

Report title	Licensing Act 2003 – Application for a Premises Licence in respect of The Harp Inn, Walsall Street, Eastfield, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV1 3LP	
Wards affected	East Park	
Accountable director	Ross Cook, City Environment	
Originating service	Licensing Services	
Accountable employee(s)	Jonathan Lloyd	Senior Licensing Officer
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Recommendation for decision:

To submit for consideration by the Sub-Committee an application for a new premises licence.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 To submit for consideration by the Sub-Committee an application for a new premises licence.

2.0 Background

2.1 The application was received on 22 August 2018 from Ms Angela Primrose Bent for a premises licence in respect of The Harp Inn, Walsall Street, Eastfield, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV1 3LP. A copy of the application is attached at Appendix 1.

2.2 The premises are in East Park ward and a location plan is attached at Appendix 2

2.3 The application is in respect of the sale of alcohol on and off the premises, the performance of dance, provision of late-night refreshment and playing of live and recorded music on the premises.

2.4 It is the understanding of the licensing authority that the application for this premises licence has been properly made. The statutory requirement to give notice of the application has also been complied with.

2.5 The following responsible authorities have been consulted on this application:

- Licensing Authority
- Environmental Health
- Planning
- Trading Standards
- Social Services
- Director of Public Health
- West Midlands Police
- West Midlands Fire Service
- Home Office

2.6 Relevant representations have been received from:

- Environmental Health
- Licensing Authority
- West Midlands Police

Copies of the representations can be found at Appendices 3, 4 and 5.

2.7 A signed petition objecting against the grant of a premises licence has been received from local residents, a copy of this petition can be found at Appendix 6.

2.8 The applicant and all those who have submitted representations have been invited to attend the hearing.

2.9 A Licensing Sub-Committee hearing was held on 17 October 2018 to determine the

application. The solicitor for the applicant requested that the hearing be adjourned. All parties confirmed they had no objection to the request and the Sub-Committee agreed to adjourn the hearing until 15 November 2018. A copy of the Sub-Committee draft minutes, can be found at Appendix 7.

- 2.10 Documents in support of the application were submitted by the applicant's solicitor. A copy of these documents can be found at Appendix 8.
- 2.11 The deferred Licensing Sub-Committee hearing was held on 15 November 2018 to determine the application. The solicitor for the applicant requested that the hearing be adjourned. The Sub-Committee agreed to adjourn the hearing until 19 December 2018. A copy of the draft minutes can be found at Appendix 9.

3.0 Financial implications

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report. The fee for this application is £190.00 and is non-refundable. The fees and charges in relation to the Licensing Act 2003 are set by the Secretary of State. This was noted by the Licensing Committee on 24 January 2018. [MK/21112018/I]

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 Part 4(1) of the Licensing Act 2003 states that a Licensing Authority must carry out its function under the Act with a view to promoting the Licensing Objectives, namely:-
- (a) The prevention of crime and disorder;
 - (b) Public safety;
 - (c) The prevention of public nuisance;
 - (d) The protection of children from harm.

Section 18 of the Licensing Act 2003 provides that where a relevant licensing authority receives an application for a premises licence properly made in accordance with section 17 of the Act it must grant the licence, subject to any relevant conditions.

However, where relevant representations are made the authority must hold a hearing (unless all parties agree this is unnecessary) and having regard to the representations, take such of the following steps as it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

The steps are:

1. to grant the licence subject to conditions
2. to exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates
3. to refuse to specify a person as a premises supervisor

4. to reject the application

4.2 The general duties imposed on Licensing Authorities means proper consideration must be given to the Licensing Objectives when determining a premises licence application.

4.3 Regard shall be had to guidance issued by the Secretary of State under Section 182 and City of Wolverhampton Council's Licensing Policy statement. [JB/20112018/A]

5.0 Human Rights and Equalities Implications

5.1 This report has human rights implications for both the premises licence holder and the residents from the local neighbourhood. Any of the steps outlined in Section 4 of this report may have financial implications for a licensee's business and livelihood and/or may have impact upon the day to day lives of residents living in close proximity to the premises.

5.2 Article 8(i) of the European Convention of Human Rights provides that everyone has the right to respect for his/her private and family life and his/her home (which includes business premises). This right may be interfered with by the Council on a number of grounds including the protection of rights and freedoms of others. The First Protocol – Article 1 – also provides that every person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions and shall not be deprived of his possessions except in the public interest and conditions provided for by law. Members must accordingly make a decision which is proportionate to the hearing and endeavour to find a balance between the rights of the applicant, residents and the community as a whole.

6.0 Environmental implications

6.1 This report has environmental implications in that there is a potential for disturbance caused by patrons using the premises and nuisance caused by litter and waste originating from the premises.

7.0 Human resources implications

7.1 There are no human resource implications in relation to this report.

8.0 Corporate landlord implications

8.1 There are no corporate landlord implications in relation to this report.