

15 March 2007  
Our ref: PDC-TEN/tw

## Mousehole Male Voice Choir

Founded 1909. Registered Charity No.271921

The Licensing Officer  
Temporary Event Notices  
Penwith District Council  
St. Clare  
PENZANCE, Cornwall  
TR18 3QW

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INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY



Dear Sirs,

### TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICES [TENS]

It has been decided – with great reluctance – that we shall not include any Outdoor Concerts on Mousehole Harbourside in this year's schedule, unless we can have exemption from the requirement to file Temporary Event Notices.

It is anathema to have to fill out several copies of a multipage form and pay £21 for the addition, say, of one or two secular pieces to a programme of hymn arrangements or 'religious items' which would otherwise be exempted. Who is to define 'a religious item' or a 'secular piece' and at what point does one become the other and the law is breached?

The situation becomes quite ridiculous if it rains and we move the same concert a few yards into the Mousehole Methodist Chapel. Exactly the same programme then becomes exempt; the TEN becomes unnecessary and the £21 fee is wasted.

We are not in dispute with Penwith District Council. This is not an issue about money. It is a matter of principle and a badly drafted law which is shot full of anomalies and then handed down as a *diktat* from Central Government. The choir has already approached the Department for Culture, Media & Sport [DCMS], through our M.P., Mr Andrew George, and DCMS say that it is up to the Local Authority to interpret the Act.

This sad decision has been taken on the basis that Central Government has **not** given Penwith District Council the discretion to interpret the 2005 Amendment to the Licensing Act 2003 to provide an easement for the concerts which the choir has given for many years for Summer Visitors. We shall take the matter up again with DCMS – and anyone else who may have influence – to try to get a further amendment.

Please reply to:-  
2 Trungle Terrace,  
Paul,  
PENZANCE  
TR19 6UE.

TEL;  
01736-731096

Please advise us if there has been any change in the situation which will allow us to lawfully provide this entertainment for Summer Visitors **WITHOUT** the need for TENS.

Yours faithfully,  
For Mousehole Male Voice Choir  
Trevor Walker - Publicity Officer

*J. Walker* [mimeograph signature]

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