

Licensing CommitteeMinutes – 23 October 2013

Attendance

Members of the Committee

Cllr Bishan Dass (chair)
Cllr Ian Claymore
Cllr Susan Constable
Cllr Mark Evans
Cllr Neville Patten
Cllr John Rowley

Cllr Alan Bolshaw Cllr Craig Collingswood Cllr Keith Inston Cllr Patricia Patten Cllr Rita Potter

Employees

Sarah Hardwick Senior Solicitor (Delivery)

Andy Jervis Head of Regulatory Services (Education and Enterprise)

Colin Parr Licensing Manager (Education and Enterprise)

Linda Banbury Democratic Support Officer (Delivery)

Donna Cope Licensing Officer (Education and Enterprise)

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item Title Action No.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Councillor Neil Clarke

Councillor Dass referred to the recent death of Councillor Neil Clarke, former Shadow Chair of the Licensing Committee. The Committee acknowledged that he would be sadly missed and placed on record their appreciation for his valued work as a Wolverhampton Councillor. They expressed sympathy for his family at this sad time and a period of silence was observed in his memory.

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence submitted.

2. **Declarations of interest**

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes

Resolved:

- (a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2013 be approved as a correct record.
- (b) That the minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 11 October 2013 (x 2) be approved as a correct record and adopted.

4. Matters arising

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 – The Licensing Manager confirmed that an email had been sent to all Councillors providing a briefing note on the detail of the compliance and enforcement arrangements.

Colin Parr

Licensing Act 2003 – Sub-Committee hearings (meeting 11 October 2013) – The Chair drew attention to a recent premises licence variation application, for which the Premises Licence Holder's legal advisor had submitted a large amount of supplementary information during the week and on the day of the Sub-Committee meeting. This did not afford the parties, officers or Councillors sufficient time within which to read and digest the material. Correspondence to all parties advising of the arrangements for hearings would, in future, include a paragraph indicating that any documentation submitted after 6 working days before the hearing would only be considered at the Sub-Committee's discretion and that they could refuse to accept the additional documentation or may adjourn the hearing to a later date.

Linda Banbury

5. Schedule of outstanding minutes

A report was presented, which set out a schedule of outstanding minutes, together with an indication of when individual reports would be submitted for consideration.

Resolved:

That the report be received.

Linda Banbury

DECISION ITEMS

6. Casino Premises Licence - Stage 2 Evaluation

The Licensing Manager presented a report, which sought approval of the proposed membership for the Evaluation Panel established

Colin Parr/ Ruth Taylor to assist with the consideration of applications at Stage 2 of the Casino Premises Licence application process.

Councillors, whilst acknowledging the necessity to comply with the legal obligations, expressed concern regarding the extensive financial implications attached to the lengthy processes involved in since Parliament had given the Council the right to grant a premises licence for a 'Small Casino' under the Gambling Act 2005...

Resolved:

That approval be given to the membership of the Evaluation Panel for consideration of applications at Stage 2 of the Casino Premises Licence application process, as detailed in section 3 of the report.

Festival of Light

(In accordance with Section 100b(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the chair admitted this item as an urgent matter)

Councillor Bolshaw, Vice-Chair, drew attention to the Festival of Light, scheduled to run between 6.30 and 10pm on the evenings of 26 and 27 October. Unfortunately, the consents for the street traders in the city centre only permit them to trade until 6pm. However, several traders are interested in being part of the event.

Reference was also made to the Divali celebrations taking place that the weekend in Phoenix Park.

Resolved:

- (a) That the street traders in the city be granted special permission to trade for the duration of the Festival of Light event on the evenings of 26 and 27 October 2013.
- (b) That the Licensing Manager speak to the press office regarding communications for this event.

Part 2 – exempt items Nil