

I would be grateful if you could consider my letter a strong offering of support for a venue that has brought so much to my neighbourhood.

Best wishes,

Clint-Sanyika Odiete
[REDACTED]





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Re: Faith in Strangers - Letter of Support

1 message

Louise Askew <louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk>

16 November 2021 at 08:40

To: Louise Beer [REDACTED]

Cc: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, "MACKINLAY, Craig" <craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>, "Cllr-Ash Ashbee (Councillor)" <cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan Currie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather Keen (Councillor)" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry Scobie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Reece Pugh (Councillor)" <cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk>, Melanie King [REDACTED]

Dear Louise and Melaine,

Thank you for your email, however, I am sure you can appreciate that as there is currently a consultation period regarding a review of the Licensing Act 2003 licence at this premises and we are therefore unable to directly comment. This is a formal, legal process which will need to be followed, this period lasts until 17th November 2021.

However, you are able to make a representation in support of the business on a form available from our website. www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/applications-received-under-the-2003-licensing-act/. My understanding is that representations should be made in relation to the four licensing objectives.

Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,

Louise

Louise Askew | Director of Regeneration | Thanet District Council | ✉ louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

Please note currently my working days are Tuesday to Friday

On Mon, 15 Nov 2021 at 16:51, Louise Beer <[REDACTED]> wrote:

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: Noise Abatement Notice and Premises Licence Review by TDC for Faith in Strangers, 17 Ethelbert Crescent, CT9 2DY

We would like to give our support to Faith in Strangers because they are an outstanding organisation that brings high cultural value to Cliftonville and Margate and the wider Kent area.

In 2020, we were commissioned by Faith in Strangers to create the Margate Science Festival for which we sold 100 tickets for. The event included internationally acclaimed experts in science, the environment and art. Without funding and support from Faith in Strangers, this event would not have been possible. The event was the first in a series planned for Cliftonville. Faith in Strangers has the technology and vision to enable us to create outstanding Margate Science Festival events in the future that promote the value of our natural environments.

Venues such as Faith in Strangers offer an opportunity to bring high cultural value to the area that creates new networks and inspires new business. The night time economy is integral to the future of Cliftonville.

As art gallery directors we can attest to the fact that the pandemic has been an incredibly difficult period for cultural venues, and that the creation of income is a difficult task at the best of times. We hold the professionalism and entrepreneurial spirit of Faith in Strangers in high esteem.

We fully support the value that Faith in Strangers brings to employment, the economy and to the cultural potential of the area.

Yours Sincerely,

Louise Beer and Melanie King

super/collider

[REDACTED]

--

+++

louise beer

super/collider

mobile + [REDACTED] | skype: [REDACTED]
www.super-collider.com | Instagram | Twitter | Facebook | subscribe

Agenda Item 3

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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Re: Faith In Strangers Licensing Review

1 message

Louise Askew <louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk>

16 November 2021 at 08:39

To: Felix Cohen <[REDACTED]>

Cc: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, Cllr-Helen Whitehead <Cllr-Helen.Whitehead@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Rob Yates (Councillor)" <cllr-rob.yates@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Ash Ashbee (Councillor)" <cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan Currie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather Keen (Councillor)" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry Scobie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Reece Pugh (Councillor)" <cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Felix,

Thank you for your email, however, I am sure you can appreciate that as there is currently a consultation period regarding a review of the Licensing Act 2003 licence at this premises and we are therefore unable to directly comment. This is a formal, legal process which will need to be followed, this period lasts until 17th November 2021.

However, you are able to make a representation in support of the business on a form available from our website. www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/applications-received-under-the-2003-licensing-act/. My understanding is that representations should be made in relation to the four licensing objectives.

Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,

Louise

Louise Askew | Director of Regeneration | Thanet District Council | ✉ louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

Please note currently my working days are Tuesday to Friday

On Mon, 15 Nov 2021 at 14:07, Felix Cohen <[REDACTED]> wrote:

To whom it may concern,

I am writing regarding the License Review (and related Noise Abatement Notice) that has been issued against Faith In Strangers. I would like to wholeheartedly support Faith In Strangers in this matter.

Margate, and the wider Thanet area, has a vibrant and growing nightlife economy, and it's vital that the industry is supported by the council - it is a very significant employer and engine of local economic growth, and a major part of the draw the area has in terms of both tourism and folks choosing to live here.

In this case, and potentially more in future, a resident who has moved in near to a venue operating within the terms of their license (and operating a well defined dispersement and noise management plan), objected to the operation of that business, and is now threatening many jobs and economic benefits to local suppliers and businesses. As I'm sure you're aware, Faith In Strangers operates as a community hub and space for charities and local groups to meet and work (such as the use of the space for the recent PoW festival), and this work is supported by them being a thriving business on weekends - it would be a terrible shame to lose the faculties they are able to offer because of the objections of one neighbour who were aware before moving in that they were purchasing above an entertainment complex.

I hope that this matter will be resolved in favour of Faith In Strangers - while I do have sympathy for the affected residents, I hope that we will be able to set a good precedent here for future cases where people have 'bought cheap' in the knowledge that they are likely to be affected by venue operations, and wish to stifle local business in the interest of their own property values, and continue to make Thanet a world class destination for hospitality.

Many thanks,

Felix Cohen

Director, Manhattans Project, CT9 1JB

https://www.instagram.com/daisy_margate/

<https://www.instagram.com/manhattansproject/>



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Re: Faith In Strangers

1 message

Louise Askew <louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk>

16 November 2021 at 08:45

To: Duncan King <[REDACTED]>

Cc: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, Vicky Foxcroft MP <vicky.foxcroft.mp@parliament.uk>, Roger Gale MP <galerj@parliament.uk>, "MACKINLAY, Craig" <craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>, "Cllr-Reece Pugh (Councillor)" <cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Duncan,

Thank you for your email, however, I am sure you can appreciate that as there is currently a consultation period regarding a review of the Licensing Act 2003 licence at this premises and we are therefore unable to directly comment. This is a formal, legal process which will need to be followed, this period lasts until 17th November 2021.

However, it would be best if you are able to make your representation in support of the business on a form available from our website. www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/applications-received-under-the-2003-licensing-act/. My understanding is that representations should be made in relation to the four licensing objectives.

Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,

Louise

Louise Askew | Director of Regeneration | Thanet District Council | ✉ louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

Please note currently my working days are Tuesday to Friday

On Tue, 16 Nov 2021 at 00:08, Duncan King <[REDACTED]> wrote:

To whom this may concern

I am Duncan King, Head of New Business for London and the South East at Skiddle. Skiddle is one of the UK's leading ticketing companies. We have over 4.3 million customers and work with both corporate and independent venues and event organisers across the UK. We support some of the country's leading creative and entrepreneurial individuals and see the benefits of culture across the UK on a daily basis.

I am personally responsible for building our network of venues and event organisers across the South East of England. I resided in Kent for nearly 20 years and know Margate well.

I was shocked to find out that our friends at Faith In Strangers have received a Noise Abatement Notice and now a premises licence review is pending.

I have seen Margate's rejuvenation over the last 10 years, watching amazing and entrepreneurial individuals help reshape Margate as a destination again. Venues like Faith In Strangers are integral to the growth and rejuvenation of areas like Margate, and penalising them due to a small minority of people who dislike the night time economy is, in my view, wrong. Faith In Strangers is more than just a standard night time venue, not only bringing employment and opportunities to the local residents, but a place where the community and your town's brightest thinkers can get together.

We only have to look at the campaigns over the last 18 months to understand how important culture and the nightlife industry is financially and emotionally to the country. In a recent report, the Night Time Industries Association (NTIA), revealed the value of the UK's night-time economy, which was 1.6% of GDP, equivalent to £36.4 billion (US\$49.6bn), in 2019.

If Faith in Strangers has to close, it is going to send a message far and wide about future investment and new projects coming into the area, particularly Cliftonville which as we all know is one of the most deprived areas in the UK.

I fully support Faith In Strangers and I hope that you make the right decision.

Kind Regards

Duncan

--

Duncan King | Head of New Business, London & South East

Mob: [REDACTED]

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TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Re: Faith In Strangers

1 message

Nadia Robertson <[REDACTED]>

15 November 2021 at 21:56

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to you in support of Faith in Strangers, in Cliftonville. In my opinion it's an extremely important establishment that needs to be applauded, not closed down.

Faith In Strangers is one of the most forward thinking businesses I've worked with and the owners are highly professional. It's provided jobs for numerous people and it's only myself and another colleague that aren't originally from Thanet, the rest of the team are, which I think is an important part of positive regeneration. Part of the reason I moved down was because I got made redundant from my job in London and I'm so grateful that Faith in Strangers invested time and money to train me and the team up, to become part of the Faith in Strangers family. They are the kind of progressive and thoughtful employers that Cliftonville is so desperately in need of.

Our customers are respectful members of the community and we have never had any trouble, in fact going to work is pure joy! Customers don't usually arrive until around 10 or so, and we have artists providing the music on Fridays and Saturdays. If the license was taken or restricted like demanded and we don't have any entertainment available then customers will leave or just not even bother coming at all, which basically means I and the team all lose our jobs.

I have also had the opportunity to perform there myself, it has been an absolute dream of mine to get back into performing again and has been so important for me after the lockdown and especially at the beautiful Faith in Strangers and the seaview backdrop.. The venue is all about great quality sound rather than super loud, which creates a much nicer atmosphere for people to meet each other and network, which I also believe to be so important after what we've all been through with covid.

So much time and money has been spent making the venue what it is, and I was surprised they took such a risk to potentially pave the way for other venues of their size, but in fact there needs to be lots more places like this for Margate to thrive and is a huge travesty that they are being threatened with being shut down, rather than growing, which I can only imagine would scare off other venues to open.

The owners have always told us they have so far only been operating at a small scale and that we would eventually be a much larger team of staff and now that has the potential to be crushed. Which is so sad and also will reverse the positive regeneration that's been happening in Cliftonville.

Faith in Strangers has so much more to offer than what it has been doing so far, and we really can't let personal gain rein over community gain, the impact that Faith In Strangers is having is far greater than the minority above.

Please don't let me lose my job.

I thank you for taking the time to read my letter,

Warm regards,

Nadia Robertson

Home Address: [REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Re: Friends In Strangers Margate under threat of closure

1 message

Margate Town Deal <margate-town-deal@thanet.gov.uk>

16 November 2021 at 08:48

To: Margate Town Deal <margate-town-deal@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: colin UK [REDACTED], "margate-town-deal@thanet.gov.uk" <margate-town-deal@thanet.gov.uk>, "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Ruth.Bailey@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Ruth.Bailey@thanet.gov.uk>, "cldr-david.saunders@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-david.saunders@thanet.gov.uk>, "cldr-mave.saunders@thanet.gov.uk" <cldr-mave.saunders@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Colin,

Thank you for your email, however, I am sure you can appreciate that as there is currently a consultation period regarding a review of the Licensing Act 2003 licence at this premises and we are therefore unable to directly comment. This is a formal, legal process which will need to be followed, this period lasts until 17th November 2021.

However, you are able to make a representation in support of the business on a form available from our website. www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/applications-received-under-the-2003-licensing-act/. My understanding is that representations should be made in relation to the four licensing objectives.

Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,

Louise

Louise Askew | Director of Regeneration | Thanet District Council | louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

Please note currently my working days are Tuesday to Friday

On Thursday, 11 November 2021 at 10:47:42 UTC colin UK wrote:

Hi

It has come to my attention that my workplace /office is under threat of closure. This has come about due to Thanet Council licensing issuing a nuisance order, unacceptable noise levels license revue.

I operate a Buildings Structural CAD draughting Service and was previously operating out of my office in London and occasionally coming down to Broadstairs but it was never feasible or practical for me to operate from Broadstairs or Thanet as a whole.

I did search for a suitable office but there was nothing available. By chance a friend of a friend recommended inquiring at Friends In Strangers, who were just starting up in Margate. On the first visit it was clear that this was a very different office set up and the plans to grow their business were/are extremely positive and beneficial to the area.

Because Friends in Strangers offer a very high-level office environment it prompted me to move my business and myself down to Broadstairs and this is now my base. Over the following months I've watched Richard and Jeremy transforming a very rough building space into a very high-level office environment attracting a high level of innovative and creative business people (many of whom have now relocated to Margate). providing invaluable contacts for my business; their attention to detailing making sure everything is compliant, environmentally friendly and properly sound proofed within the limitations of the buildings structure in this particularly neglected and delapidated part of Margate is commendable.

I also understand that the person making the complaint recently purchased their property at a very low cost and in my opinion looking to make a profit in the future, this is fair enough however they would have been well aware of the fact that they were purchasing above an entertainment venue (that was previously a dedicated nightclub) and as such there would be an increased noise level.

The nature of Friend In Strangers is to provide a working space during the day and also host cultural events in the evenings and the weekends, making the business viable as a whole.

I've attached the Margate investment plan for those who have not read it, and basically Friends in Strangers fit directly into that plan and also feature in the plan above.

In a nutshell Friends In Strangers are:

Investing in and making use of what would be just another run down building in a run down location.

Bringing innovative and creative people into the area.

Hosting music and cultural events that attract people into the area.

Bringing businesses like myself into the area.

Bringing investment into the area.

Supporting other businesses in the area.

Attracting younger professional people into the area.

Advertising and spreading the word that Margate and Thanet as a whole is progressive and open for business.

I also believe they are involved in various community projects.

It's disappointing that Thanet council is basically seeing Friends in Strangers as just another night club and their Town Investment Plan as just a definition of noise nuisance. This is a serious contradiction and point of concern for other business's I would say.

Friends in Strangers is a unique business and cultural centre supporting numerous businesses and as such should be supported and encouraged as stated in the Margate Investment Plan not penalised

All of the above is are my own experiences and opinions and I'm sure shared by many who use and attend Friends in Strangers.

I look forward to hearing your comments

Regards

Colin Apel

Director CA CAD DESIGN Ltd





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Re: Noise Abatement Notice and Premises Licence Review of Faith in Strangers

1 message

Louise Askew <louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk>

16 November 2021 at 08:39

To: MARGATE ARTS CLUB [REDACTED]

Cc: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Ash Ashbee (Councillor)" <cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan Currie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather Keen (Councillor)" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry Scobie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Reece Pugh (Councillor)" <cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk>, "MACKINLAY, Craig" <craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>

Dear Luke,

Thank you for your email, however, I am sure you can appreciate that as there is currently a consultation period regarding a review of the Licensing Act 2003 licence at this premises and we are therefore unable to directly comment. This is a formal, legal process which will need to be followed, this period lasts until 17th November 2021.

However, you are able to make a representation in support of the business on a form available from our website, www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/applications-received-under-the-2003-licensing-act/. My understanding is that representations should be made in relation to the four licensing objectives.

Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,

Louise

Louise Askew | Director of Regeneration | Thanet District Council | ✉ louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

Please note currently my working days are Tuesday to Friday

On Mon, 15 Nov 2021 at 15:39, MARGATE ARTS CLUB [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hello,

I'm writing in regards to the noise abatement order and licence review of Faith In Strangers.

As a local resident, business owner and a patron of Faith In Strangers, I can categorically say that its continued existence is essential to the economy and cultural infrastructure of the area.

Much of the cultural regeneration in the Margate area has been privately funded. I believe revoking the late licence of a well loved and used cultural beacon will set a worrying precedent. Old and new investment will see this as a step backwards. Especially to arts and culture venues that have or are investing a lot of money to establish themselves. Not to mention external funding bodies such as Arts council England, they have invested heavily in the area, it sends the wrong message.

Arts, music, culture and nightlife venues employ thousands of people in Thanet and provide a service for hundreds of thousands of people each year. We bring a lot of money into the area. The knock on effect from our businesses helps support all other aspects of the tourist/business community, from hotels, air bnbs, taxi drivers, restaurants, shops and galleries. Its a symbiotic relationship, remove one part, the rest will suffer. It would be a positive step to encourage this growth.

Thanet needs night time venues, if these spaces go, people will find other outlets, illegal parties and unregulated raves will start to pop up in their place. Having designated music and art venues in areas such as high streets, town centres, commercial areas, sea fronts and in buildings that were historically clubs or venues is essential for growth. Reasonable noise should be expected and permitted in these areas. This being said, I have only ever witnessed respectful noise levels and patrons inside and leaving Faith in strangers.

I can't imagine you have an easy job, but I would urge you to consider the cultural and financial importance of Faith in Strangers and all other arts and night time venues in the town.

Kind regards

Luke Brennan

Director of the Margate Arts Club





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Re: Support email for FAITH IN STRANGERS - 17 Ethelbert Crescent, CT9 2DY

1 message

Louise Askew <louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk>

16 November 2021 at 08:38

To: Dive Margate [REDACTED]

Cc: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>, Cllr-Rob Yates <cllr-rob.yates@thanet.gov.uk>, "GALE, Roger" <galerj@parliament.uk>, "Cllr-Ash Ashbee (Councillor)" <cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Alan Currie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather Keen (Councillor)" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry Scobie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Reece Pugh (Councillor)" <cllr-reece.pugh@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Kirstie and Benjamin,

Thank you for your email, however, I am sure you can appreciate that as there is currently a consultation period regarding a review of the Licensing Act 2003 licence at this premises and we are therefore unable to directly comment. This is a formal, legal process which will need to be followed, this period lasts until 17th November 2021.

However, you are able to make a representation in support of the business on a form available from our website. www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/applications-received-under-the-2003-licensing-act/. My understanding is that representations should be made in relation to the four licensing objectives.

Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,

Louise

Louise Askew | Director of Regeneration | Thanet District Council | ✉ louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk

Please note currently my working days are Tuesday to Friday

On Mon, 15 Nov 2021 at 11:09, Dive Margate <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello,

We are Kirstie Fleck and Benjamin Vorono, business partners running DIVE on Margate's Harbour Arm. We are currently renovating new premises at the upper end of Margate High Street where we both own flats in The Man of Kent. The rear of our building overlooks Dreamland Amusement Park where live music events happen on a fairly regular basis, this is a precedent that has existed for much longer than we have been leaseholders. The music is at times very loud and almost always audible but being members in a community in which the economy is significantly based on tourism encourages us to enjoy and accept these rather than fight them.

We are writing in support of our fellow business owners at Faith in Strangers, whose license is under review but also we support any current or future, responsible entrepreneurs who could potentially face backlash from residents who do not understand nightlife and the valuable cultural and financial benefits it can provide to a community.

Throughout this summer we sent customers to Faith in Strangers because we trust they can provide a safe, enjoyable and cutting edge experience for guests. Their door policy is highly inclusive with a good mix of locals, tourists, older people and younger people. The general vibe is relaxed and the large size of the interior ensures things stay calm rather than raucous as can happen in rooms that are more tightly packed with people. Our understanding is that Franks Nightclub operated in the same location as Faith in Strangers for years so there is a history of this venue being an anchor for this part of town. On the whole we have always found the music volume to be appropriate and of very high quality. They provide events to the community that no one else can including artists from far a field and from niche parts of the music worlds.

Margate has always been an economy driven by hospitality, whether that was as a holistic retreat in the Victorian times or as it has been developing throughout the 2010s as a destination for excellent food, drinks and nightlife. A change of license at Faith in Strangers will send a dangerous message to businesses looking to set up in Margate, you could potentially lose your entire livelihood due to a resident minority. This is unfair to business owners and anyone else who appreciates the pleasures of the night time economy.

--

Many Thanks

Kirstie Fleck & Benjamin Vorono

DIVE - Unit 6, Margate Harbour Arm, CT9 1AP
DIVE - [121 High Street, Margate, CT9 1JT](#)



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Save Faith in Strangers Margate

1 message

massimo lamagna <[REDACTED]>

15 November 2021 at 12:41

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Pauline.Farrance@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Candy.Gregory@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Massimo Lamagna
[REDACTED]Director - 8track Music Solutions Ltd
Director - Shoreline Music Ltd-----
To Whom It May Concern,

Faith in Strangers is a great asset to Margate and the local community. They create employment and up skilling opportunities for people in a high standard hospitality setting.

Faith in Strangers provide a platform for young and upcoming talent to showcase their musical skills alongside established DJs. Faith in Strangers also support other art forms, by holding events at the premises and support local community groups and charities with their initiatives to inform, educate and provide a space for their events.

I have had the pleasure to be involved with Faith in Strangers and was invited to performed during the summer after lockdown, which was an uplifting boost after long months of isolation, allowing me to expand my network through introductions and connections to other performers.

The care taken to craft the sound system, lighting, venue design and hospitality offering at FIS, as a standout lounge bar, has put Margate as a highlight on the map in the music industry. My company supplies high end London, UK and international hospitality venues and in conversations with clients, FIS is known and has piqued interest in Margate, as a noteworthy seaside town, complemented by quality hospitality institutions and artistic offerings, alongside the beautiful sea and countryside.

I have mentioned that I have been invited to play music at Faith in Strangers and have also frequently patronised their premises. It has been obvious that they take care to ensure they are a venue, which aims to be a place for people to meet and converse. They have taken great care to structurally fit out this beautiful venue to ensure they provide good sound, which adds to the ambience and experience they offer their patrons. The team checks the sound and apply sound limiters, to ensure persons are able to converse and relax as they are enveloped by their environment.

I sincerely hope that Faith in Strangers in Margate will continue to operate and provide their high level hospitality offering to their patrons.

Kind Regards

Massimo

Massimo Lamagna
Director : Content Manager : DJ[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
www.8trackmusicsolutions.co.uk

Members of PPL / MCPS



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Save Faith In Strangers

1 message

Becca McLeish [REDACTED]

10 November 2021 at 12:08

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-mick.tomlinson@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-ash.ashbee@thanet.gov.uk

Hi there,

I hope you are all well.

I wanted to reach out with a plea to save the venue 'Faith In Strangers' in Margate, a venue that is enormously important to not only my mental health, but to the health and wellbeing of so many who pass through its doors on a regular basis.

I am a freelance music, arts and film publicist who relies on Faith In Strangers to feel a sense of belonging and community. Without it, I would be working from home without any interaction and feel a great sense of isolation and solitude. The venue has become a hub for individuals to work and engage with others whilst also becoming a safe space, a place of calm, as well as a place to unwind. Having recently moved to Margate, it was a great joy to find a space to come every day to work with like-minded people who chose to escape the rat-race of London and seek somewhere more tranquil.

Aside from the selfish personal reasons I have listed, it is concerning that Margate will lose a venue that is putting money into the economy and I fear that it could have a knock on effect. The nightlife economy is so imperative to a local area, and after a year+ of venue closures, it's an essential part of life for so many who need to get out and let off some steam. Towns like Margate thrive when spaces like FIS open, the magnitude of its closure is insurmountable and will only cause other potential business owners to approach with serious caution, and therefore avoid ever investing in the area.

As someone who works in the music and nightlife industry, I cannot vouch how important a space like Faith In Strangers is. Not to mention the fact that everyone who uses the space to work is propping up the economy of small businesses locally, going out for lunch every day, paying taxes to the local council, and maintaining the buzz of the town.

I implore you to really consider the effect that this closure will have on the local economy and community.

Best wishes,

--

Becca McLeish
COUSIN
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Save Faith In Strangers

1 message

Emma Jane Palin <[REDACTED]>

14 November 2021 at 15:32

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, "MACKINLAY, Craig" <craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk>

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my concern of the Noise Abatement Notice and Premises Licence Review issue by TDC against community hub and venue, Faith In Strangers.

As someone who has co-worked in the space from the outset, visited the venue at night and watched as the team struggled to get through Covid, I am deeply saddened to hear that this cultural and creative space is at risk of not being able to operate fully. The work that has gone into this space is undeniable and relies heavily on being able to operate on a weekend.

My own experience of visiting here is that it is chilled, laidback and a positive evening space. I have experienced disruptive behaviour elsewhere in Margate, but never here.

If people choose to buy property above commercial spaces, they should understand that those businesses operate. Do we really want to start wiping out community spaces and go backwards with the development of Margate? We're not far out of the woods of most units being completely empty, and just because the area is now seen as "trendy" does not mean that the rejuvenation can be monopolised by people who just want a slice of the investment potential. It's so important that we protect these unique spaces that make Margate home for so many.

I hope that you will take the above into consideration when reviewing this license.

Best wishes,
Emma Jane Palin

Interior designer and writer
[REDACTED]

Emma Jane Palin

[emmajanepalin.com](https://www.instagram.com/emmajanepalin) - Instagram



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Save Faith In Strangers

1 message

Henry Maddicott <[REDACTED]>

15 November 2021 at 14:42

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, suzy@galemail.com

Dear Licensing Department at Thanet Council and Local Councillors,

I am writing to you today about an urgent matter. This is the news that the license of the workspace and venue 'Faith In Strangers' is under review. Let me state clearly my deep concern at this and the negative impact this will have to Margate and Cliftonville. Rather than dwell on the negatives, allow me to talk about all the good that this space does

My Name is Henry Maddicott. I am a 27 year old poet, playwright and community based artist living at [REDACTED]. I moved to Margate 2.5 years ago, initially only for a couple of months though I soon fell in love with the area as so many others have done. A huge part of this was the sense of community I found in a town where I knew almost no one, at this community was found at Faith In Strangers.

As a workspace, it was massively beneficial for my mental and physical health, providing me with a well equipped space to work in, away from home and encouraging me to get out of the house everyday during a period of mental ill health. The warm, safe and inviting environment they have fostered there made me feel right at home. Richard and Jeremy themselves were vital to this, always checking in with me in their relaxed and friendly manner while introducing workspace users to each other. This space has allowed me to make friends while increasing my output of work drastically to the point where as an emerging creative I can make a sustainable living. They have even offered to support me in hosting poetry nights to give local artists a platform to develop alongside industry leading poets from around the country. Had it not been for all of this, I would not still be here.

However, the workspace alone is not solely responsible for the sense of community that now thrives on this patch of road. The evening venue is just as, if not more, important. Where the workspace caters to those in certain industries, the evening venue is open to everyone and is imbued with the same sense of warmth, community and safety as its daytime purpose.

For adults of all ages, but particularly for younger demographics, it provides another reason to stay, live and grow in a small town like Margate instead of moving to the city (not to mention the jobs it creates for bar staff/ managers/ DJs/ musicians). Female members of my friendship group especially request to go there due to how safe they feel compared to some other venues in town (particularly with the current stories in the news).

Before Faith In Strangers opened, I myself used to feel unsafe walking home along this road at night after visiting friends or seeing a show at Tom Thumb Theatre. Now, it always feels safe and welcoming. Faith In Strangers is managing to rewrite the reputation of this part of town.

It is a destination bar and those who travel to it also spend their money in other venues around this area contributing to the local economy. The night time economy for the bar allows the workspace to stay open and affordable, without it, either the cost would be unaffordable for someone like me or the whole place would have to close.

The community would cease to grow, work would be less sustainable and the draw of safe but exciting nightlife would fall apart.

Is that somewhere you would want to remain? Please support Faith In Strangers to remain open and continue to grow.

Best wishes
Henry Maddicott

--

Henry Maddicott
(Henry Madd)
Rough Cut Collective
Poet, Theatre Maker, Event Producer.





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Save Faith in Strangers

1 message

Scott Albon

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

10 November 2021 at 10:41

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write this email to voice my concern and show my support for Faith in Strangers in Margate.

The recent news that the space is under threat of closure due to noise complaints has come as a shock and concern. The space is an important part of my life and my work, closure would personally impact me massively.

I am a Creative Director and Designer with over 20 years of experience, and this year I decided to set out on my own given the instability I was experiencing in full-time employment due to the pandemic. That prompted a move to Margate with Faith in Strangers being a key part of that decision, as it provided an affordable co-working space with the opportunity to meet like minded people and connect with the community of Margate creatives.

It has and continues to be a brilliant space to do just that, it is much more than just a co-working space, it is a cultural hub with the evening activities being a big part of that. I have enjoyed on many occasions the music in the evenings and have been proud to invite friends, both local and visiting to experience this pioneering space and the events and music.

I believe closure would have far reaching effects for many and impact the local area and surrounding businesses. What Faith in Strangers will do in the long run for the community I believe will be huge, but even from a very simple day to day commerce point of view, I know myself and so many others inadvertently support the surrounding shops, cafes, bars and restaurants, every single day we are there, wether for services, materials, lunch or simply coffee.

A space that is so committed to being there for Margate with a community that is so much a part of it, surely deserves to be there for the long run for everyone.

I hope you understand my concern and will listen to the community and all our opinions.

Thank you for you time reading this,

Kind regards,

Scott.

Creative Director





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Save Faith In Strangers

1 message

Tom Rogers

15 November 2021 at 08:40

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in support of Faith in Strangers and their license review. It has been extremely worrying to see how swiftly this has happened and seemingly without due care and considerations.

I am a member of the workspace at Faith In Strangers the opportunity and benefits it has provided me with are huge. It allowed myself and my business partner to setup our design practice with a professional and affordable space – one where clients, from around the world, are excited to come to. Without a space like this we would more than likely be travelling into London and working at design agencies there. Instead we have been lucky enough to have a base where we can run and grow our business from – something Margate should be encouraging. Spaces like this are hard to find and it should be protected at all costs. The space is thriving with talented people, who are all adding to the community here. Also, consider the knock on effects to surrounding businesses should Cliftonville lose a space like this – the amount of coffee's purchased, breakfasts, lunches etc – as place for other businesses to operate and grow, Faith In Strangers has provided a boost in the local economy and local businesses.

There are also the mental health benefits that having a space like this has. During the pandemic when human contact has been extremely limited, the fact that the team at Faith In Strangers were able to continue to operate a safe environment should be commended. As someone who has had mental health struggles throughout their life, having a space to go to where I felt safe and also allowed for a form of connection and social contact with others was hugely important.

This is not just about a physical space though, but about what that space represents and creates – a culture. The cultural impact of a venue like this is huge – the opportunity for events, art, music, technology etc is huge and should be encouraged, not shut down. The growing community of Thanet needs spaces like this. The team at Faith In Strangers have such an exciting vision for putting on a programme of events that will not just make waves in Margate, but across the UK.

The space was designed and built for 'leisure' and has historically been a nightclub. I have regularly visited the space in the evening and found it to be nothing but an exciting, welcoming and safe space – we live on a neighbouring street and not once have we seen or heard anything from here. The staff are brilliant, the musical acts that they have put on are exciting and diverse.

Without a space like Faith In Strangers, the opportunity for people growing up in the area to start businesses of their own, or to have a space that is professional and specified properly for remote working is lost. A space like this grows entrepreneurial culture, it attracts talent and creates it. People need to see that it is supported and know that they have the opportunity to stay and work in the local area rather than leave to find work.

For the sake of Cliftonville and it's development I hope that the big picture is taken into account here and that an exciting, welcoming and culturally relevant business is supported rather than penalised.

Name: Tom Rogers**Address:** [REDACTED]**Occupation:** Co-founder of design agency based in Margate.

Best,
Tom Rogers
Creative Partner

—

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—



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

SUPPORT FIS

1 message

kelvin

16 November 2021 at 18:46

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

To Thanet Licensing,

I am writing to you as the main contractor and current customer of Faith In Strangers and former customer of Franks. I'm born and raised in Thanet and the improvement in this area is important to me.

I met Richard and Jeremy in 2018, when they were asking my firm Techno Timber Construction to quote for the initial work to bring the old Franks club back into working order. Part of their spec was to install a lot of soundproofing. One of the reasons they went with us is because we had experience of this type of fit out having worked on other buildings with this kind of soundproofing and we agreed to take on the job with FIS.

Soundproofing adds a lot of additional labour costs, we used furniture and fittings from Christie & Grey along with their tech specs and some additional acoustic neoprene sheet materials from delta rubber. The structures are all light weight metal frame stud work that absorbs less sound. Plasterboard is 15mm, doubled up and overlapped, with a thick rockwool slab (RW3) behind and an airgap of minimum 100mm between the rockwool and the structural concrete. We also lagged down pipes that run through the floors and into the flats with acoustic pipe wrap. Walls and permanent structures such as the bar sit on acoustic pads, which again is from Christie & Grey. The main acoustic ceiling itself, which is under the flats is on rubber acoustic hangers, which carry on into the kitchen. We even went to the unusual length of isolating the AC units on acoustic springs. It has to be said none of this was required for building regs PART E, their approach to soundproofing was a touch OCD and I don't think anyone else would of done what they did and to the details, they clearly wanted to protect themselves and others from any future problems. Above and beyond what I have come across before. We have pictures of a lot of the build process and are happy to share.

As a customer of FIS and Franks, I love music and this building has been a big part of my life growing up in Margate and now its back in use will be a big part of my life again. What is noise to some people is music and socialising to others. I can only offer support to what those boys are doing and hope that TDC work with them. The work we did for them has been a factor that my firm has been able to grow into what it is today.

Regards

Kelvin Joy





TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Support for Faith in Strangers license

1 message

sophie williamson [REDACTED] >

12 November 2021 at 09:27

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, savefis@faithinstrangers.co.uk

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing in support of the vital role of Faith in Strangers and the need to retain their nighttime licence. During the day I work in the shared workspace and value their nighttime programme of live music and events; it was a key reason why I chose to move to Margate.

Without culture, society lacks its life-blood; we need music, art, literature, tv, film, design and fashion to make life what it is! Yet, many of the creatives that produce this live on precarious incomes making it impossible to sustain in the expensive cities. Towns such as Margate offer the opportunity for us to do what we love and believe in; and an influx of creatives to the seaside towns across the South East are creating thriving creative hubs, with new economies that are rejuvenating local infrastructure and communities. Venues such as Faith in Strangers are vital to this regeneration; a place for creatives to meet and be inspired.

Margate will become an incredible, culturally rich and diverse exemplar for the possibilities of cultural and economic rejuvenation in the UK, providing an inspiring environment for locals and tourists – but only if the council supports this. Allowing creative hubs such as Faith in Strangers to fall under threat sends a dangerous message out to other creative organisations looking to invest in the town. Why Margate, when Hastings or Folkstone offer a more supportive and secure environment from the council?

We all want to see Margate thrive. As a visual art curator, with 16 years experience in major London and international venues, it gives me great hope to see artists moving to Margate:

- artists from diverse backgrounds, who give the cultural landscape the breadth of insight it so vitally needs, are able to thrive here
- work made feasible in Margate is exhibited locally, nationally and international inspiring large and diverse audiences
- artists working with local young people and communities inspire new ways of thinking, empowering their voices and offering alternative education through grassroots networks

Artists will only continue to move here though if there is a cultural infrastructure that supports their work. Faith in Strangers is a key venue for this. It offers a vital, close-knit and supportive work environment, bringing together creatives who share and support one another in a way that I have never experienced elsewhere. It is the only venue in Margate that brings together a professional, active hub of creatives.

Margate needs culture and community to thrive: public funding for the arts is being slashed across the board nationwide and community-minded businesses like Faith in Strangers are being depended on to take up the slack. We need to support creative business ventures, and Faith in Strangers especially offers a robust business that can, with your support, be a cornerstone for Kent culture for decades to come.

I realise that the decision that you make will be based on licensing laws, but I compel you to consider the wider cultural value of the business, which needs its license to survive and provide this vital support to a growing community.

Yours sincerely,
Sophie Williamson
Curator
[REDACTED]

--

Sophie J Williamson
[REDACTED]
undeadmatter.com
@undead_matter



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Support for Faith in Strangers

1 message

stevie tyler [REDACTED]

16 November 2021 at 13:42

To: TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "Cllr-Alan Currie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Heather Keen (Councillor)" <Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Harry Scobie (Councillor)" <Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk>, CRAIG.MACKINLAY.MP@parliament.uk

Dear TDC councillors and local MP

I am writing to express my support for Faith in Strangers, and my concern about the noise abatement notice, and the premises licence review.

As a local resident, I am alarmed to learn that just one complaint by a resident can put licences like this at risk. Even more so, to learn that this can happen even if someone moved in nearby when the venue already exists. If this is the case, does this mean all our venues are at risk of closure from one complaint? We know businesses cannot be viable without these licences, as evening entertainment and nightlife are what makes venues like this economically viable.

As the CEO of The Aplastic Anemia Trust (<https://www.theaat.org.uk>), a charity registered and operating out of Margate, I fully support all aspects of the work Faith in Strangers does. Jeremy and Richard have offered us access to the space for events and professional meetings and I can't wait to take them up on this offer as we move back to in person events.

Spaces like this, with music and drinks licences, are essential for charities like ours to bring people together and fundraise.

As an artist and performer, I am also a member of a poetry collective (Orangesrhyme.com) which is taking part in the Power of Women festival next year, and Faith in Strangers will be an essential venue for making this vital festival a success. Their continuous support of the arts and music scene is one of the key reasons Thanet is seeing such a boom in tourism and regeneration to the town. I worry about where events like this will go if their licence is revoked.

Faith in Strangers was my working place during the first few months in my new job, it provided me with a warm welcome and working space, and some friendly faces. During the pandemic, working from home became increasingly isolating and I was so grateful to have them.

This venue generates income, tourism and jobs for the local economy. It makes no sense to sacrifice this, and open the floodgates for similar complaints, simply because someone moves there, in full knowledge that the venue exists, and decides to complain.

Margate is renewing and creating a really positive culture, building on its heritage as a town to visit for the nightlife, so I sincerely hope this review falls in favour of Faith in Strangers.

Many thanks

Stevie Tyler
CEO
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Support for Faith In Strangers

1 message

Ed Hope <[REDACTED]>

10 November 2021 at 22:14

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk

CC'ed Mr C Mackinlay MP, Mr A Currie, Ms H Keen, Mr H Scobie

FAO Licensing Officer at Thanet District Council

Hello,

I'm emailing to offer my support as a resident of [REDACTED] for the continued licensing at Faith In Strangers ([17 Ethelbert Crescent](#)).

I have heard from the owners that there are potential threats to their license, and therefore I wanted to highlight with you my positive experience of the space. I have also CC'ed in councillors and my local MP to encourage their support.

As an emergency medicine doctor I have used the space as a calm study space for my recent post-graduate examinations, as well as a social space on many occasions when the lockdowns have allowed. I find the staff and patrons to be the friendliest and most respectful of all the late night places in Margate, and so would not want to see this disappear.

Kind regards

Dr Edward Hope BMBS Msc
GMC 7491909
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Support for Faith in Strangers

1 message

Emily Rogers [REDACTED]

16 November 2021 at 09:24

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Councillor/s,

I am writing to you in support of Faith in Strangers due to their license review. As a member of Faith in Strangers for over a year, I can honestly say that the workspace, network and social aspect of the space have been a lifeline to me during a difficult 12 months.

Having access to such a high quality workspace and network of professionals, was one of the key drivers for me setting up my own business in Margate in September 2021. Before that, I was working for a company in London and commuting regularly, spending little time in Margate. I genuinely wasn't aware of the breadth of exciting business opportunities available in Margate, until I met the network of people using the Faith in Strangers workspace and online portal. To be able to work in an environment that is of London quality in terms of the physical space (including the vocal booth and meeting room) and the events it offers - but close to home, is so beneficial to the community here.

My clients are always really impressed by the workspace, and it often results in them asking for F2F meetings in Margate to come and experience it. Not only that, but because the space becomes an events space in the evening, it further encourages people to come and stay for the night / weekend. I have often ended up giving people recommendations for places to stay, eat, shops to visit - all because clients and friends have been impressed by Faith in Strangers and wanted to come to one of their nights.

Often, just a picture of the space / a review of a night / a re-post of a dj playing / the lights / the view, is enough to encourage people to reach out on social media and ask questions, then book a trip. The impact of a high quality space such as this, offering such incredible access to world class music has had an untold benefit on the community, local businesses and tourism. It's truly helped to make Margate a destination for culture.

As the space has historically been a nightclub, I find it hard to believe that anyone can complain that it has been reinstated as such - especially one of this quality. Cliftonville has desperately needed a night time venue of the standard of Faith in Strangers, I've lived here for 3 years and have seen so many changes for the positive since it opened.

The benefits seem endless and so clear to see. A number of local businesses have since opened in Cliftonville and Northdown Road, the vast majority of members at Faith now buy their coffee locally, buy lunch locally, have a drink after work locally, experience music locally - all because they have a space to work and socialise in Margate. Not only that, but how many people would have previously been travelling back into London, keeping their work and businesses in London, spending their money in London and socialising / enjoying the nightlife in London instead?

There is no doubt that Faith in Strangers has put Margate on the map as a worthy alternative to London for culture, business opportunities and live events. If we lose any aspect of it, it will be a huge loss to the local community and the tourism it undoubtedly encourages all year around.

Name: Emily Rogers**Address:** [REDACTED]**Occupation:** Marketing Consultant based in Margate

Best Wishes,

Emily Rogers

Marketing Consultant
[REDACTED]



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Support for Faith in Strangers

1 message

Steve Miller <[REDACTED]>

15 November 2021 at 17:03

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk, galerj@parliament.uk, cllr-sam.bambridge@thanet.gov.uk, cllr-bertie.braidwood@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Matthew.Scott@thanet.gov.uk

Dear representatives of Thanet,

I'm writing to express my support for Faith in Strangers, ahead of their licence hearing. I'm hoping you will also lend your support to them too.

Having moved to Thanet a year ago, Faith in Strangers has proved to be an invaluable resource - not only in terms of providing an affordable, accessible co-working space, but also in terms of the high calibre connections they've facilitated and the richness their cultural programme has brought to Margate and Thanet more widely.

I've been really impressed by their vision and entrepreneurship, and I've not experienced another venue like this in Thanet. I was disappointed to hear their licence is being reviewed following a noise complaint from a single household. As their business model relies on income from busy Fri and Sat nights, this threatens the future of the co-working space, which is an economic multiplier in terms of the people it attracts into Thanet and the connections it facilitates.

I have 15 years experience in community and economic development, and know that if neighbourhoods such as Cliftonville West and Margate more widely are to overcome the challenges they face, then businesses such as this have a key role to play. And alongside the closure of other cultural venues such as the Winter Garden and the Theatre Royal, I fear revoking their licence will be another step backwards for cultural life in Thanet too.

I hope you will join me in lending your support to Faith in Strangers.

Kind regards,

Stephen Miller
[REDACTED]

Director, The Power to Change Trust
Chair, Cliftonville Cultural Space



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Unfair treatment of Faith In Strangers, Cliftonville.

1 message

Steven Welton <[REDACTED]>

10 November 2021 at 11:52

Reply-To: Steven Welton <stevenwelton@protonmail.com>

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "cllr-Charlie.Leys@thanet.gov.uk" <cllr-Charlie.Leys@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Horace.Shrubb@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Horace.Shrubb@thanet.gov.uk>, "Cllr-Cedric.Towning@thanet.gov.uk" <Cllr-Cedric.Towning@thanet.gov.uk>

Dear Licensing department & councillors.

I write to you as an extremely concerned patron of the local business "Faith In Strangers", of [17 Ethelbert Crescent, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 2DY](#) (to be known throughout this e-mail as "FIS")

I have been a member here since they first opened and also I have worked for the owners of the business, so I use the facility personally in 2 ways, primarily as a patron for use as an office and also in the evenings for events, but secondarily as a client.

Along with many other small businesses in the area, I have been struggling to make ends meet and found that the excellent facilities and like minded forward thinking people that run and attend FIS have been a lifeline.

Not only this, but in the area where I live and work, I have long felt that cultural differences have not been integrated in any meaningful way. This is not true at FIS and there is a wonderful open minded, all inclusive ideology that permeates through the business and pleasure sides of this venture.

I have personally networked with many of the members here and feel that the unfair treatment of the business owners because of unsubstantiated complaints is completely outrageous and should not be upheld under any circumstances.

I understand it is alleged that there have been issues with volume levels and the conduct of customers. I have been to many events here and have not witnessed any situations that this could be an issue. Everyone attending the premises has always been nothing but polite, orderly and respectful to the local environment and neighbours.

I must stress that this venue was used as a nightclub for many years and I cannot understand why anyone that lives above such a venue would expect to live in unadulterated silence at all times. I myself have lived above venues and upon taking over the property it was understood that I walked into the contract fully knowing the operating hours and usage of the venue below, which is what I understand this situation to be, therefore I simply cannot understand why any complaint can be upheld.

As far as I know, it is completely ungrounded and therefore is just putting immense pressure on the owners to somehow justify their business in a situation that should never have arisen, but because TDC have decided to honour the complaint, we now find ourselves possibly about to lose one of the best things to happen to this area for a long time, IT IS OUTRAGEOUS!

We live in a depressed area that has only partially recovered from the hotels closing in the 1970s, being left to rot, then being converted into bedsits by slum landlords who have ruined many beautiful buildings in this locality. I am aware that some buildings have been renovated, however, the area remains culturally gridlocked without cohesive services for those who may have moved to this country and do not have English as a first language.

When I see young entrepreneurs that not only have excellent business ideas but have their heart on their sleeve and work unbelievably hard to attempt to swim against the current of the degradation of the past 40 years and try to make something positive that is a shining beacon for inclusivity across all areas of society, whether it be the LGBTQ community, empowering women or ensuring all ethnicities and cultures can feel safe and welcome in a beautiful environment, I support them fully and unreservedly.

They have created work for local businesses IN A PANDEMIC where they have overcome many financial challenges for the benefit of their members and the wider community, they have innovated with the amazing electronics and systems within FIS that is cutting edge, unique and has attracted musicians and talent from all over the world to the venue, where no one else locally is doing anything similar, especially in such an intimate and fantastic acoustic environment.

I also do not understand why anyone would uphold a complaint against this venue, when only recently they were awarded a financial boost from Arts Council England, meaning they would have been scrutinised and vetted with the due diligence process, which they won and deservedly so. They will NOT BE ABLE TO OPERATE purely on income

from members with the venue being used solely as a co-working space, so the license and use of the venue for evening and weekend events IS VITAL TO THEIR SURVIVAL.

Should any decision from TDC to take the license away from the venue be upheld, this will have a profound and long term effect on members and patrons of the venue.

This property closed many years ago and this venture is not some type of short term heartless business purely for financial gain, like a McDonalds. If you want to close a venue for bad behaviour of patrons in a residential area, you should target McDonalds in Margate High Street as it is known for constant antisocial behaviour, please do not focus on a small independent venue that has struggled through 3 years to get somewhere, through a pandemic, just to be closed as a result of your decision.

Please do the right thing and allow them to retain their license which will enable this venue to flourish, for the benefit of EVERYONE locally.

Kind regards

Steven Welton

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

URGENT: Faith In Strangers - Noise Abatement and Upcoming Licensing Review - RESPONSE REQUIRED

1 message

Sarah Hakewill

14 November 2021 at 15:30

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: cllr-Charlie.Lays@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Horace.Shrubbs@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Cedric.Towning@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is my understanding that there has been a Noise Abatement Notice issued against my shared workspace and local arts venue Faith in Strangers, and that a Premises License Review is due to take place soon.

I am shocked and extremely disappointed by this news as Faith in Strangers is one of the most professional and considerate venues I've ever visited and provides **outstanding support to me and the wider business community** here in Margate and beyond. **Jeremy and Richard are kind and considerate business owners who keep the community at the heart of their business.** If they are unable to play music later into the evening, then their business is no longer sustainable and they would be forced to close. This will have a **devastating impact on a wide range of businesses and charities as well as our local community** who love having such a brilliant arts venue in Cliftonville.

In my role as business consultant and strategist for AG Comms - **I support a number of high profile global businesses - including the Research and Development Team at Astra Zeneca who were responsible for developing the Covid vaccine.** My work is extremely confidential and often very reactive, and so I rely on secure and super fast wifi at FIS for client video calls and presentations. This simply wouldn't be possible from my home as the services available in CT9 are so limited. **The facilities and community support for business owners at FIS are essential, and without them - growth and collaboration opportunities would be extremely limited.**

Another important benefit of using a shared workspace is the **support and connection I get from other members.** It's a tough gig running a business on my own as well as living alone. That can feel overwhelming at times and have a negative effect on my mental health. If this happens, then I'm unable to do my job. **Having other business owners to connect with at FIS really does make a difference** and even the most basic human connection can feel like therapy on a bad day.

We should be encouraging and supporting arts venues like this in Cliftonville. **Faith In Strangers is safe, is well-managed and provides employment to young local people.** It's great to have a brilliant space that offers such a variety of music and entertainment - located less than a 10 min walk home. I've seen some incredible musicians play there since it opened and it's creating really positive interest in Cliftonville as an arts location. The customers FIS attracts are always so lovely and respectful - so I'm really struggling to understand where noise complaints are coming from? I've never witnessed any noise outside and you can easily hold a conversation in the bar over the music.

I would like you to understand and consider just how many businesses and livelihoods are affected by this review. It would have a devastating affect on the local community groups who rely on their facilities too. **Please respond by return to update me on this case:**

Sarah Hakewill

Best regards,
Sarah



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

URGENT: Faith In Strangers

1 message

Raven Bush <[REDACTED]>

16 November 2021 at 12:07

To: licensing@thanet.gov.uk

Cc: craig.mackinlay.mp@parliament.uk, Cllr-Alan.Currie@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Heather.Keen@thanet.gov.uk, Cllr-Harry.Scobie@thanet.gov.uk

Dear Thanet Licensing,

I am writing to you about the potential threat a local cultural hub is facing due to a Noise Abatement Notice issued against it. Im shocked and saddened to hear about this. This feels all too familiar.

I have grown up and lived between Kent and London my whole life. From University onwards I lived in London, thriving in the environment it provided for me, as a musician and artist, Roll forward 15 years and now im back living in Margate, the reason being that now is such a brilliant and inspiring time to be here, due to these new and exciting spaces opening up.

What I believe the cultural space in question Faith in Strangers offers, is something truly world class, in their approach to everything they do. This is something we should be celebrating, not closing.

They offer an experience which would rival any top cultural space in Tokyo, LA, London etc, to have this as a local asset is so so special.

Unfortunately i've seen this before.

When I was younger growing up in Canterbury, the only music venue they had was called Orange Street Music Club, the fact this space existed gave birth to a generation of musicians including myself, because we had space to build a scene around. Live music stopped because of a Noise Abatement Notice issued by a local resident and just like that the music scene we created dissipated into various other forms and moved on out of that City.

In my mind, Faith in Strangers brings incredible assets into our community, including focus towards Science, Technology, Music and general excitement about what's possible with our reality on this earth. This kind of big thinking and bold ideas is what our community needs, it would be such a shame to loose it.

I've decided to raise my 2 children in Margate, because of the opportunities that are here, I feel like they will be inspired and supported by what this town has to offer.

Please can we keep the positive forward motion with whats making this town actually great, rather than putting an end to it so soon.

Sincerely,

Raven Bush



TDC Licensing <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

'Faith in Strangers' licensing letter of support

1 message

Horstmann Jakob

9 November 2021 at 16:51

To: "licensing@thanet.gov.uk" <licensing@thanet.gov.uk>

Cc: "lesley.game@kent.gov.uk" <lesley.game@kent.gov.uk>

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jakob Horstmann, I currently reside at [REDACTED], and I have lived and worked in Margate as a freelance commissioning editor for academic books for nearly three years now. This is regarding the Noise Abatement Notice and subsequent Premises Licence Review against the workspace and events venue Faith in Strangers (FiS) on Ethelbert Crescent. With this letter I'd like to show my strong support for the venue on several grounds.

Firstly, on a purely personal level, FiS has been absolutely instrumental in my individual well-being during the Covid-19 pandemic as well as incredibly helpful in the process of my becoming part of an active, vibrant community here in Margate, where I was, frankly, struggling to find much social cohesion before joining FiS. Especially during the first lockdown, when FiS was able to remain open while all of the cafes I would usually seek refuge from my tiny home office in were shut, FiS was essentially the only connection to an outside social world worth mentioning, and the positive effect of that on whatever sanity I was able to retain throughout that period cannot be overestimated.

Also after the lockdown ended, FiS has proven to be a major cog of social and professional life for myself and many other workspace members. I find this point hard to overstate: There is now a real community of brilliant, successful people in the heart of seafront Cliftonville where before there was none, and the intangible benefits of this on what the Daily Mail recently so charmingly termed the 'hipster renaissance' of Margate must be, in my opinion, simply off the charts. FiS has already become a hallmark of the 'new Margate' way beyond town limits. When I speak to Londoners about where I work, for example, many will already have heard of FiS without knowing much else about the area.

Leading on from this, and on a much less personal level, it is completely clear to me that the existence of FiS in its current form is of enormous benefit for other businesses in the area, and consequently the town as a whole. To state the most obvious, if smallest, example first, the amount of money the workspace members like myself spend every month on lunches, coffees etc. alone must amount to many thousands, keeping surrounding businesses afloat.

But on a much grander scale, the effects of a first-class event space like this on the town's nascent reputation as a cultural hub are surely something other District Councils would, metaphorically speaking, kill for. I'm not sure to what extent TDC is aware of just how special, well-equipped and, frankly, ridiculously sophisticated FiS is even among comparable venues. When allowed to operate without constraints, pandemic-related or otherwise, FiS is certain to attract some major artists, brands, tourists and – again – business to a part of Margate that if we're being honest has not had a ton of good things happening for itself over the past few decades. The idea that TDC would work towards closing such a space with apparent zeal is entirely incomprehensible to me.

I very much hope that FiS will be allowed to remain open and keep providing the wonderful services to the community it has managed to create against the odds and despite its relatively brief existence already. The potential of this place is considerable, and its closure would surely send a terrible signal to other innovative entrepreneurs considering their options of investment in the area.

I remain at your disposal if you would like me to expand on any of the above points.

With best wishes,

jh

jakob horstmann
www.jhpublishing.net
Margate, UK
[REDACTED]



FIS04

Faith In Strangers <hello@faithinstrangers.co.uk>

FW: New Letting at 1 CLIFTONVILLE COURT

2 messages

George Bowra <[REDACTED]>
To: Faith In Strangers <[REDACTED]>

26 October 2021 at 10:24



GEORGE BOWRA

Managing Director

Mobile: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

From: nigel pope <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 26 October 2021 10:40
To: George Bowra <george@bowragroup.co.uk>
Subject: Re: New Letting at 1 CLIFTONVILLE COURT

George,

Just to clarify the situation, my property is available for sale due to a change in personal circumstances and for no other reason.

As discussed I recently retired and realising my assets seemed beneficial at this time.

My sale is in no way linked to issues between a shop tenant and the flats located directly above them.

As a previous owner occupier, I was fortunate that the location of my flat meant that any noises from these premises were outside my property and did not affect me.

Regards

Nigel Pope

mb: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Managing Director

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: nigel pope [REDACTED]

Sent: 22 October 2021 08:43

To: George Bowra [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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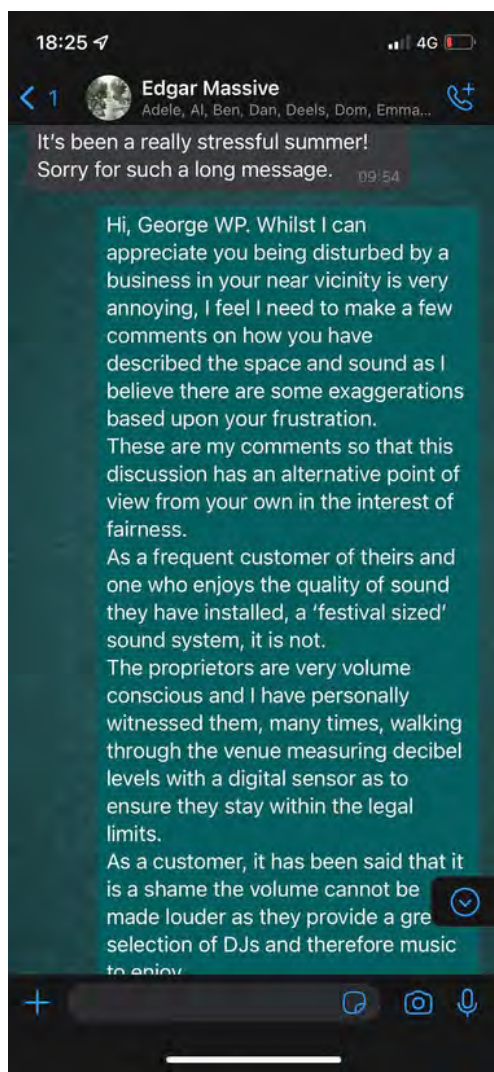
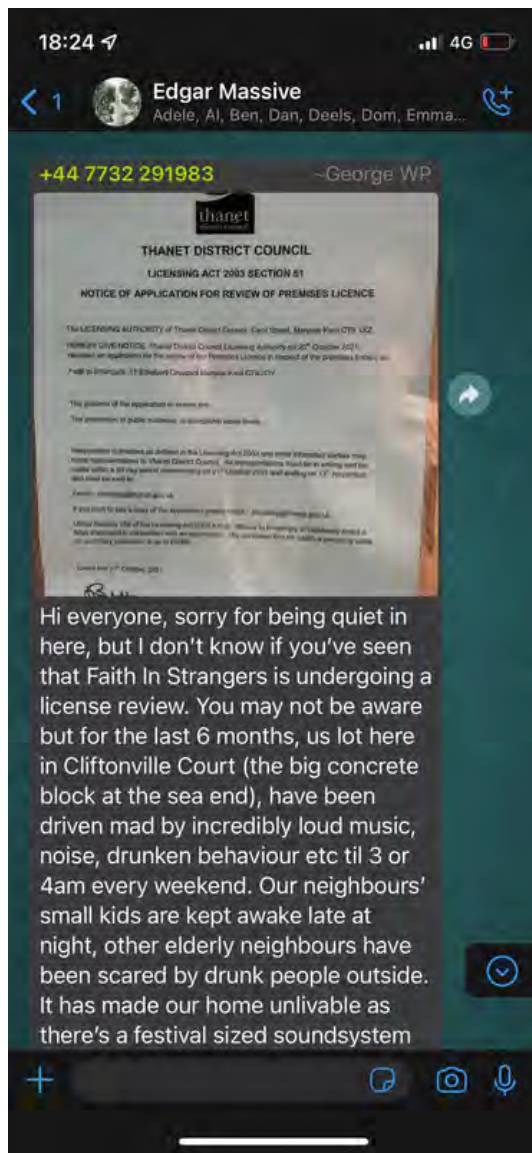
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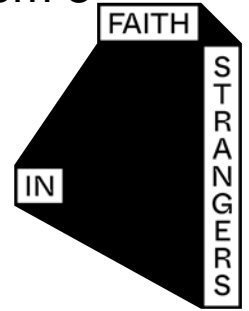
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FIS07



Operating Schedule

Edition: May 2021

Premises Address

Faith In Strangers, 17 Ethelbert Crescent, CT9 2DY

Description of Premises

The old Franks Nightclub is on the north-east corner of the Cliftonville Leisure Centre Complex. The site also contains Buggy's Bowling Alley, Cains Amusements, Olympia Cafe, Rendezvous and Black Axe company, as well as twelve flats known as Cliftonville Court set back from the front. The site also benefits from being under one ownership.

Franks has been vacant since the early 2000s. The rest of the site is active and in full and diverse occupancy. The facade, which faces out onto a beautiful coastal vista, has recently been refurbished to its original 1960s glory. Both levels were previously occupied by a traditional pub called The Bowlers Arms, for nearly 40 years.

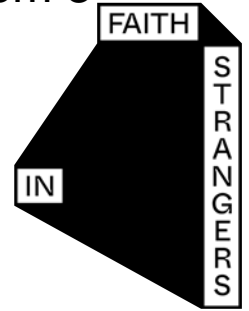
Faith In Strangers provides a place for freelancers, small businesses and entrepreneurs to develop their practises along with a 350 capacity music, arts and cultural venue in the evenings and weekends. A commercial kitchen is currently being built so it will also operate as a restaurant in the near future.

Access

Entrance is from the mainroad, Ethelbert Crescent, under the Buggy's Bowling signage. Door access is controlled through a smart lock system. Patrons have to either ring the doorbell or security staff can let them in. We try to promote reservations where possible, so that we have a greater awareness of who is in the venue. This will greatly increase when we offer food. We will also be launching a loyalty membership programme soon that will register the patrons identity and use of the venue.

Layout

The space is predominantly used as B1 Office space Monday to Friday daytimes. Members use the space to carry out the tasks associated with their individual companies and businesses. During evenings and weekends the space adapts into a social space, which will fall under a mixture of uses A3/A4/D1.



The premises is 550 sqm in total, of which 297.50sqm is used for licensing.

Office and Mixed Use Areas - 251.9sqm

Terrace - 29.6sqm

Bar area - 16sqm

Lobby - 30 sqm

Kitchen area - 25sqm

Toilets - 15.1 sqm

Rest of the premises are hallways, stairs and storage.
Please see 'Licensing Plan.pdf'

Operating Hours:

Opening Times

Office

Monday - Friday 08:00 - 18:00

Social Hours

Monday - Thursday - 18:00 - 01:00

Friday - Saturday - 11:00 - 03:00

Sunday - 11:00 - 01:00

Sale Of Alcohol

Sunday - Thursday 11:00 - 00:30

Friday - Saturday - 11:00 - 02:30

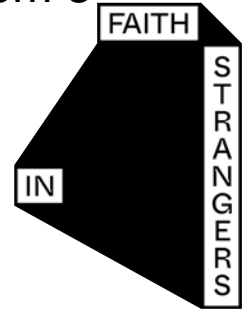
30 minutes drinking up time accounted for.

Licensable activities such as performances

Monday - Thursday - 18:00 - 00:30

Friday - Saturday - 11:00 - 02:30

Please note 30 minutes prior to closing for members to not rush out all at once.



Performance Space

The performance space will be a small area in front of the large panoramic windows, with the sea as the backdrop. Performances will range from screenings, music performances, academic talks, comedy, theatre and workshops. As well as offering a space for product launches and conventions. The venue is also offered for free to local charities and nonprofits.

Bar Offering

High quality alcohol ranging from craft beers and ales, fine wines, rare liquor and house cocktails are served.

Food Offering

Yet to be developed.

The Owners

Jeremy Duffy has owned and operated a successful bar/restaurant/cafe in Shoreditch since 2013. During this time Jeremy has overseen the numerous licensed events.

Richard Randles has 6 years experience in child protection and 10 years experience in fire safety and emergency response.

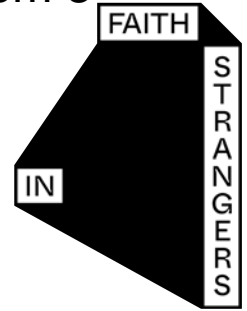
Jeremy and Richard have personal licences as well as having paid for the manager Jack Eastwood to do his.

Appearance

Housed on the first floor of a restored 1960's building, Faith In Strangers will have minimal impact on the public highway.

Licensable activities

- Playing recorded music (as background music)
- Performance of music, dance, plays, film screenings etc
- Sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises



Steps to Promote the Licensing Objectives

General

During the working week (Monday-Friday 0800-1800) Faith In Strangers is primarily a member lead workspace, promoting innovation, social responsibility and community. It's a place for creative professionals and artists to work in an environment suitable for and conducive to the forward thinking industries that they are part of.

Our aim is to create a familiar and familial membership base that has a vested interest in the space and *the surrounding community*.

During the evenings and weekends we operate as a bar and venue for events, which can be artistic, cultural, educational or charitable. The bar operations account for the majority of Faith In Strangers income.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The owners and managers of Faith In Strangers are aware of the problems alcohol presents in terms of violent crime and anti-social behaviour in the district and more beyond. The following steps have been taken to prevent problems arising as a result of our business operation.

- Comprehensive CCTV is fitted throughout the premises, internally and externally. This can be monitored both on and off site and recordings are kept for one month and made available to the police on request. Cameras cover all entrances and exits, the bar, and coverage of all licenable areas.
- Signage is displayed advising customers that CCTV is in operation.
- Drinks are not promoted irresponsibly.
- There is an outdoor terrace for smokers. After 2100, when the terrace is closed, smokers will be directed to use the area outside our front door.
- Free drinking water is offered to all customers.
- Staff will be trained to look out for unusual behaviour and check toilets for signs of drug taking during social periods.



- The management is aware of problems with gang related crime in the area. Because of the nature of the premises, we do not anticipate any gang related problems. Nonetheless, staff will be made aware of potential issues.
- Faith In Strangers is located on the main road, patrons will be able to walk down well-lit streets limiting the danger to people leaving the premises.
- Our location is served by various taxi companies and we will publicise their contact details on internal signage.
- All staff with alcohol serving responsibility will be trained in the licensing objectives.

Public Safety

- All building works comply with up to date Building Regulations.
- The capacity of our events comply with the parameters set by building regulations, fire safety and associated risk assessments.
- The premises are inclusive and will be designed to comply with approved document M – 2010.
- A suitable and sufficient Fire Risk Assessment has been carried out and will be reviewed annually.
- A suitable and sufficient Health and Safety Risk Assessment has been carried out.
- First Aid equipment is kept on site.
- Records of annual fire testing and electrical equipment testing are kept onsite.
- Unfortunately we are unable to provide wheelchair access to the first floor.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

Planning and licence conditions were passed;

14/8/2018 - Planning permission granted

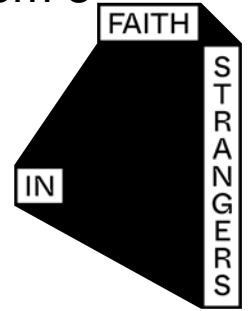
29/8/2018 - Premise licence issued



- Bins and glass recycling take place in the morning after 8am.
- Commercial waste is collected Tuesdays from the private communal bin store area at the back of the building. Collections will be increased if necessary.
- We have an 11 metre hallway entrance / lobby that help reduce queues.
- Deliveries come after 8am.
- Several local taxi firms serve the area. Customers are asked to wait inside our lobby until their taxi has arrived. Taxis will be able to collect from the main road, outside the premises, which should not disturb local residents.
- Patrons are asked to come inside once they have finished smoking.
- The premise is served by a public car park, which can be used by customers.
- External light will be restricted to the front entrance area and balcony. External light will be selected and sited so as not to cause light pollution that will not negatively affect local residents
- We do not anticipate crime nor disorder being a problem at our establishment, we aren't an obvious venue from the street entrance and our patrons know where they are going.
- Patrons are reminded that external CCTV will be checked
If there is anyone ever causing a public nuisance, they will be banned indefinitely.

Protection of Children from Harm

- Children are only permitted to be on the premises when accompanied and supervised by an adult.
- Children are generally not permitted on the premises beyond 18:00, unless at a dining or performance/community event.
- If alcohol is served at a food event during the day, a Challenge 25 scheme is employed and all staff are trained in respect of this.
- Children are not allowed in close proximity to the bar.
- There will be no entertainment of an adult or sexual nature or gambling on the premises.
- Children will not be in the premises when any film screenings or live performances that come with an 18+ certificate or are otherwise unsuitable for children are showing.



Our operations will also consider the following:

Waste, Recycling and Sustainability

- Faith In Strangers display signage for all appropriate waste and recycling procedures to make sure staff are aware of all regulations.
- Faith In Strangers have mixed recycling for cardboard waste and will have a weekly glass collection.
- Glass recycling will be dealt with in the allocated time slots to avoid noise pollution in the evening.
- Faith In Strangers clean areas of the street outside and notify the council of any waste left on the street nearby by external sources.
- Faith In Strangers avoid the use of plastic cups, straws and utensils wherever possible.
- Energy efficiency will be considered at every aspect of our daily operations.



FAITH IN STRANGERS LTD

SOUND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Edition: August 2021

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1.0 Location

Address: Faith In Strangers LTD
17 Ethelbert Crescent, Cliftonville, CT9 2DY

Faith In Strangers is located within one of the only large hospitality buildings in Cliftonville. It's situated in a prominent position on the seafront and mainroad. The building consists of five occupied commercial entities, 12 residential flats and a public car park.

1.1 Site History

The building is on the site of where the Cliftonville Hotel stood, before it was destroyed by fire. The new building named Cliftonville Leisure Complex was built in the 1950s to host a purpose built pub, nightclub, bowling alley and petrol station. Over the years the bowling alley and licensed premises have remained in essence despite changes in ownership.

1.2 Hours Of Operation & Activity

08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday

Faith In Strangers operates as a workspace for designers, artists and creative professions during the traditional working week.

On the evenings and weekends the venue operates as an event space with licensable entertainment with a sound system.

18:00 - 01:00 - Mon - Thursday

18:00 - 03:00 - Friday

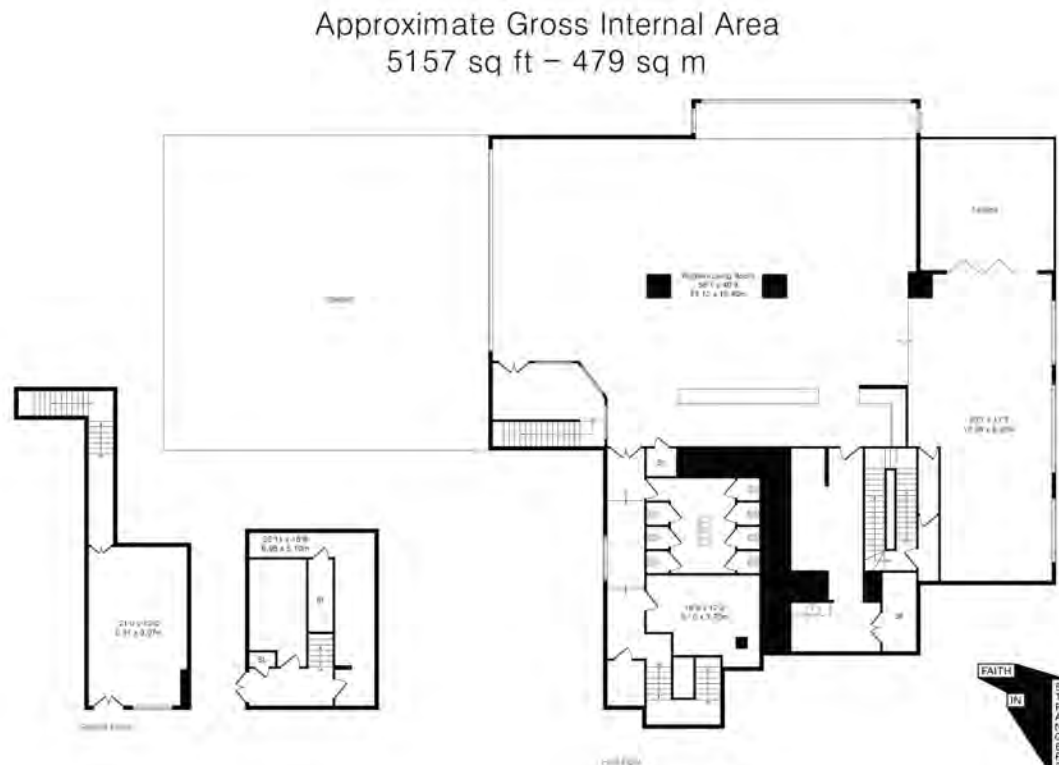
11:00 - 03:00 - Saturday (and on Bank Holiday Sundays)

11:00 - 01:00 - Sunday

Faith In Strangers is a 350 capacity cultural venue and creative hub. The cultural programme consists of live performance, amplified music, science, technology, screening events and art exhibitions. Along with a cocktail and wine bar and soon to be fine dining restaurant. Licensable activities are situated internally.

Faith In Strangers have an outdoor terrace, located in the North East section of the building. The planning permission allows for the terrace to be used until 22:00, however in order to reduce sound affecting neighbours we have informally agreed to close the terrace at 21:00.

1.3 Site plan



2.0 Dispersal Procedure

1. Faith In Strangers Ltd is aware of the importance of ensuring as far as possible that patrons leave the venue as quietly as possible.
2. Faith In Strangers Ltd is committed to implementing and consistently improving it's Dispersal Procedure and will maintain routine assessments on improvements.
3. Faith In Strangers Ltd is also aware of the importance of managing the outside space during trading times.

2.1 Dispersal Timeline

Time till end of service	Dispersal Activity	Desired Outcome
All trading hours	From 21:00 the building windows are closed and locked.	Greatly reduced sound escaping via the fenestrated aspects of the building.
All trading hours	The first floor terrace is closed after 9pm and smoking on the terrace is not permitted at any time. The smoking area has been designated to be at the front of the premises, adjacent to the main road and green space, under a protruding canopy/roof structure.	To reduce evening time sound from the terrace and move patrons as far away from residential premises as possible.
All trading hours	Our sizable lobby is used as a waiting area for patrons, when gathering or preparing to exit, either on foot or by vehicle.	To keep patrons from unnecessarily waiting outside and potentially causing nuisance and/or unrest.
All trading hours	Door staff will assist patrons to book taxis and make a swift exit, reminding them to be respectful of the local residents.	To speed up the process of getting patrons off site and home safe, therefore reducing risk of external nuisance.
All trading hours	Management will be responsible for making sure all staff , including door staff act upon their responsibilities and act effectively.	Dispersal procedure is effective.

All trading hours	No drinks or glassware are allowed outside and door staff will maintain that.	To reduce loitering outside and potential for broken glass.
All trading hours	Any patrons that are outside the premises will be asked to either leave or come inside, if they are loitering and loud.	As above
All trading hours	10 minutes prior to closing bright white, high luminosity lights will flood the premises.	To encourage the timely departure of patrons.
All trading hours	Faith In Strangers have developed a large projected digital signage on the exit of the stairs, solely for the reason of asking patrons to respect the neighbours and leave quietly. This will be displayed throughout trading hours.	
120-60 mins	Secondary bar will be run down, closed and clean wherever possible along with all glassware washed.	To reduce cleaning hours late at night.
30 Minutes	Licenable entertainment is stopped, music etc.	

30 Minutes	Last orders are called, sometimes before, if a quieter night.	
30 - 10 minutes	Staff encourage customers to finish their drinks and prepare to leave in plenty of time and will maintain an effort to include a staggered leaving.	
30 Minutes	An audio notice will be set to automatically play across the venue requesting that patrons leave quietly to keep our neighbours from hearing voices.	We have found that people will pay more attention to a notice with an auditory element rather than signage alone.

3.0 Layout & Design

The layout of the premises can loosely be described as open plan, furniture is used to divide the space, with toilets and two meeting rooms accessible via a branch corridor. Where practicable, structural pillars, ceilings and walls have been treated acoustically to reduce the transmission of sound throughout the building.

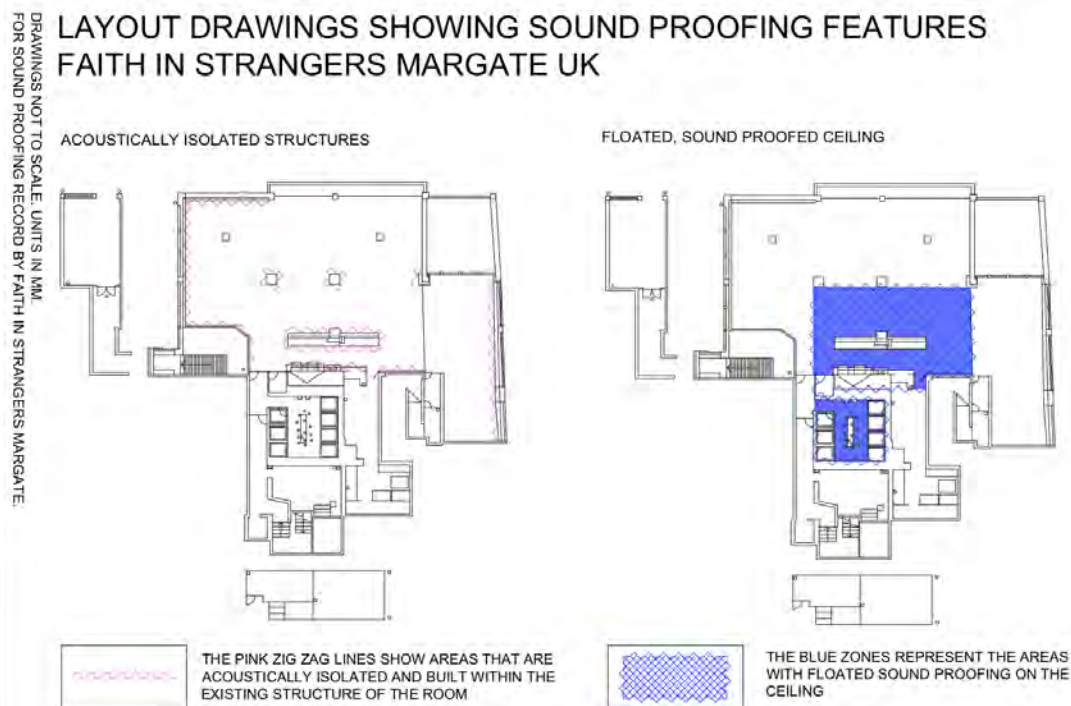
3.1 Planning Permission: Condition Release

Planning Application F/TH/18/0875 - which relates to the business activities of Faith In Strangers was approved with the following condition relating to noise.

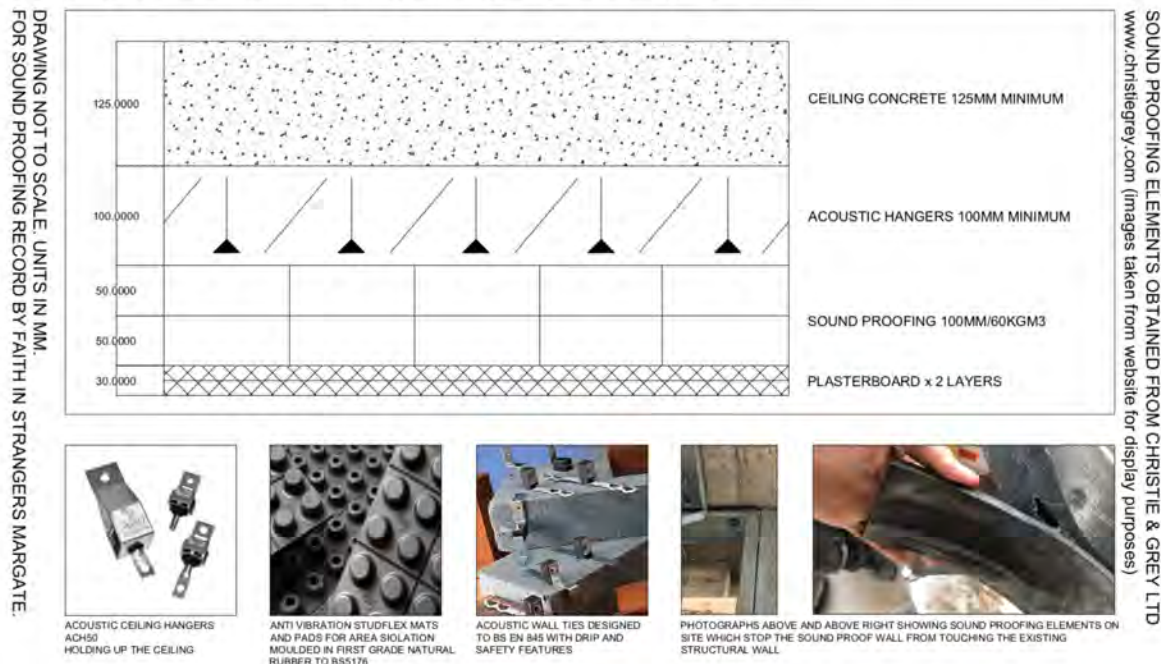
Prior to first operation of the premises a scheme of sound insulation shall be submitted and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The scheme shall be designed to ensure that Entertainment noise (noise from the amplification of human voice and music) (LAeq 15mins) should be controlled to 5dB below the background noise level (LA90 15 mins) without the entertainment noise present, in each octave band at the facade of any noise sensitive location'

The balcony area at 1st floor level shall only be used by patrons between the hours of 08:00 am and 21:00 pm Sunday to Thursday and 08:00am and 22:00 pm Friday and Saturday.

The section of our ceiling that supports the footprint of the flats above, has been protected with a floated ceiling. However, this has been damaged and repaired several times due to ongoing leaks from the flats. This area can be seen in blue, whilst acoustically treated walls and glazing can be seen in pink zigzag.



CEILING CROSS SECTION DRAWING & DIMENSIONS WITH IMAGES OF SOUND PROOFING ELEMENTS USED FOR FAITH IN STRANGERS MARGATE UK



3.2 Additional Reduction Measures: Post Planning

Permission

Further to the release of our planning permission we have installed acoustic solutions and continue to investigate ways to improve the acoustic performance of the building and our sound system. Whilst it is not incumbent upon us to carry out further acoustic treatments to meet planning conditions, we do so to promote good relationships with adjoining occupants.

- We have added secondary glazing to two skylights, with approx reduction of 50db.
- Rubber feet onto chairs to reduce noise of movement

3.3 Sound Reduction Design

Outlining all of the sound reducing materials and treatments used in the business 'Faith in Strangers', with the aim of controlled sound levels to that set out in planning REF: F/TH/18/0875.



3.4 Historic Sound Transference

The Cliftonville Leisure Complex building is constructed of poured concrete, reinforced by steel bars.

Prior to the existence of Faith In Strangers, 'Franks' operated as a nightclub several days of the week including Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The soundproofing installed by the operators of Franks' was insufficient; this is demonstrably true as Franks was subject to ongoing complaints relating to sound that were only resolved by the owner, Frank Thorley, purchasing 4 of the flats himself. Testimony from residents at the time said 'the entire building would shake' when music was playing at Franks.

The suspended ceiling was constructed by a single sheet of ½ inch plasterboard and attached directly to the main concrete structure with timber and screws. The walls surfaces were clad by a mixture of dot and dab plasterboard and mechanically fixed plywood. The speakers were also connected directly to the structure, without isolation.

Faith In Strangers has greatly reduced transmission via the following means.

3.5 Refurbishment

- 2 x layered 15mm Fireboard
- Decoupling Neoprene rubber
- Speaker Isolators
- Christie & Grey Sub isolators
- Christie & Grey ceiling hangers
- Christie & Grey Neoprene rubber for floors and frameworks with neoprene rubber screw grommets
- Metal frame studwork

3.5.1 Communal Building Services Shaft

Narrow shaft approximately 200x100mm, was uncovered. The shaft, that runs from the premises ceiling up through the north facing flats, was hidden by a piece of 12mm ply. This will have been a weakness in the premises soundproofing dating back many years. To resolve this issue and meet current fire regulations. 3 sheets of Rockwool PROROX SL930 (RW3), Fire



Rated expanding foam and 2 pieces of 15mm fireboard were installed from below. Access from above allowed us to install loose fill Vermiculite to pack any gaps.

Further, the owners of the flat immediately above the premises were in the process of renovating and instructed a builder to seal the whole thing with a 6-inch concrete cap. We are unable to verify whether this was done nor to what standard.

3.5.2 Walls

Acoustic walls are constructed on Christie & Grey studflex mats, secured to the floor with fixings isolated with Christie & Grey rubber grommets. Walls are constructed of metal frame (MF) stud, insulated with 100mm rockwool slab and clad in two sheets of 12.5mm fireboard. The stud walls stand off at least 100mm from the structural wall that they shield. Where supporting connections are necessary, acoustic wall ties by Christie & Grey are used.

3.5.3 Ceiling below flats

The ceiling is constructed of metal frame hung on Christie & Grey acoustic ceiling hangers (ACH), attached to the concrete ceiling. The ceiling is clad in 2 layers of 15mm fireboard, with 100mm rockwool slab resting on top and between 100-400mm air gap before the concrete ceiling. The perimeter of the hung ceiling stops 8mm short of the perpendicular walls. This gap in ceiling with a band of rubber and acoustic mastic, in order to stop vibrations from the ceiling transferring onto the walls.

3.5.4 Lobby

The lobby allows us to contain customers who are waiting for transportation which will reduce large crowds waiting on the street outside of the venue.

3.5.5 Digital Signage

As the dispersal timeline explains, digital signage has been placed in prominent areas such as the exit route on the stairs. The signage is designed to remind customers to be considerate of our neighbours and leave the venue quietly.



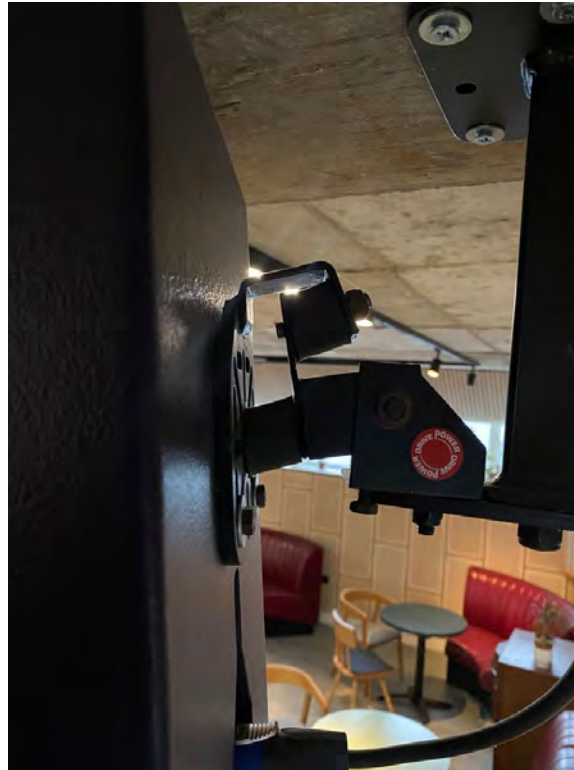
4.0 Sound Management

4.1 Sound System Design

Through the use of a multi-array speaker layout, consisting of 12 speaker positions, we are able to play amplified music at a lower level, as no matter where the listener stands within the venue, a sound source is close by. This is for lowering damaging sound levels, and reduction of sound transmission and also for a high fidelity sound.

As part of that wish for clarity and high quality we also have high end EQ and Digital Signal Processing units that can deal with problem frequencies as well as limit the maximum volume. In order to protect our customers' and staff wellbeing as well as reduce the impact on neighbours, our sound system will never exceed 100db - but anticipate being played at significantly lower volumes for the majority of events.

The speakers are also placed on neoprene rubber mounts if secured to the main building structure or to an already decoupled metal framed studwork. As seen in image below.



4.2 Audio Processing

The mixing console used is an Allen and Heath SQ5. The digital processing functionalities include, compression/limiting, EQ.

4.3 Performance monitoring

The audio levels of the monitors are controlled by the sound technician not the performer. This ensures that the performer cannot put the volume louder.

4.4 Amplification

Full Fat Audio 6004



4.5 DSP Processing

The Full Fat Audio amps have built-in DSP control. They are Full Fat Audio branded but manufactured by NST audio.

4.6 Acoustics

The room acoustics and sound system was designed to work together so that enhanced clarity of sound will mean that a lower overall volume is required.

We have spent time designing acoustic treatments and layout design that help reduce sound wave reflections and deter standing waves, therefore to achieve a higher clarity of sound at a lower volume. This also reduces the need of customers having to shout above each other which in turn reduces the need for the venue having to play sound at a higher overall volume.

Acoustic treatments include perforated birch ply with high density rockwool behind, along with acoustic ribs along the top perimeter of the site.

The new layout was designed to include walls, glass and hung ceiling to be at various oblique and obtuse angles to reduce standing waves. This in-turn lowers the necessary volume required by reducing the cacophony effect.

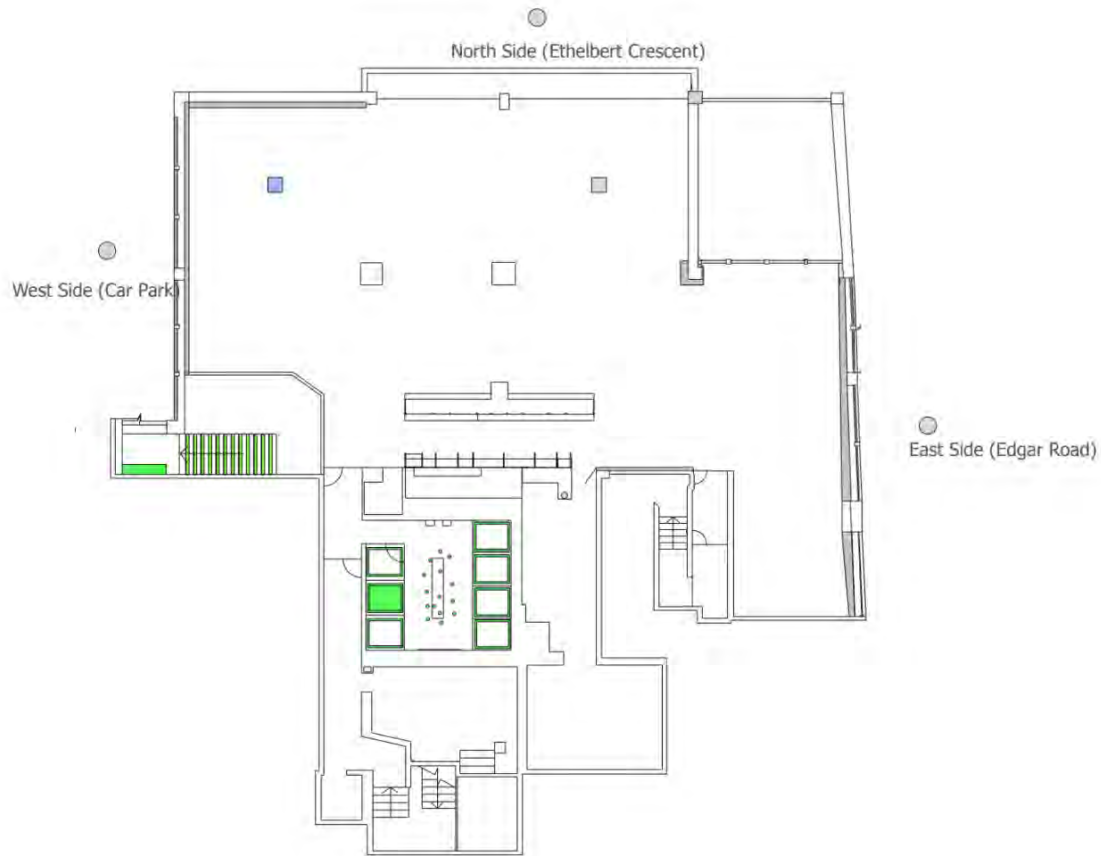


4.7 Testing and measuring

Testing is carried out, measurements recorded and made available to the local Environmental Health Office. A class 1 Castle Sonus sound level meter was hired for the initial measurements taken below.

4.8 Background Sound

The sound measured from three locations. In accordance with the planning requirements, A weighted background sound measurements were taken for a 15 minute duration - LAeq 15. It was noted that the west side, which is elevated away from the main road was less affected by vehicular activity.



Results below were taken on Friday 13th September 2019.

Location	LAeq (Average)	Time
East side	55.8dB(a)	23:00-23:15
North side	60.4dB(a)	23:16-23:31
West side	48.9dB(a)	23:32-23:47



5.0 Expertise

5.1 Robert Miller, F1 Acoustics

Acoustician and managing director of F1 Acoustics, was advised on both sound insulation and room acoustics.

5.2 Richard Vivian , Big Sky Acoustics

5.3 Matt J Bate

F1 Sound consultant and installer

6.0 Management

Management operations found in operating schedule and door supervisor policies.

6.1 Staff Management

After being made aware of the noise transference from our premises into Flat 3 caused by moving furniture, we have instructed staff to lift furniture where possible and generally minimise the need for moving furniture at late times.



6.2 Travel

Unfortunately, there is no public transport along the main road where we are situated. However, 3 local taxi firms are aware of our location and regularly drop off and collect patrons from our door.

6.3 CCTV

Faith In Strangers have installed multiple CCTV cameras, many of which are covering the entrance and exit, the surrounding perimeter of the building and internally. There is a member of staff operating the audio, visual and video equipment who also monitors the CCTV. Recordings of video and audio are kept for 30 days and then destroyed.

6.4 Waste Disposal

We have sufficient waste and recycling storage within our premises for the general business operations of the business. Collections are carried out by Thanet District Council within the working week. Staff are instructed to only decant waste, such as glass bottles, between the hours of 09:00-18:00 to reduce noise disturbance within the immediate vicinity.

6.5 Disorderly Behavior

As a venue that purveys progressive art and culture, whilst cultivating a diverse audience that includes various ethnic groups and members of the LGBTQIA+ community, we are very rarely subject to alterations within the venue. Faith In Strangers staff and third party door supervisors are trained to be vigilant towards and swiftly handle disorderly behaviour. All door supervisors are SIA trained.



6.6 Lighting

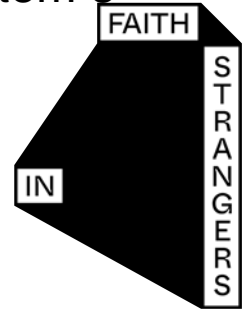
Lighting is sufficient in all areas to enable staff and the public to navigate in and around the building easily and avoid collisions with obstructions.

6.7 Deliveries

Suppliers are instructed to carry out deliveries during working hours, in order to reduce noise disturbance to neighbours.

0800-1900 Monday to Friday

0900-1800 Saturday and Sunday

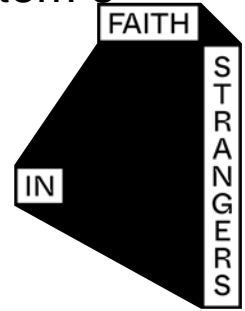


FIS10

Door Supervision Policy

Edition: May 2021

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16. Transport	8
17. Evacuation/Fire Plan	8
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1. Licenses

All door staff are SIA licensed and registered

2. Security reviews

An annual review of this document and the policies surrounding it will take place.

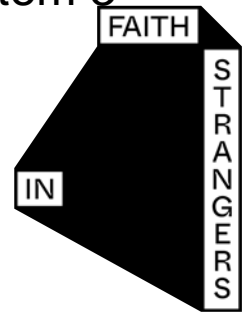
An interim review may take place if a significant incident takes place.

3. Preface

Faith In Strangers is not obviously located. It is on the first floor so our patrons tend to know where they are going. The door automatically locks and patrons are required to either ring the doorbell to be let in or door staff will open the door.

A door control policy in place to prevent overcrowding and to ensure that potential troublemakers are excluded from the premises, should they enquire what is up the stairs.

- Notwithstanding fire exits, we have one entrance only for customer access/exit.
Our premises are accessible only via Ethelbert Crescent, main road entrance.
- A comprehensive CCTV system is in operation and live monitoring via three screens are in operation. One monitor for the bar staff, one for the management team and one for the security staff down in the lobby.
- *We assess the number of door staff in regards to tickets or predicted busyness.*



4. Managing Capacity

- Our Maximum capacity is 350.
- Door staff are to make management aware when capacity reaches 200 and then again at 50 person increments.
- After 9PM or at busy times all customers will be clicked into and out of our premises.

5. Age Verification

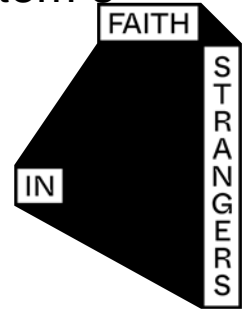
The bar operates a challenge 25 policy. Where the person seems under the indicated age they will be asked to produce ID. This can include passport, photo card driver's license or PASS photo id. Non photo IDs will not be accepted.

6. Management and Logging

Management and Door Staff will use Radio systems to maintain communication during service.

Daily debriefs entered into the manager's report including all incidents.

End of shift reports, completed by management, contain sections which will require input from door staff. This includes the necessary records of:



- Capacity monitoring
- Venue Safety Check Log
- Enforcement Visit Log
- Refusals
- Lost Property

7. Refusals

- A refusals log will be maintained and written up at the end of the night.
- These should be noted on paper at the door.
- It is a basic log of the time, number of people and reason for refusal.

8. Search Policy

All searches to be conducted in the main foyer before the stairs.

If you are positioned on the front door it is your responsibility to:

- to actively monitor and control all noise levels from customers, and passersby.
- Ensure the safe queuing of all customers in a controlled manner.
- To be informative in relation to entry cost
- To ensure that any underage, intoxicated or abusive guests are pointed out to the head of security/management.

- Monitor internal arrangements and protect stage area and rear fire exit on nights.

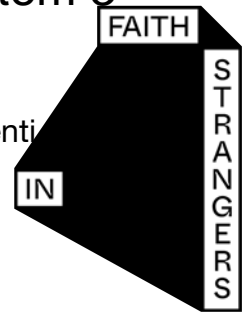
9. Internal Patrols

Carried out on average every 30 minutes.

- Toilet checks.
- Fire exit checks
- Route through the entire building.
- Make eye contact with bar staff to check they are ok.
- Dancefloor
- Welfare checks on customers to determine over intoxication as required.
- Usual diligence checks for the possibility of drugs, over inebriation, fire hazard,
smoking and general state of the bar.

10. Ejection

A guest may become over intoxicated or behave inappropriately. Where this happens the Security Officer will have to make a judgment on how this is affecting the other users of the immediate area, the licensing objectives of the venue, safety



of guests and staff and the legality of their actions. Action resulting in potential ejection can be taken if the person is becoming:

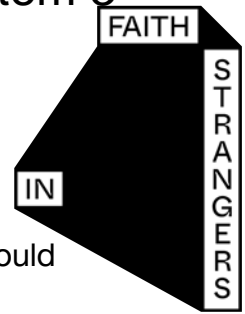
- Abusive or offensive
- Inappropriate
- Intoxicated
- Breaks the law
- Use of drugs
- Failure to provide ID when asked
- Refusal to consent to search (management called first)

It should be noted we are not obliged to give a reason for ejection, however from a diplomacy perspective one should be provided where possible.

When there are any safeguarding considerations the Manager on Duty will be contacted.

If a person is asked to leave the venue because they are intoxicated, an assessment needs to take place, as to whether they are able to get home without support.

This could involve a dedicated taxi company being called or ensuring that the person is accompanied home by a friend or group of friends.



11. Under the Influence policy

Faith In Strangers accepts a duty of care for our customers at all times and would always monitor alcohol consumption of everyone at the venue.

12. Community Intelligence

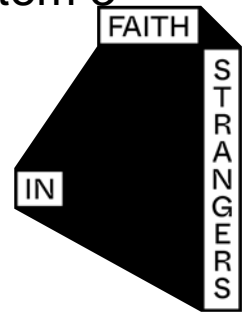
Faith In Strangers have attempted a communications group between other licensed venues in case there is any public disturbance etc. We will be attempting to get this working if other venues are willing to participate

13. Theft

All incidents of theft are to be logged and reported to the police. The log should include the time, date and a statement from the victim as well as any witnesses.

14. Lost Property

The management is to be informed of all Lost property, which is to be kept in a secure location until it is claimed.



15. Leaving the premises with glass or drinks

Customers can only leave via one exit, unless in an emergency. •

At our exit we have a strong, vigilant management presence.

Customers leaving the premises with alcoholic drinks are asked to finish the items before exit.

16. Transport

Refer to Dispersal Policy.

17. Evacuation/Fire Plan

On Hearing the alarm:

1. The order to evacuate will come from the Manager or the alarm system.
2. This will be based on the safety of the public and staff.
3. Security on the main entrance are to ensure both sets of doors are retained in the open position. Security will direct staff and customers to evacuate the venue by the nearest safe exit and to meet at the designated area.
4. The designated area is the green on Dalby Square, turn left out of the venue and walk approximately 25m. All people will be instructed not to collect personal belongings on the way out. The first person reaching safety will ring 999 to call

for fire/police/ambulance according to the nature of the event.

5. No one will assume the fire brigade have been called, it must be confirmed
6. The fire marshals will be the last to leave (if safe to do so), so they can confirm

7. the areas have been cleared of customers.
8. Door supervisors must not attempt to enter the building and not move against the direction of customers and staff leaving the building.
9. Keeping a constant unblocked exit is the priority for door staff.

18. Illicit substances/Drugs

We have a zero tolerance drug policy.

Any users will be asked to relinquish said drugs for police collection. Failure to do so will result in ejection.

For any persons caught entering the toilet 2 in a cubicle, a manager will be summoned for a search and drugs will be asked to be relinquished for police collection. Failure to do so will result in ejection.

Any potential dealer will be detained, be told why they have been detained and will wait for the police to arrive.

Officers will be aware of the difference between individual use and that of a dealer.

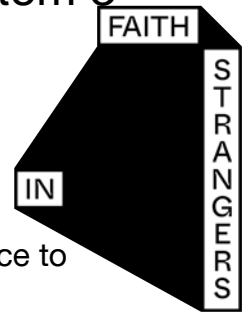
In cases of individual (low volume) possession the person will have the items confiscated after a manager summons and they will be ejected from the venue.

In the case where the person has been found in possession of quantities likened to a

dealer (beyond a reasonable consumption for 1 person), the person will be detained, a manager summoned advised why they have been detained and informed the police will be called to deal with the situation.

In the case this cannot be decided upon:

- An evidence bag will be used in all instances of a drug discovery.
- A note will be made of the identity of the person in possession.
- The police provided form will be completed and counter signed by the manager to verify it has been seen going into the safe.
- The form and bag will be handed to the police and stored in the safe until such time.
- In the instance a person can not be detained safely, CCTV footage along with a report will be sent to the police.



19. Queuing Policy

Where safe and practicable, door staff are to make use of the large lobby space to bring queues to enter inside the building. It is the responsibility of the security to control noise levels outside the front door area and to inform passersby that this is a residential area and to keep quiet.

'Government inaction on a small technicality will cost me £85k'

Three months on from a landmark announcement, changes to cladding policy has rung completely hollow for leaseholders

By Melissa Lawford

21 October 2021 • 6:00am

Related Topics
Cladding, Leasehold properties, Selling property



Beth Pritchard is being charged £85,000 for remediation works that, according to new Government advice, her building may no longer need | CREDIT: Heathcill O'Malley for The Telegraph

The Government's failure to change a bureaucratic technicality has undermined its landmark cladding policy and trapped thousands of homeowners in [unsellable flats](#).


In July, then Housing Secretary Robert Jenrick U-turned on the Government's own building safety advice, announcing that lenders should no longer require external wall safety (EWS1) assessments [on buildings below 18m](#).

This was the opposite of the stance laid out in its "consolidated advice note", published in January 2020, which had extended the EWS1 requirement to virtually all flats, no matter the height of the building.

In theory, the overhaul should have freed hundreds of thousands of leaseholders in low-rise blocks. But in reality, three months on, the Government has still not removed its original advice note. This means that no lenders have changed their policy requiring an EWS1 form to grant a mortgage, according to trade body UK Finance – so [flatowners are still trapped](#).

Advertisement

More stories

 Midlifers bled dry by scam that takes two months to spot

 Why you should say no to getting a

Many leaseholders do not have time to wait. Earlier this month, Beth Pritchard, 40, [received an £85,000 bill](#) for works due to start next month on her London flat. This was despite the fact that the building is under 18m and can be evacuated in one minute.

"It is such a hideously large amount of money I just can't comprehend it. Until the Government's amendment is made law, we are screwed," said Ms Pritchard.

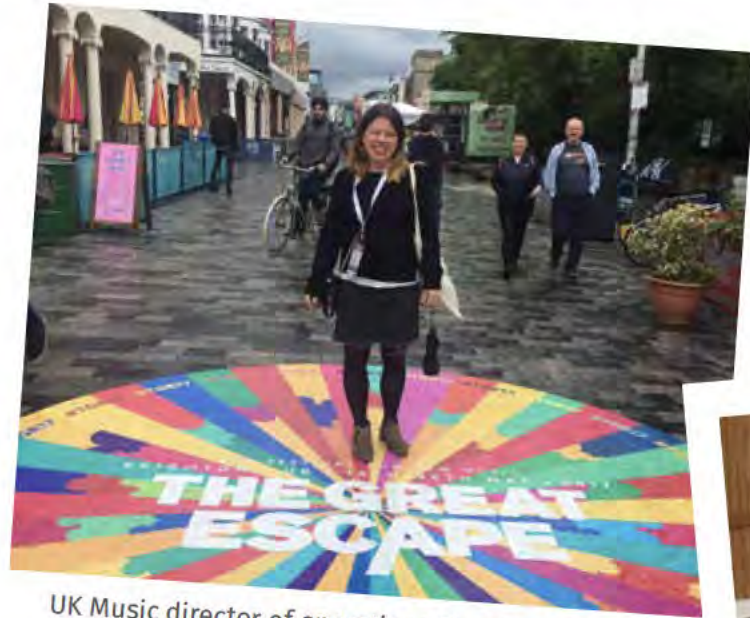


WISH YOU WERE HERE

2017

THE CONTRIBUTION OF LIVE MUSIC
TO THE UK ECONOMY





UK Music director of operations Ele Hill at the Great Escape Festival, Brighton



UK Music chairman Andy Heath with Culture Secretary Karen Bradley and UK Music's former chief executive Jo Dipple at Conservative conference 2016



UK Music chief executive Michael Dugher and his predecessor Jo Dipple with Simon Rix of the Kaiser Chiefs at UK Music's 2016 summer reception at Westminster



Michael Dugher throws UK Music support behind campaigners battling to save live music venues at Womanby Street, Cardiff

INTRODUCTION



MICHAEL DUGHER

CEO, UK Music

As the new chief executive of UK Music, I am delighted to introduce Wish You Were Here 2017.

By collating a huge amount of ticketing and other data, this report provides an unrivalled insight into live music in every UK region.

I am passionate about music and the way it can enrich people's lives and make a huge contribution to our national culture.

This year's report reveals more people than ever are enjoying live events and that music tourism is responsible for a record contribution to our economy.

But the data also shows some of the challenges we face, particularly if we are to make sure our smaller venues thrive just as successfully as our big arenas.

Overall, the hard evidence shows that live music is creating more jobs and revenue and attracting more tourists right across the UK.

I hope that politicians and policy makers reading this report will see the huge boost that live music gives to our economy in every part of the UK.

I would like to thank all our members and everyone who helped us compile this year's Wish You Were Here report, particularly the UK Live Music Group and the fantastic Paul Latham at Live Nation.

And I would also like to pay tribute to the thousands of grassroots and smaller venues who filled in questionnaires to ensure the report is the best and widest possible reflection of the live music industry.

Armed with this data, I hope that you will join us in using the information to make the best possible case for nurturing and supporting the continued growth of live music in the UK.

Because this is the deal: live music in Britain is a tremendous success story, but we cannot afford to take that fact for granted. That's why we must fight hard to preserve the venues that are the lifeblood of the industry.

Think how many of our global stars and music legends owe their career to the start to that a grassroots venue was able to provide. With every venue that closes, we remove a stage and an opportunity for the stars of the future.

So, if you value live music and what it brings to our country, you have to support action now to protect it and help it to grow.

And finally I would urge everyone to go to a gig, support your local venue and local artists, back your local festival and be part of Britain's incredible live music success story.

To find out more about the work of UK Music, including on Government policy, education and skills, equality and diversity, apprenticeships, copyright protection, economic and sector research, and career paths into music, go to: www.ukmusic.org.

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UK LIVE MUSIC 2016 IN NUMBERS

30.9 MILLION

Total audience that attended live music events in the UK in 2016

+12%

27 MILLION

Total concert attendance in the UK in 2016

+13%

3.9 MILLION

Total festival attendance in the UK in 2016

+6%

18.4 MILLION

Local residents attended local music events in the UK in 2016

+7%

MUSIC TOURISM IN NUMBERS 2016

£4 BILLION

Total direct and indirect spend generated by music tourism in the UK

+11%

£2.5 BILLION

Amount spent directly by music tourists

+9%

12.5 MILLION

Music tourists in 2016

+20%

823,000

Overseas music tourists in 2016

+7%

47,445

Full time jobs sustained by music tourism in 2016

+22%

£850

Average spend by overseas music tourists in the UK in 2016

+1%

£656 MILLION

Box office spend on tickets by music tourists in 2016

+19%

£45 MILLION

Total box office spend on tickets by overseas music tourists in 2016

+20%



FOREWORD



KAREN BRADLEY

Secretary of State for Culture,
Media and Sport



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport

No-one does live music like the UK. From global events like Glastonbury to new artists playing to a handful of people in a bar, music is in our cultural DNA.

Artists ranging from Adele to Coldplay to Skepta drew more than 30 million people to live music concerts and festivals in the UK last year.

Four out of ten people going to those events were music tourists who generated £4 billion in spending – up 11% on last year and a testament to the success of the industry.

I congratulate UK Music for their excellent work in bringing the industry together and shining a light on the vital contribution that live music makes to our economy.

The findings in UK Music's Wish You Were Here report spell out that contribution not just to major cities, but also to the economies of small towns right across the country.

The report outlines some of the challenges faced by smaller venues. This is an area where the Government has helped by changing planning regulations to help protect them.

The Government has legislated to clean up the secondary ticketing market and we will continue to take on those touts who use unfair means to deny concert goers.

We also want to continue working with UK Music and the industry to boost diversity and social mobility. The music industry should be able to draw on the widest possible range of talent.

Music and the creative industries are central to our post-Brexit future. Live

events in the UK draw visitors from across the globe to spend their money here. The huge popularity of our artists overseas is one of our greatest export successes.

Our musicians are ambassadors for Britain and help us show the world that we are an optimistic and open country.

I look forward to continuing working with UK Music and I am very grateful for their brilliant work.



PAUL LATHAM

COO, Live Nation, UK & Ireland;
Chairman, Creative & Cultural
Skills;

Chairman, UK Live Music Group

It's been a record year for live music in the UK. A staggering 30.9 million people saw their favourite artists live - everywhere from the tiny back room of a pub to a huge stadium gig.

That's a massive 12% leap on the total 27.7 million total audience in 2015 and means that the equivalent of half the country enjoyed at least one live music event last year.

For the first time, the total spending generated by concerts, festivals and other live events hit almost £4 billion as music tourism shot up 11% on the previous year.

And, we saw the total number of jobs created in 2016 rise by 22% to 47,445. Our live music industry is a success story and we're right to shout about it.

But it's not just about the jobs, the tourists and the tremendous shot in the arm that live events give the UK economy.

It's about the ability of live shows to unite and uplift people, especially those left grieving and heartbroken after the terrible events that saw terror attacks in Manchester and in London.

I was proud of what my Live Nation team in conjunction with fellow promoter SJM achieved in such a short space of time in the One Love Manchester benefit concert that brought 50,000 people together. The event was viewed by tens of millions of people around the world, and showed the city's, unity, love and resilience – and the healing power of music.

This report reveals how stadia and larger venues around the country are hosting more live music events which is brilliant news. But we need to be wary

that many of our smaller music venues including grassroots are shutting down or struggling for survival.

All our greatest acts started out in smaller venues and these places are a vital part of the ecosystem of our industry. If we lose them, we risk losing the UK stars of the future.

That wouldn't just be a devastating blow to our artistic and culture scene, it would leave a hole in our economy.

As this report shows, we are rightly proud of live music in the UK and all the fun and joy it gives to millions. The regional breakdown of the figures shows how important these events are right across the UK - not just in the major cities.

There are undoubted challenges ahead - whether that's the threat to local venues through planning, licensing or tax issues, or the wider uncertainty surrounding Brexit and its impact on our sector.

The key to our continued success that we celebrate in this report will be rising to those challenges and standing up for the millions of people who love what we do.

Be bold, be creative, be happy, be the very best we can be!

A WORD FROM UK MUSIC CHAIRMAN



ANDY HEATH

Chairman, UK Music

When we produced our first Wish You Were Here report in October 2013, Miley Cyrus' Wrecking Ball was Number One and the Prime Minister David Cameron was promising a Britain "for the many not the few".

A lot has changed since then, not least in the UK's live music industry.

We now collect more data than ever from a record number of live events to build up what we hope is an invaluable insight into the live music scene across our nations and regions.

All music makes an overwhelming contribution to life and culture in this country of ours, especially at a time when the social wounds from recent events are fresh in our minds and in need of comfort and healing.

When it comes to live music and the number of music tourists, there has been a tremendous 76% rise from nine million in 2013 to 12.5 million visitors in 2016.

Their contribution to the economy is huge. In 2013, music tourists spent a total of £2.8 billion directly on tickets and indirectly on purchases like hotel rooms and transport.

That figure soared in 2016 to £4 billion – the equivalent of £850 per head for overseas visitors.

The number of jobs sustained by music tourism also continues to grow strongly. Last year, that total hit a new high of 47,445 – a 41% increase on the 2013 figure of 33,509.

Our live music industry has led the way in attracting visitors to the UK and our top performers continue to generate revenue and jobs in the UK.

Our aim at UK Music is to help foster a climate that will see that success continue with an ever increasing number of live events.

There is no room for complacency because we face significant challenges ahead. That's why we will be pressing the Government on a number of key issues.

We need to do more to protect smaller venues, many of which are fighting for survival.

Another top priority will be getting the best possible Brexit deal for every sectors of the music industry.

We will fight to make sure that UK artists do not face barriers when they tour abroad and that the £2.2 billion the industry generates in exports is protected and helped to grown.

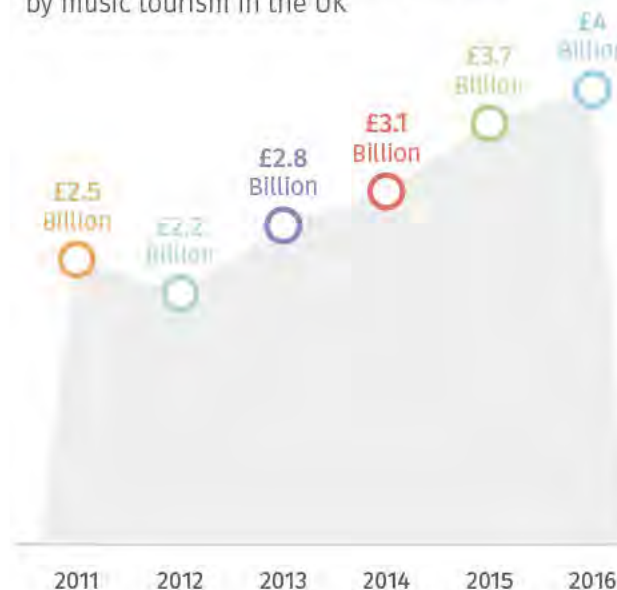
We will continue to push for a statutory "agent of change" and fight unfair rules, taxes and licensing changes that threaten live music venues.

We will also press for greater diversity, more apprenticeships and tax credits for the music industry, as well as the right for those self-employed in the music industry to get the right to shared parental leave.

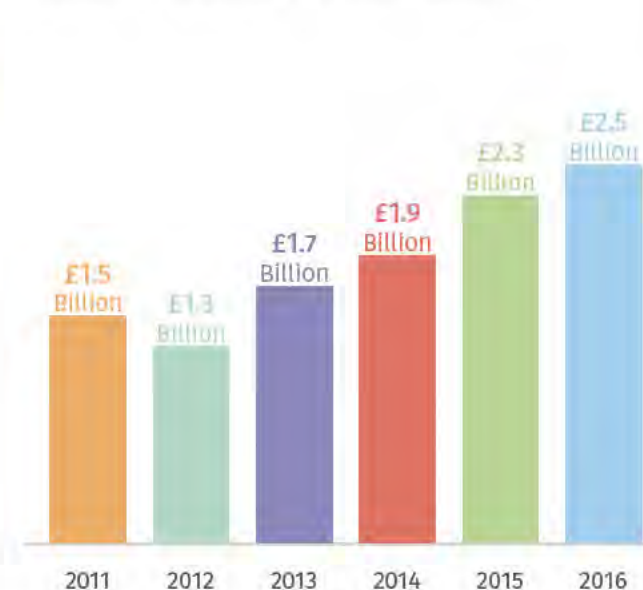
I hope this report will convince you just how important live music events are – not only because of the huge audiences they attract, but also because of their vital economic importance to the UK.

MUSIC TOURISM IN THE UK 2011-2016

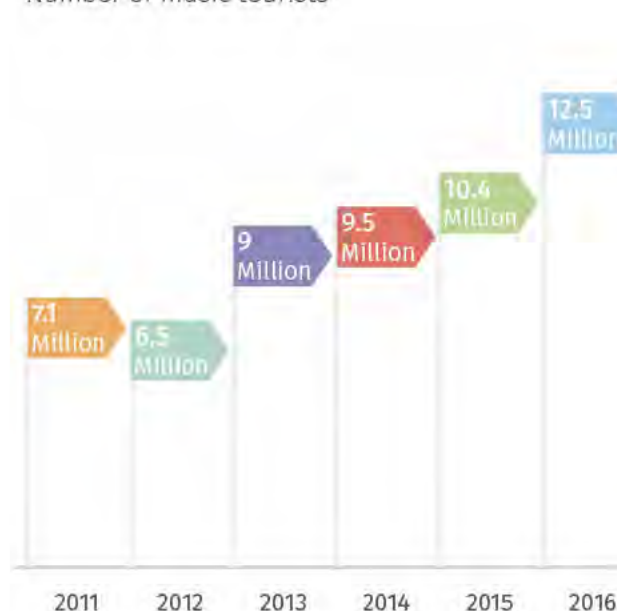
Total direct and indirect spend generated by music tourism in the UK



Amount spent directly by music tourists



Number of music tourists



Number of full time jobs sustained by music tourism



Proportion of live music audiences that are music tourists in 2016



Average spend by overseas music tourists whilst in the UK



GRASSROOTS AND SMALLER MUSIC VENUES



BEVERLEY WHITRICK

Strategic Director, Music Venue Trust

Music Venue Trust is committed to ensuring the UK has an effective venue ladder which helps UK artists progress through the live sector, from the Grassroots Music Venues (GMV) we champion through the Small Music Venues (SMV) and on through concert halls, arenas and stadiums.

Without significant, ongoing support onto the lowest rung of that ladder to enable young artists to take their first tentative steps on great local stages, the UK music industry will struggle to produce the Adeles, Coldplays and Ed Sheerans of the future.

2016 was a landmark year for the fightback to protect, secure and improve GMV in the UK.

For the first time in ten years, the number of GMVs operating in London stabilised; the capital finished the year with the same number of spaces for new and emerging talent as at the start of the year, halting a 15-year decline in the number of spaces. This picture of a more stable sector was reflected across the UK, with regions reporting small but significant increases in audiences in the grassroots and small music venue sector.

That turnaround has been achieved by effective partnerships and specifically relies upon the partnership between UK Music and Music Venue Trust when it comes to evidence and research. Our work together is enabling us to accurately map activity in these venues in reports like Wish You Were Here and to tell the story of the importance of GMV to the whole ecology of the live music sector.

Understanding artists and audiences in these venues is a developing piece of work which supports us in building

the case for the legal, licensing and economic framework that these venues need to thrive. The more we increase and deepen our knowledge and understanding of these venues, the more able we are to demand the support they need.

We look forward to working with UK Music to further develop specific information about this vital sector so that we can fully understand the artists' journey; from the first faltering step on their local stage to the headline slot at Glastonbury, from the Cavern Club to the Hollywood Bowl.

"Throughout my career I've been lucky enough to play in venues of all different shapes and sizes, from tiny clubs to massive stadiums all over the world. Without the grassroots clubs, pubs and music venues my career could have been very different. I support Music Venue Trust because artists need places to start out, develop and work on their craft and small venues have been the cornerstone for this. If we don't support live music at this level then the future of music in general is in danger." – Sir Paul McCartney

UK Music is the headline sponsor of Venues Day 2017. For more information go to www.musicvenue trust.com.



SMALLER MUSIC VENUES* IN NUMBERS

6.2 MILLION

Total audience at smaller music venues in 2016

+11%

£367 MILLION

Total spend generated by music tourists visiting small venues in the UK in 2016

+9%

1.67 MILLION

Tourist visits to smaller venues in 2016

+14%

£202 MILLION

Direct spend generated by music tourists visiting smaller venues

+13%

107,000

Visits to smaller venues from overseas music tourists

+21%

LONDON TOPLINE FIGURES FOR SMALLER MUSIC VENUES



1.3 MILLION

Total audience at smaller music venues in 2016

+13%

343,000

Tourist visits to smaller venues in 2016

+15%

£65 MILLION

Total spend generated by music tourists visiting smaller venues

+16%

15,000

Visits to smaller venues from overseas music tourists

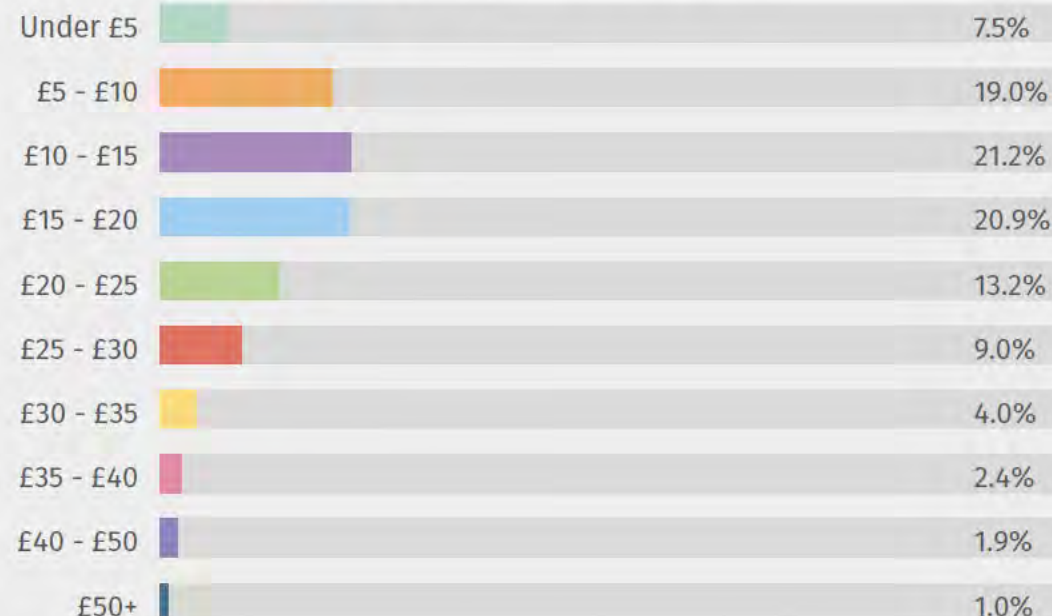
+44%

*Smaller Music Venues: Under 1500 Capacity

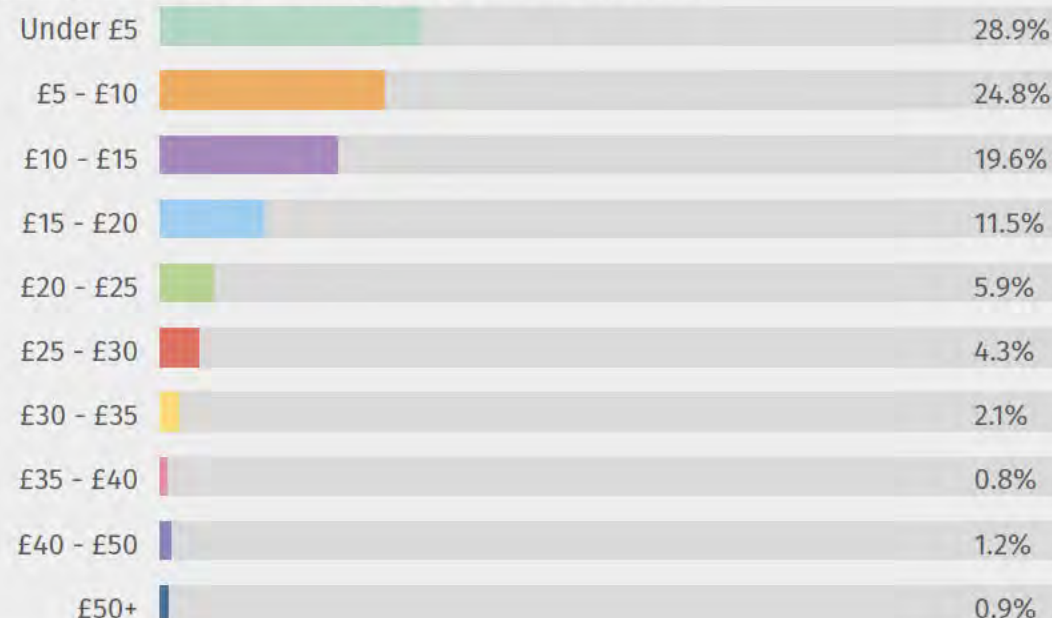


GRASSROOTS MUSIC AUDIENCE IN NUMBERS*

On a typical night at a grassroots/small music venue, please estimate how much you spend on food/drink inside the venue:



On a typical night at a grassroots/small music venue, please estimate how much you spend on food/drink outside the venue (on your way to or after the gig, including in pubs, restaurants, take-aways, shops and off-licences):



*Data provided from 2017 survey conducted by Music Venue Trust: Grassroots Music Venues are vital for incubating new and emerging talent. For more information visit www.musicvenuetrust.com

MUSIC TOURISM IN REGIONS



SOUTH EAST



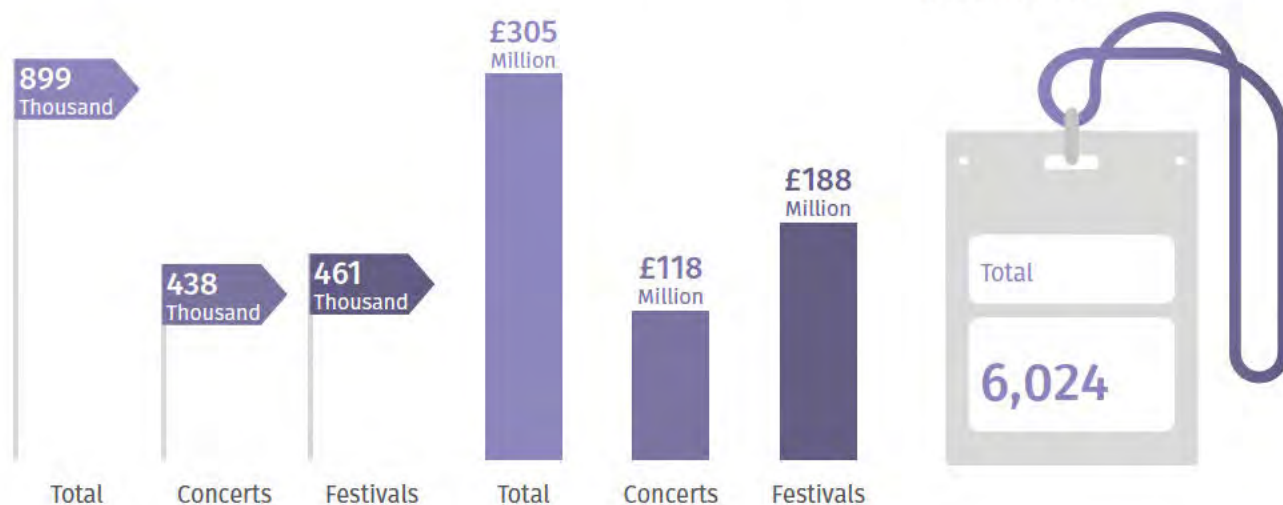
TOTAL DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEND GENERATED BY MUSIC TOURISM IN THE SOUTH EAST



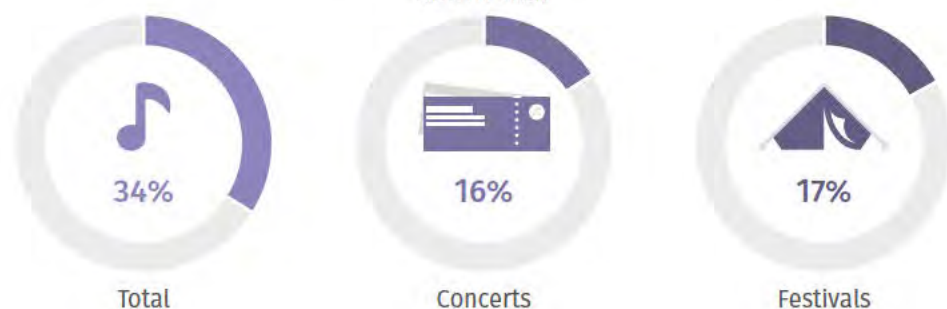
NUMBER OF MUSIC TOURISTS IN THE SOUTH EAST

AMOUNT SPENT DIRECTLY BY MUSIC TOURISTS IN THE SOUTH EAST

NUMBER OF FULL TIME JOBS SUSTAINED BY MUSIC TOURISM IN THE SOUTH EAST



PROPORTION OF LIVE MUSIC AUDIENCES THAT ARE MUSIC TOURISTS IN THE SOUTH EAST



SOUTH EAST

The South East generated almost £496 million from music tourism visits. The 9% increase in revenue on 2015 saw 899,000 visitors enjoy live music events in the region, helping to support 6,024 local jobs.

The area hosts some of England's most popular festivals including Wilderness in Oxfordshire, Bestival, the Isle of Wight festival and the Great Escape Festival in Brighton.

Just over seven out of ten music visitors come from outside the region, giving an important boost to venues in places as diverse as Oxford, Brighton, Reading, Southampton, Portsmouth and Milton Keynes.

The Great Escape's general manager Kevin Moore said: "In 2016 The Great Escape celebrated its 11th year as the festival for new music, welcoming 16,500 festival goers and 3,500 industry delegates to Brighton where over 450 bands played more than 600 shows. The live music scene in the South-East feels in a really healthy place. Brighton has always been strong but you've now got places like Margate that are starting to develop their own unique scenes."

Wish You Were Here is created on behalf of UK Music and its members to highlight the contribution of live music and music tourism to the UK economy.

2017 is the fourth edition of the report, which was first published in 2013.

UK Music is the umbrella organisation which represents the collective interests of the UK's commercial music industry – from artists, musicians, songwriters and composers, to record labels, music managers, music publishers, studio producers, music licensing organisations and the live music industry. The members of UK Music are: AIM, BASCA, BPI, FAC, MMF,

MPA, MPG, MU, PPL, PRS for Music and the Live Music Group

The UK Live Music Group is made up of members of the Association for Electronic Music (AFEM), Association of Independent Festivals (AIF), Association of Festival Organisers (AFO), Concert Promoters Association (CPA), Agents Association (AAGB), International Live Music Conference (ILMC), National Arenas Association (NAA), Production Services Association (PSA) and Music Venue Trust (MVT) with contributions from PRS for Music Foundation, MU, MMD, FAC and BPI.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- Live Nation
- Music Venue Trust
- National Arenas Association
- PRS for Music
- Sage Gateshead
- See Tickets
- Symphony Hall, Birmingham
- Theatre Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham
- Ticket Factory
- Ticketmaster
- We Got Tickets

We are grateful to all venues, festivals and other businesses featured as case studies in this report for sharing information and pictures. Additional thanks to all of our membership organisations for their support and help with this report.

The analysis was carried out by Oxford Economics and a methodological statement is to be found on the UK Music website. The project is managed by **Natalie Williams**, Head of Research at UK Music.

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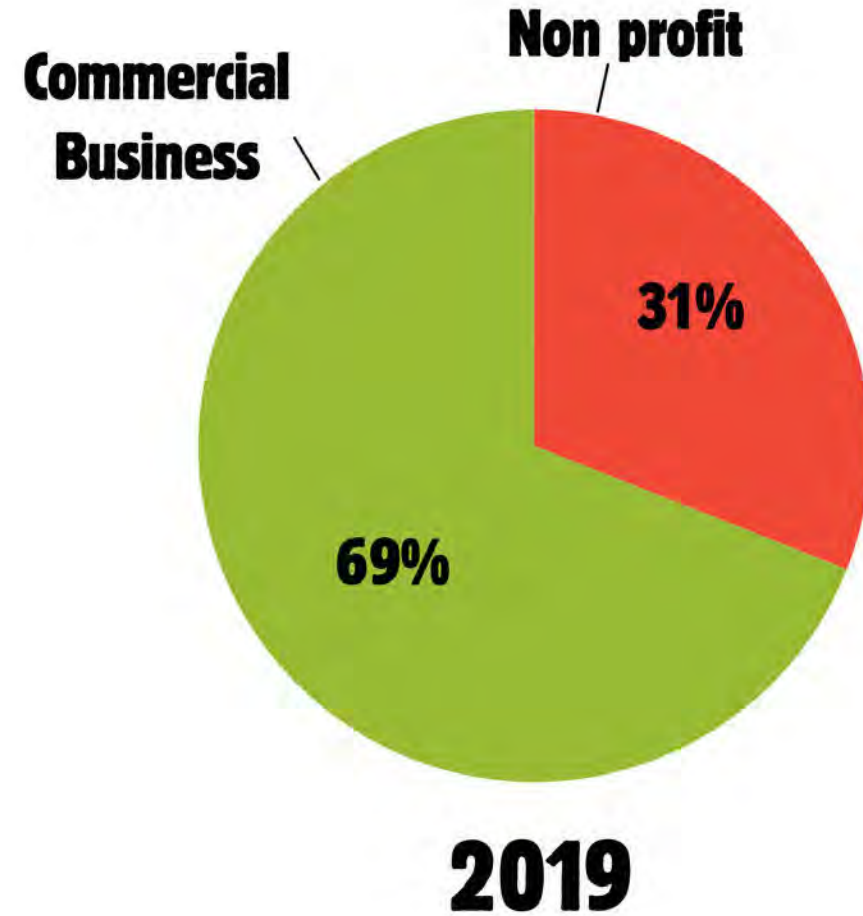
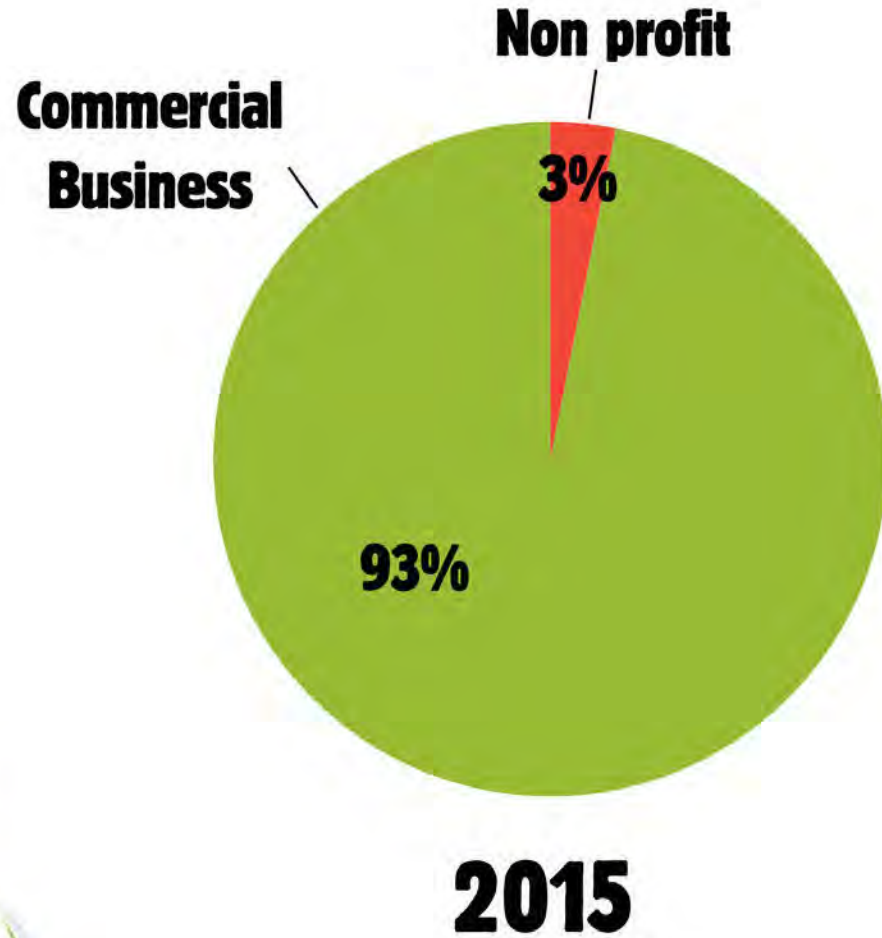


What is a Grassroots Music Venue in 2019

Music Venues Alliance



GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



TYPICAL CAPACITY

327
Mean Capacity

200
Mode Capacity

183,317
Total Capacity



MULTI SPACE VENUES

**9% of MVA members
have more than one
live music space**

**91% of MVA members
are a single live music
performing space**



WHAT SORT OF MUSIC HAPPENS HERE?



WHAT ELSE HAPPENS HERE?

45% Social & Cultural Education

50% Rehearsal Space

27% Other Direct Artist Support

59% Comedy

34% Film

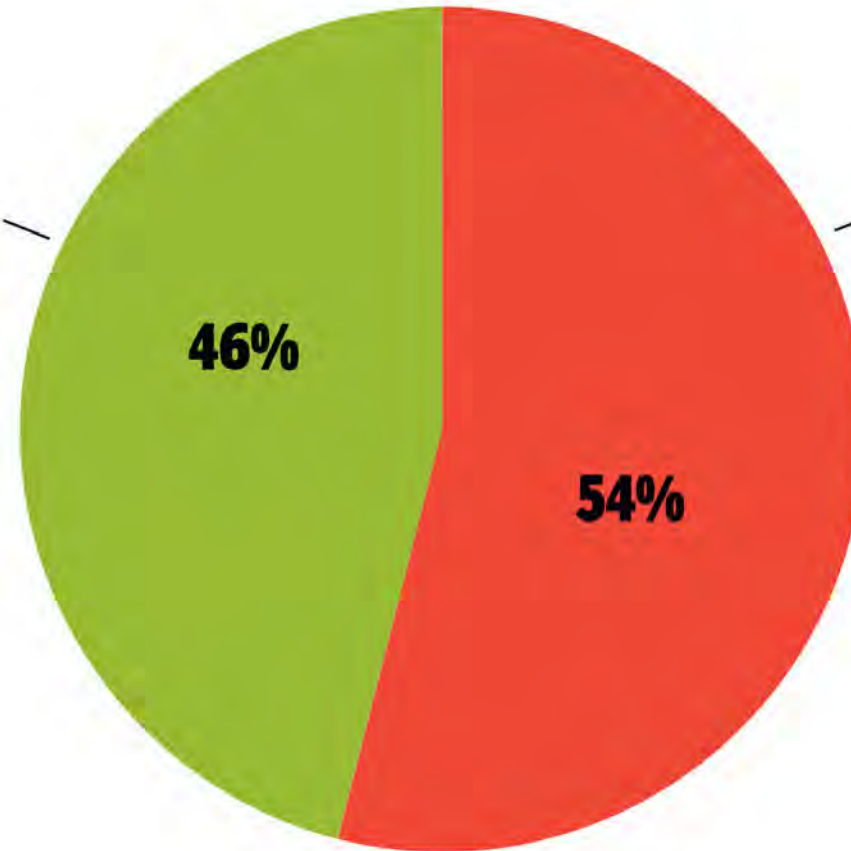
36.4% Theatre/Dance

2.3% Weddings



WHO PROGRAMMES THIS MUSIC IN THESE SPACES?

**Content in these venues
results from external
promoters and/or hires**



**Content in these venues is
programmed in house**



MVA?

Music Venues Alliance

- ★ **The definition agreed in 2015 - is this still us?**
- ★ **Do we need to update it?**
- ★ **Do we need the MVA to be open to more than just Venues?**
- ★ **Should we create a promoters group?**
- ★ **Should we create additional definitions?**
- ★ **What about pubs that put on limited amounts of new music?**

FULL TIME EMPLOYEE (EQUIVALENTS)

13 FTE EMPLOYEES PER VENUE

7495 TOTAL NUMBER OF FTE
EMPLOYEES ACROSS THE NETWORK



VOLUNTEERS

11 VOLUNTEERS PER VENUE

6246 TOTAL NUMBER OF
VOLUNTEERS ACROSS THE NETWORK



THE HEADLINES

TOTAL INCOME OF ALL THE VENUES: £229,634,163

INCOME PER VENUE: £400,757



BREAKDOWN OF THE INCOME

55,944,445

TOTAL VALUE OF LIVE MUSIC TICKET SALES

£97,634

AVERAGE LIVE MUSIC TICKET SALES PER VENUE

£23,759,513

TOTAL VALUE OF OTHER TICKET SALES

£41,465

AVERAGE OTHER TICKET SALES PER VENUE

£149,930,205

TOTAL BAR/CATERING/OTHER SALES

£261,658

AVERAGE SALES PER VENUE



INCOME PERCENTAGES

35% **TICKET SALES**

65% **TOTAL BAR/CATERING/OTHER SALES**



NOTE ON ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND THE THREAT THIS POSES

2005 TO 2015 STUDY OF 16 TO 24 YEAR-OLDS

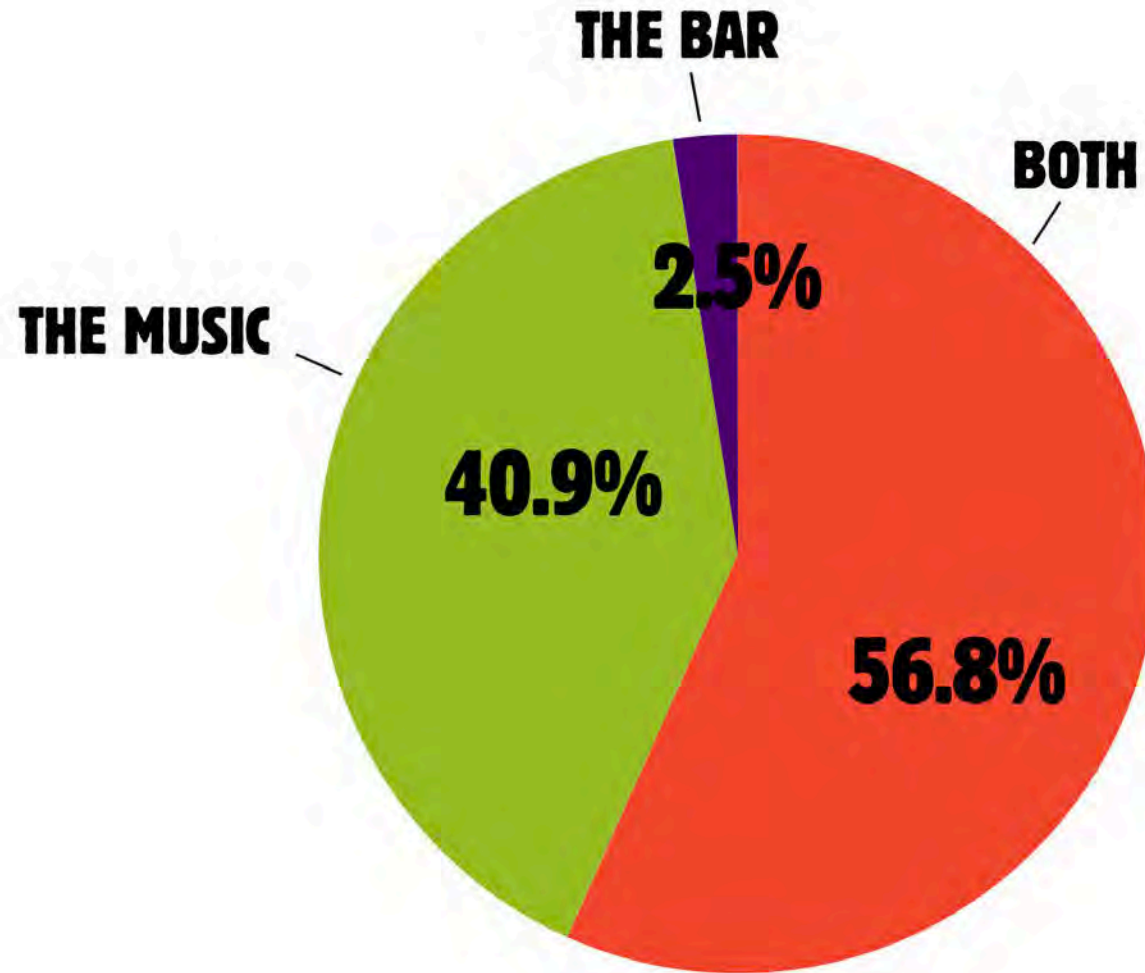
DO NOT DRINK ALCOHOL INCREASED FROM 18% TO 29%

DRINKING ABOVE RECOMMENDED LIMITS FELL FROM 43% TO 28%

BINGE DRINKING FELL 27% TO 18%



WHAT DO THE VENUES THINK ABOUT THE MOST?



EXPENDITURE: THE HEADLINES

£212,543,135

TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF ALL THE VENUES

£ 370,930

EXPENDITURE PER VENUE



EXPENDITURE: THE HEADLINES

£99,731,625 TOTAL LIVE MUSIC COST

£174,052 LIVE MUSIC COSTS PER VENUE

£112,811,510 TOTAL BAR/CATERING COSTS

£196,879 AVERAGE COSTS PER VENUE



LIVE MUSIC: A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ACTIVITY

£79,703,958 TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED

£99,731,625 TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT

VENUES SPEND **125%** OF TICKET MONEY RECEIVED
ON THE DELIVERY AND PROMOTION OF MUSIC



GRASSROOTS MUSIC VENUES 'PROFIT'

£29,827

NOTIONAL 'PROFIT' PER VENUE



BUSINESS RATES ANALYSIS

56.73% ON FAIR MAINTAINABLE TRADE

43.27% ON SQUARE METRE

FAIR MAINTAINABLE TRADE VENUES' CURRENT RATEABLE VALUE IS ABOUT **18%** MORE THAN SQUARE METRE VENUES' RATEABLE VALUE.

DISPARITY IN THE CHARGE PER CAPACITY AT PRESENT: CURRENT RATEABLE VALUE DIVIDED BY VENUE CAPACITY IS AT ITS LOWEST **£11.69** AND ITS HIGHEST AT **£2216.67**



PRS TARIFF ANALYSIS

46.9% ON TARIFF LP

25% ON PUBS & BARS

3.1% ON CAFE & RESTAURANTS

15.1% NO IDEA AT ALL



BUSINESS RATES

**SHOULDN'T WE ALL BE ON THE SAME
METHOD OF CALCULATION?**

PRS

SHOULDN'T WE ALL BE PAYING THE SAME TARIFF?



**35% OF TRADING VENUES CLOSED BETWEEN
2007 AND 2016.**

**THE RATE OF CLOSURE DROPPED DRAMATICALLY
FROM 2016 ONWARDS**

Sorry
WE ARE
CLOSED



LONDON

BETWEEN 2007 – 2016, THE NUMBER OF GRASSROOTS MUSIC VENUES IN THE CAPITAL FELL BY A THIRD, FROM 144 TO 94.

FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAYOR OF LONDON'S GRASSROOTS MUSIC VENUES RESCUE PLAN IN 2015, FEWER GRASSROOTS MUSIC VENUES CLOSED IN LONDON IN 2016 THAN ANY YEAR SINCE 2007

FOLLOWING TWO YEARS OF STABILITY IN 2017 AND 2018, IN THE LAST YEAR THE NUMBER HAS RISEN BY SIX PER CENT – FROM 94 TO 100



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

**9.93% OF VENUES WITHIN THE MVA USED
THE ER FOR HELP IN 2019.**

**IN 2018 8.4% OF MVA VENUES ACCESSED
EMERGENCY RESPONSE. THAT IS AN ABSOLUTE INCREASE OF 1.53% ON
2018. THIS IS AN ACTUAL PERCENTAGE INCREASE OF 15.4%.**



OWNERSHIP

LESS THAN

5%

**OF VENUES OWN THE
BUILDING THEY OPERATE IN**



**IN 2015, 3% OF GMVS WERE NOT-FOR-PROFIT ENTITIES.
97% OPERATED UNDER A COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE**

**IN 2019, AFTER 4 YEARS OF WORK AND PEER TO
PEER MENTORING WITHIN OUR NETWORK 31%
ARE NOW NOT-FOR-PROFIT. 69% ARE COMMERCIAL ENTITIES.**

1033% INCREASE





FIS14

Faith In Strangers <hello@faithinstrangers.co.uk>

Confirming acoustic testing Tues 5 Oct**Beth Pritchard**

To: Faith In Strangers

Cc: Georgina

>, Jon Dahms

>, Amanda Berry <amanda.berry@thanet.gov.uk>, Donna Walker

>, Sam Dawkins

>, Adam Cox <[REDACTED]>, Katherine Cox

>, [REDACTED], Nigel

6 October 2021 at 06:31

Richard and Jeremy

I wouldn't normally send something personal like this but last night you made me feel uncomfortable and vulnerable. I requested to Jon, on 19 Aug, that access to my flat was limited to professionals, to avoid such a situation.

Despite this you insisted on coming into, and snooping around 3 Cliftonville Court because you wanted to give your 'opinion' on Mr Copeland's recordings.

This was despite Mr Copeland advising he did not require assistance from you to make his observations.

It wasn't appropriate for you to put me in a position where I felt I had no choice but to let you both into my home or otherwise as you insisted on my doorstep, 'I was denying you access'.

How, in 2021, could you be unaware of a woman's personal space and feel entitled to demand access to her home, let alone her bedroom, to give your 'opinion' of objectively measurable sound levels.

We have tried to avoid confrontation with you, despite the much independently witnessed distress you have caused us and our neighbours, week after week after week (month after month). However yesterday's insistence of you both being in my home left me feeling intimidated and it would be remiss of me not to call that out directly. I find your approach particularly troubling considering your stated commitment to 'safe spaces' in your businesses' diversity commitment.

Please also note any photos / videos you personally took in 3 Cliftonville Court yesterday were categorically without my permission.

I would like to make it clear, we have no problem giving access to professionals, if necessary, to our home, however, this invitation does not extend to unfettered access to you both.

I note, also, that our repeated requests for the Residents' Association chosen, IOA registered acoustic technician, Andrew Frisby, to have access to your venue, have been ignored.

Finally, for the record, we note Mr Copeland declined my offer to provide additional access to other residents' homes as after taking recordings from flats 2, 3 and 9 Mr Copeland advised he had sufficient recordings for his report.

Neighbours, copying to advise recordings were made from your homes yesterday by Mr Copeland. Access to your homes was limited to observations by Mr Copeland, supervised by me, only. Nigel, Mr Copeland did not require access to your flat in the end as it was apparent from three observations that the soundproofing does not work adequately.

Beth

Beth Pritchard - Written by thumb, sent from my phone (I'm justifying typos) - [REDACTED]

On 4 Oct 2021, at 15:42, Faith In Strangers [REDACTED]

[Quoted text hidden]

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