

Subject:

Applicant response to public comments 3/2026/0346 Ground Floor Unit 6 Abbey Works King Street Whalley BB7 9SP

Sent: Fri, 5 Jun 2026 07:42:53 +0000

Subject: Re: Abbey Works - public comment

Response to Resident Concerns – Planning Application 3/2026/0346, Abbey Works, Back King Street, Whalley

We would like to acknowledge and thank local residents for taking the time to raise their concerns regarding the above planning application. We fully appreciate the importance of protecting the amenity of neighbouring properties and have always sought to operate our business in a responsible and considerate manner.

PLM Health & Fitness has operated successfully from Abbey Works since 2017 and, throughout this period, has invested significantly in the premises to ensure compliance with all relevant environmental and operational standards. As part of our ongoing commitment to neighbouring residents, we have undertaken measures to ensure that noise levels generated by our business remain well below the limits required by Ribble Valley Borough Council and this has been professionally monitored and verified.

For both environmental control and security reasons, no windows within the gym or studio areas are capable of being opened. The facility operates using a fully air-conditioned, thermostat-controlled climate system, meaning there is no requirement for natural ventilation through open windows or doors.

With regard to music within the gym, PLM only plays low-level background music intended to support the training environment. This system is centrally controlled by management and cannot be adjusted by members or customers. The volume is maintained at an appropriate level at all times.

We would also like to clarify that PLM does not operate any fitness classes on Thursday evenings and has not done so since the COVID pandemic. Furthermore, the proposed extension of the PLM facility is intended solely for gym and weights-based activity. No classes, group exercise sessions, amplified instruction or microphone use will take place within this new area.

In relation to the proposed occupation by Ella Shaw's Academy of Arts, the new studio space will be fully soundproofed as part of the fit-out works. The nature of the activities proposed within the studio does not require the use of microphones, amplified instruction, or loud music. The design and operation of the space have been carefully considered to minimise any potential impact on neighbouring properties.

We recognise the concerns arising from previous occupiers of the building and understand why residents may be cautious. However, the proposed uses differ significantly from those previously experienced and have been designed with neighbour amenity as a key consideration. We remain committed to being a responsible long-term business within Whalley and to working positively with both the local community and Ribble Valley Borough Council.

We trust this information provides reassurance that every reasonable measure has been taken to ensure the proposed development can operate without adversely affecting neighbouring residents.

Regards

Phil Lawrence Moss BSc(Hons), MA

Managing Director

PLM Health & Fitness Ltd