

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

22 June 2011 at 9.30 am

MEMBERS: Councillors Jonathan Pritchard, Alan Salter and Sue Stears.

589. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Resolved: That Councillor Sue Stears be elected Chair of the Sub-Committee for the duration of the meeting.

590. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2011 were approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

591. LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE - HEARINGS PROCEDURE

The Chair drew attention to the Council's procedure to be followed at the meeting.

592. APPLICATION TO VARY A LICENCE - CENTRAL'S, 169 CENTRAL ROAD, WORCESTER PARK

The Sub-Committee considered an application to vary the licence in respect of the above premises. The premises licence holders were present, together with one of the residents who had made representations, who was supported by Councillor Kirsty Jerome.

The premises licence holder had applied to remove the licensable activities of films, indoor sporting events, making live music and music facilities from the licence, and also to remove condition six from the existing licence – that children were not permitted on the premises. In addition to the remaining conditions nine further conditions were proposed in the operating schedule as part of the application to vary the licence as follows:-

- Three door supervisors to be employed on Friday and Saturday evenings
- A written door policy to be implemented
- A written accident/incident reporting system to be operated
- A zero tolerance drugs policy to be operated
- A dispersal policy to be operated
- 'Challenge 25' to be operated at the premises
- Only photo' driving licences, passports or PASS cards to be accepted as proof of age
- All staff to be trained in age related issues
- Children only permitted on the premises if accompanied by parents

The hours for the remaining licensable activities and the opening hours would be extended.

The Sub-Committee heard the application, and Councillor Kirsty Jerome, the resident and the premises licence holders addressed the meeting.

The residents' representations were that smoking after 11:00 pm would occur on the public footpath, additional noise, the extended hours, that dancing would attract younger people, there was very little parking in the area and the door supervisors would create conflict. The applicants drew attention to the deletion of some activities from the licence, the removal of the external loudspeakers, the safety benefits of providing door supervisors, the intention to attract an older family oriented clientele than in the past, the creation of a specific area for smokers at the front of the premises, the additional conditions in the operating schedule and the provision of a noise limiter on the amplification system.

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Members of the Sub-Committee asked questions and received replies. In particular they noted the apparent conflict in having identical times when alcohol sales would cease and the premises would close. The parties and the Council's Licensing Officer then withdrew to enable the Sub-Committee, assisted by their Secretary and Legal Adviser, to consider the application and the representations that had been made.

Members were advised of the need to consider the representations that had been made, the guidance published under the Licensing Act 2003 regarding the consideration of variations of a licence and the need to consider each application on its merits whilst taking into account the licensing objectives.

Members considered the application, and in particular their options to resolve the conflict in times referred to above, and noted the representations that had been made and the conditions that were proposed.

Resolved: (i) That the application to vary premises licence No. 11/00248/LAPREM be granted, as applied for, as follows:-

(a) The premises are licensed:

For the provision of recorded music on Fridays and Saturdays between the hours of 19:30 and 00:30 the next day, on Sundays between the hours of 11:00 and 22:30 and on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve between the hours of 20:00 and 02:30 the next day.

For the supply of alcohol on Mondays to Thursdays inclusive between the hours of 11:00 and 23:00, on Fridays and Saturdays between the hours of 11:00 and 00:30 the next day, on Sundays between the hours of 11:00 and 22:30 and on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve between the hours of 11:00 and 02:30 the next day.

During the opening hours from 09:00 until 23:00 on Mondays to Thursdays inclusive, from 09:00 until 00:30 the next day on Fridays and Saturdays, from 11:00 until 22:30 on Sundays, and from 11:00 to 02:30 the next day on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

(b) Existing condition number six (Children are not permitted on the premises) is deleted.

Reason: To permit the implementation of the variation applied for and allow the premises licence holder to encourage a family oriented atmosphere.

(c) The nine additional conditions proposed in the operating schedule and referred to above are incorporated in the licence.

(ii) That the attention of the premises licence holder is drawn to the conflict between the identical times when alcohol sales will cease and the premises will close, which they will need resolve to ensure an orderly dispersal of customers.

(iii) This decision varies the licence under the Licensing Act 2003 only and it does not imply or require that other consents that the applicant may need under other legislation will be granted.

(iv) Attention is drawn to the provisions in the Licensing Act 2003 for the possible review of the licence.

The meeting ended at 11.05 am

Chair:

Date:

