

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE A - 18 JANUARY 2016

SUBMITTED TO THE LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETING –
24 MARCH 2016

(To be read in conjunction with the Agenda for the Meeting)

Present

Cllr Kevin Deanus
Cllr Patricia Ellis

Cllr Libby Piper

Apologies

Cllr John Fraser and Cllr Simon Inchbald

8. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN (Agenda item 1.)

Cllr Patricia Ellis was appointed Chairman for this meeting of Licensing Sub-Committee A.

9. MINUTES (Agenda item 2.)

The minutes of the meeting that took place on 26 October 2015 were confirmed and signed.

10. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (Agenda item 3.)

There were no disclosures of interest.

PART I – RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

There were no matters falling within this category.

PART II – MATTERS OF REPORT

Background Papers

The background papers relating to the following item in Part II are as specified in the agenda for the Committee.

11. LICENSING ACT 2003 - APPLICATION FOR VARIATION TO AN EXISTING PREMISES LICENCE - THE WILLIAM COBBETT PUB, 4 BRIDGE SQUARE, FARNHAM GU9 7QR (Agenda item 4.)

The applicant and current Premises Licence Holder attended the meeting and confirmed that she had received a copy of the agenda papers.

The Licensing Manager introduced the report and explained that the applicant sought a variation to the Premises Licence of The William Cobbett, 4 Bridge Square,

Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7QR. The request was to extend the licensable hours for sale of alcohol on a Friday and Saturday night only, by an extra 30 minutes to 0100 hours. And, as the opening times of the premises were linked to the sale of alcohol, closing 30 minutes after the sale of alcohol ceases. All other licensable activities, times and days to remain the same.

The applicant explained that they always had SIA trained door staff on duty Friday and Saturday evenings when it was busier and also during the week if they had live music being played. The applicant, therefore, requested that the following condition (under Public Safety) be removed to bring the pub in line with other premises in the area:

“At least one member of staff shall obtain SIA door staff qualifications as well as their personal licence and shall be on duty whenever live music, DJ music and/or dancing are provided to the general public”.

Officers suggested that if the Committee were minded to grant the change to the door staff condition, the new condition should be amended to read as follows:

“SIA Licensed door staff must be on duty at the premises during performances of live music”.

The Sub-Committee was advised that there had been no representations from any of the Responsible Authorities but they had received 2 representations from other persons who were not present at the meeting but whose letters were included in the papers. Members noted that there were particular concerns about the noise from the premises. The Licensing Manager confirmed that he had spoken to Environmental Health who had installed noise monitoring equipment in a neighbouring property but there was not enough noise to warrant taking further action.

The Sub-Committee asked the applicant about the capacity of the premises. She advised that there was room for 50 inside and in the garden there was space for 65. This was managed by the door staff and they asked people to come inside later in the evening to prevent noise disturbance. The applicant advised that she had not been approached by residents in the vicinity complaining about the noise but she wanted to ensure that they were not disturbed and advised that she was willing to be outside the premises when it closed to ensure customers left quietly.

Following the conclusion of questions, the Sub-Committee then WITHDREW at 10.21am.

After the Sub-Committee's deliberations, the meeting resumed at 11.49am and the Council's Solicitor confirmed she had been asked to advise the Sub-Committee during their deliberation on the wording of their decision:

“The Sub-Committee has carefully considered the application for variation of a premises licence, taking into account the representations received, statutory guidance and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy 2013-2018.

The Sub-Committee has agreed to grant the variation to the licence by extending the Friday and Saturday night hours for the sale of alcohol to 01:00 the following morning (with opening hours closing 30minutes after the sale of alcohol). The Sub-Committee did not consider that there was sufficient substantiated evidence to reject the application. However, taking into account the concerns of the objectors the Sub-Committee has added the following condition which is appropriate to address the licensing objective of Prevention of Public Nuisance.

“All customers shall move indoors or leave the premises by 00.30 Saturday and 00:30 Sunday.”

The Sub-Committee also accepts the variation to the condition in relation to suitably qualified SIA staff by replacing the condition with the following:

“SIA licensed door staff must be on duty at the premises during performances of live music and on Friday and Saturday nights.”

The Sub-Committee notes noise equipment was installed in a nearby property. It has also noted that the Applicant has said that she will supervise customers leaving the premises to ensure that they leave quietly, and we request the applicant does so as we believe it will help to build harmonious relationships with local residents.

The Sub-Committee is conscious that should there be any cause for concern in the future, legislation allows for members of the community and responsible authorities to contact their Licensing Authority with complaints over the operation of the premises, leading to a possible review of the licence.”

The meeting commenced at 10.00am and concluded at 11.53am

Chairman