

M M I N U T E S

meeting: **LICENSING COMMITTEE**

date: **13 FEBRUARY 2013**

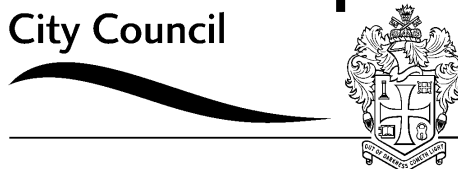
PRESENT:-

Councillors Dass (Chair), Angus, Banger, Bolshaw, Clarke, Claymore, Collingswood, Inston, Jaspal, Mrs Patten, N A Patten and Judith Rowley

IN ATTENDANCE:-

R Edge	-	Section Leader (Licensing)
S Hardwick	-	Solicitor
A Jervis	-	Head of Regulatory Services
R Jervis	-	Director of Public Health
C Parr	-	Licensing Manager
L Banbury	-	Democratic Support Officer

Wolverhampton
City Council



Declarations of Interest

33. No interests were declared.

Minutes

34. Resolved:-
(a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2013 be approved as a correct record.

(b) That the minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 11 and 25 January 2013 be approved as a correct record and adopted.

Review of Premises Licence – Otter & Vixen, Old Fallings Lane, Wolverhampton

35. Pursuant to minute 26 of the meeting on 16 January 2013, the Licensing Manager advised that a Consent Order had been presented at Court detailing the terms agreed by the Members of the Sub-Committee. The Magistrates' Court endorsed the Order as agreed. The Brewery had agreed to take on the management role at the Premises and a slight relaxation of hours had also been agreed.

Application for a New Premises Licence – Nataalka, 18-19 Bargate Drive, Wolverhampton

36. Pursuant to minute 27 of the meeting on 16 January 2013, the Licensing Manager advised that the initial Court hearing was due to take place the following week and consultation was currently taking place with the applicant.

Review of Premises Licence – Empire Suite, Ward Street, Wolverhampton

37. Pursuant to the hearing held on 25 January 2013 and in response to a Councillors' question, the Licensing Manager advised that robust powers were in place under the Fire Services' primary legislation to deal with the fire safety issues raised. He added that a meeting of the Responsible Authorities Forum was due to take place the following day, at which these issues would be discussed, and Officers would consider making a further visit to the premises. It was his understanding that the Premises were currently trading.

Schedule of Outstanding Minutes (Appendix 15)

The Democratic Support Officer submitted a report, which set out a schedule of outstanding minutes together with details of when it was expected that reports on individual items would be presented for consideration.

The Director of Public Health advised that the issue detailed under item 1(a) had been overtaken by the production of the national Alcohol

Strategy and it was agreed, therefore, to delete the item from the Schedule of Outstanding Minutes.

37. Resolved:-
That the report be received.

Future Provision of Hackney Carriage Services (Appendix 16)

The Licensing Manager presented a report, which sought agreement to a package of measures to ensure Hackney Carriage services form a fit for purpose element of the City's broader public transport infrastructure.

Responding to a Councillor's question, the Licensing Manager advise that a broader spectrum of vehicles were allowed in addition to the traditional 'black cabs', provided that they met certain criteria including wheelchair accessibility.

38. Resolved:-
(a) That the report be received and the proposals relating to the future provision of Hackney Carriage services in Wolverhampton, including the package of additional measures detailed at Appendix A to the report, be endorsed.

(b) That the Licensing Committee follows the recommendation from Cabinet to formally adopt an incremental approach to revising Hackney Carriage vehicle licence requirements as follows:-

- 1 April 2013 – Purpose Built Hackney Carriages of up to two years of age are permitted to join the fleet
- 1 April 2014 – Purpose Built Hackney Carriages of up to four years of age are permitted to join the fleet
- 1 April 2015 – Purpose Built Hackney Carriages of up to six years of age are permitted to join the fleet

(c) That a further review of Hackney Carriage provision takes place in 2016.

Alcohol Strategy Progress Update (Appendix 17)

The Director of Public Health presented a report, which updated the Committee on the implementation of the Wolverhampton Alcohol Strategy 2011/2015. Details of the response to the national Alcohol Strategy were also circulated at the meeting.

Responding to a Councillor's question, the Director of Public Health advised that, with regard to Goal 1 listed in the areas of success, the local drug and alcohol education curriculum was tailored to relevant age groups and supported through the 'Healthy Schools Initiative'. Substance Misuse Workers were available to go into Schools to assist with this area of work.

Responding to a Councillor's concern regarding the increasing number of small retail outlets selling alcohol, the Solicitor advised that all applications for Premises Licences must be considered on their individual merit and could only be refused in accordance with the four licensing

objectives and the Council's own Statement of Licensing Police. The Licensing Manager advised that a review of the Cumulative Impact Zone was due to be considered at the next meeting of this Committee. He further advised that data was currently being collected in respect of problematic street drinking and anti-social behaviour and would be considered by the Responsible Authorities' Forum. Work would be progressed over the following twelve months to seek a way forward.

39.

Resolved:-

(a) That the report be received.

(b) That a full review and details of the Alcohol Strategy action plan for the following year be presented to the first meeting of the Licensing Committee in the 2013/14 municipal year.

(c) That the following information be circulated to the Committee:-

- Alcohol admissions by age group in Wolverhampton 2009/10 to 2011/12
- Alcohol related mortality figures on a Ward basis for the period 2007-2011