**USING SOUND AMPLIFICATION IN THE LARGE HALL**

The Church Hall is in a residential area and we do our best to minimise any disturbance to our neighbours, especially excessive noise which can be caused by the use of amplified sound (both music and speech). We expect all Hall users to respect our community in terms of keeping amplified sound to a reasonable level and keeping the doors and windows of the Hall closed to contain any noise.

**The sound level in the Hall is constantly monitored by a sound limiter**

Sound monitoring equipment is installed in the Hall which will cut off the mains supply to an amplifier if excessive noise is detected.

**Any amplifier used in the Hall must be connected to a red mains sockets** located on the stage balustrade (car park side); or on the stage wall behind the main curtains – on the car park side – next to the Hall light switches**.**

**Under no circumstances** may a sound amplifier be connected to other mains sockets in the Hall. Extension leads to other sockets must also not be used for this purpose.

**How the sound limiter works**

The sound level in the Hall is displayed on a screen mounted on the centre pillar on the car park side of the Hall. It shows a series of coloured bars, such that more bars light up as the level of sound increases. (If there is little sound in the Hall possibly no bars will be lit). More bars light up as the level of sound increases. If the sound level exceeds the maximum permitted all the red bars on the right hand side of the display will flash - or remain - on. If immediate action is not taken to reduce the volume of sound the power to the amplifier will be cut off (after approximately 30 seconds).

**To restore power to the amplifier** it should first be disconnected from the red socket and the volume control turned down. (This will protect the amplifier and speakers from damage which could occur if the power is suddenly restored with the volume still set at a high level).

The power re-set button is located on the centre column below the noise monitor display. A firm press of the red button will restore power to the red sockets. The amplifier can then be re-connected to the red socket, making sure that the volume level is now set lower to avoid further power cut outs.

(If **no power** is available from a red socket **when first connecting an amplifier**it may be necessary to press the reset button initially, following the procedure described above)

**IMPORTANT : Deliberate failure to follow these instructions** (for example by the use of any mains sockets other than the red sockets) will result in the retention of the total Hall letting deposit, and the Hirer may be liable for additional fines from the Local Authority. Recently the Church has been served a Noise Abatement Notice by the Local Authority which requires Hall users to regulate their amplified sound. Failure to do so can result in a fine of up to £20,000 and the confiscation of sound equipment

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*Your co-operation with these regulations is much appreciated.*