

Bellaluz Summer Music.

On 28th May, Myself, Carolina Betes, Michelle Wall and Ashley Scott met with legal advisors to discuss the legality of holding music events throughout the summer in Bellaluz.

It has been widely rumoured that the legislation in relation to music in Bars and communities has changed. That is not the case the local authorities have simply said that they will now apply the legislation rigorously.

The legislation that covers the matter is:

REGIONAL LAW OF NOISE

**REGIONAL ORDINANCE FOR THE PROTECTION AGAINST
NOISE AND VIBRATION**

and

REGIONAL LAW OF ENVIRONMENT

The law in relation to communities is completely different to that applied to business premises, as are the penalties. We are also in a better position than others as Bellaluz is a completely private community, including the ownership of the access roads and car parks.

ARTICLE 29 of the first piece of legislation states that the production of noise in Squares, Parks and Gardens must be within the legal limits. These are 70db during the day and 60db after 10pm. These limits can only be checked using a recognised and calibrated sound measuring/recording device. (The security team on LMC have such a device)

The number of events that the council will give permission for will be limited and are described by the council as “Special Feasts”. We are awaiting a decision from Cartagena Town hall as to how many events per week they will allow us to hold. The environmental department at the council are expected to give us their decision imminently. The community will not require any licences just the required permission. We have asked them to allow us to hold 2 or 3 Special Feasts throughout July and August for the benefit of Bellaluz owners and their guests.

A company called E.C.A. who work for the environmental department in the town hall attended in Bellaluz yesterday (4th June) and carried out tests in Plaza Mayor with music which was developed in a laboratory to allow accurate testing and they also used white noise. They checked levels throughout the community and will provide us with their report in

the next week or so. The expert was very positive about the set up in our community as very little noise carried out with the Plaza. He stated that if we kept the volume at the legal levels we will be fully compliant with the law.

If given the go ahead to hold events in the community it is intended to install a completely new sound system with small speakers situated all round the Plaza so as to give an ambient sound as opposed to that directed by large speakers. That should alleviate any concerns owners have regarding the volume of the music. A sound limiter which we already have will also be used at the same time. Those performing in Bellaluz will be required to use our sound system. We have asked that the security team attend any events that we are given permission to hold, as the artists set up. Levels will be checked by them and adhered to throughout the event.

If we as a community adhere to the law, we will not be left open to complaints to the police (Denunthia). Should any complaints be made we will be able to show that we as a community are acting within the law with the required permission and adherence to legal sound limits.