

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **Licensing Committee** held in the Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, Notts. NG24 1BY on Thursday, 14 June 2018 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs R Crowe (Chairman)
 Councillor I Walker (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Mrs B Brooks, Councillor Mrs I Brown, Councillor D Clarke,
Councillor M Cope, Councillor P Duncan, Councillor Mrs S Michael,
Councillor D Payne, Councillor Mrs S Saddington, Councillor B Wells
and Councillor Mrs Y Woodhead

APOLOGIES FOR Councillor Mrs K Arnold, Councillor Mrs S Soar and Councillor Mrs L Tift
ABSENCE:

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

NOTED: that no Member or Officer declared any interest pursuant to any statutory requirement in any matter discussed or voted upon at the meeting.

2 DECLARATION OF ANY INTENTION TO RECORD MEETING

NOTED: that there would be an audio recording of the meeting.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minute No. 27 – Minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2017

It was requested that Councillors Mrs S.M. Michael and Mrs A.A. Truswell's apologies be included within the Minutes.

AGREED that subject to the above amendment the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager Environmental Health & Licensing which sought Members' approval for the draft revision of the Council's Licensing Policy and to commence the consultation process.

A copy of the 2019 draft Statement of Licensing Policy was attached as an appendix to the report. A large font had been used to identify where changes were proposed.

The changes to the document reflected the amendments to the Licensing Act 2013 brought in since 2014 and the document had additional information within it that was previously absent. There had been no fundamental changes to any of the policies previously agreed.

A typographical error was found on page 25, 8.1 of the Statement of Licensing Policy, and should read 'Club' Premises Certificates.

A Member commented on the Health & Safety of the bar garden for one of the local Public Houses as the seating area was in close proximity to the river Trent. Three people had already fallen in the river and it was felt that the seating area should be addressed to prevent any further accidents.

The Business Manager Environmental Health & Licensing confirmed the law regarding the licensing around the premises. He confirmed that the Business Unit had undertaken work with that licensed premise to ensure a safer environment.

Members also commented on the spread of the seating areas from the cafés in Newark Market place and felt that this was putting customers at risk from authorised vehicles that were allowed access into the Market Place.

The Chairman confirmed that this issue had been addressed with the Business Manager and an update report would be provided to a future meeting of the Committee.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

- (a) the draft revision of the Council's Licensing Policy be noted and the consultation process be commenced; and
- (b) an update report on the seating arrangements for the cafés within Newark Market Place be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

5 LICENSING ACT TRAINING FOR MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager Environmental Health & Licensing in relation to Licensing Act training being provided for both Officers and Members by the Nottinghamshire Authorities Licensing Group, scheduled for Wednesday, 4 July 2018 at the Hostess Restaurant in Mansfield.

Members of the Committee were requested to let Officers know if they were able to attend the training.

AGREED (unanimously) that the following Members confirmed their attendance for the forth coming training.

Councillors Mrs B. Brooks; Mrs I. Brown; D. Clarke; Mrs R. Crowe; P. Duncan; D. Payne; B. Wells; I. Walker; and Mrs Y. Woodhead.

6 COUNTYWIDE BEST BAR NONE SCHEME

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager Environmental Health & Licensing in relation to the final year report on year three of the county wide Best Bar None Scheme.

The report set out the background to the introduction of the scheme and the rewards for the licensees. The report also detailed the scheme to date from year one 2015/16, year two 2016/17 and year three 2017/18. The future of the scheme was also detailed and discussions had been undertaken with potential funders to provide some sustainability for the scheme. Licensing Authorities had been requested to commit their support for the scheme in years four and five. It was reported that there was no direct financial commitment required but some officer time would be required. It was not anticipated that this would have any detrimental impact on the other duties of the Licensing Team.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

- (a) the progress of the Nottinghamshire County Best Bar None Scheme be noted; and
- (b) the scheme in years four and five be supported.

7 MINUTES OF PERSONAL LICENCE HEARING

The Committee noted the Minutes of the Personal Licence Hearing for Mohammad Aamer Hussain, which was held on 1 May 2018.

AGREED (unanimously) that the Minutes be noted.

8 UPDATE ON QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE AND ENFORCEMENT MATTERS

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager Environmental Health & Licensing in relation to the activity and performance of the Licensing Team between 1 January and 31 March 2018 inclusive and to provide Members with details of current ongoing enforcement issues.

Information contained within the report related to the number of applications for the grant or variation of licences received between the above dates and the enforcement activity between 1 October and 31 December 2017 which were listed at 2.3 of the report. It was also noted in order by way of comparison, the number of Temporary Event Notices received for the same period last year was 45.

Members commented on the Ongoing Enforcement Activity reported and requested that more information be provided rather than just verbal advice given, in order for them to be aware of what was happening in the district. The Chairman requested that a report be submitted to a future meeting regarding what Enforcement Activity was being undertaken to keep the Committee informed.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

- (a) the information contained within the report; and
- (b) a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee, regarding what Enforcement Activity was being undertaken to keep the Committee informed.

9 TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICES RECEIVED AND ACKNOWLEDGED BETWEEN 1 JANUARY AND 31 MARCH 2018

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager Environmental Health & Licensing in relation to changes to Temporary Event Notices and notices that had been received and acknowledged between 1 January and 31 March 2018 inclusive.

Members sought confirmation as to whether Belams Bar had extended its operating hours. The Business Manager confirmed that he would check this and inform the Committee.

NOTED the Temporary Event Notices received and acknowledged between 1 January and 31 March 2018 inclusive.

10 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were none.

Meeting closed at 7.17 pm.

Chairman