



Special Licensing Committee

THURSDAY, 4TH MARCH, 2010 at 19:30 HRS - CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, N22 8LE.

MEMBERS: Councillors Patel (Chair), Beacham, Demirci, Dodds, Edge, Lister (Vice-

Chair), Newton, Reid, Scott and Peacock

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of urgent business. Late items will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. It being a special meeting of the Committee, under the Council's Constitution, Part 4, Section B, Paragraph 17, no other business may be considered at this meeting.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at he commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter if the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgement of the public interest **and** if this interest affects their financial position or the financial position of a person or body as described in paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct **and/or** if it relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to them or any person or body described in paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF LICENSING SUB COMMITTEES (PAGES 1 - 12)

To establish three Licensing Sub Committees to conduct the majority of hearings under the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005.

Please note that, it being a special meeting of the Committee under the Council's Constitution, Part 4, Section B, Paragraph 17 no other business shall be considered at this meeting.

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Wednesday, 24 February 2010



Agenda item:

Special Licensing Committee

on

4 March 2010

Report Title: Establishment of Licensing Sub-Committees

Joint Report of: Deputy Head of Local Democracy & Member Services and Head of Legal Services

Forward Plan ref. no. N/A

Wards Affected: All

Report: Non-Key Decision

1. Purpose

1.1 To vary the membership of the established three Licensing Sub-Committees to conduct the majority of licensing hearings, and to note the provisions for the appointment of substitutes.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Members note the resignation of Councillor Sheik Thompson as Member of the Licensing Committee, and the subsequent vacancy on the Licensing Sub-Committee B, and the appointment of Councillor Sheila Peacock to fill the resultant vacancy on the Licensing Committee, as confirmed by Full Council on 22 February 2010 in accordance with the Council's Constitution;
- 2.2 That Members agree the to the variation of the Membership of the existing Licensing Sub-Committee B by the inclusion of Councillor Peacock to fill the vacancy arising from Councillor Thompson 's resignation from the Licensing Committee;

Report Authorised by:

Ken Pryor, Deputy Head of Local Democracy and Member Services – John Suddaby, Head of Legal Services

Contact Officer: Clifford Hart, Committees Manager

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3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 Members are requested to note the resignation of Councillor Sheik Thompson as Member of the Licensing Committee, and the subsequent vacancy on the Licensing Sub-Committee B, and the appointment of Councillor Sheila Peacock to fill the resultant vacancy on the Licensing Committee, as confirmed by Full Council on 22 February 2010 in accordance with the Council's Constitution.
- 3.2 Members are asked to agree to the variation of the Membership of the existing Licensing Sub-Committee B by the inclusion of Councillor Peacock to fill the vacancy arising from Councillor Thompson 's resignation from the Licensing Committee
- 4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development (if applicable) N/A

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 5.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:
 - (i) the Council's Constitution and (ii) Local Licensing Procedure Rules

6. Licensing Committee

- The full Council appoints the membership of the Licensing Committee including its Chair and Vice-Chair. By law there must be at least 10 but no more than 15 appointed Members. The Committee can still meet and undertake its business with a quorum of 4 Members.
- The Council can determine the terms of reference of the Committee. These are currently set out in Part 3 C of the Council's Constitution and attached as Appendix 1 to this report. Members are invited to note the Committee's terms of reference and, in particular, the reference to the Committee of all premises sites or events where 500 or more persons are expected to be present.

7. Establishing the Licensing Sub-Committees

- 7.1 The Licensing Committee may establish Sub-Committees to assist with holding hearings for the less major cases. Although the membership for these has been reported to Annual Council, legally it is the Licensing Committee that fixes the Sub-Committees' membership and confirms their terms of reference.
- 7.2 In May 2009 there were three Licensing Sub-Committees established by this Committee to deal with the very large number of contested applications. The appointed membership of the Sub-Committees is fixed by law at 3 Members. The Council's own Local Licensing Procedure Rules set the quorum for hearings at 3 Members since this promotes better decision-making.

- 7.3 With membership of the 3 Licensing Sub-Committees established in May 2009 and set out in Appendix 2 to this report, it is now necessary, in the light of the resignation of Councillor Thompson as Member of the Licensing Committee, and subsequently Licensing Sub-Committee B, to consider filling the vacancy on the Sub-Committee B. Councillor Sheila Peacock was appointed at Full Council on 22 February 2010 fill the resultant vacancy, and it is for this Committee to consider her appointment to the resulting vacancy on the Licensing Sub-Committee B.
- 7.4 The Committee is also reminded that on occasions an appointed Member of a Licensing Sub-Committee cannot take part in the decision on a particular case because of a conflict of interest or because the premises in question lie in the Member's own Ward. In such cases, and any other case where a Member is unexpectedly absent or seriously late, it will be necessary to appoint a substitute Member often at short notice. The Members appointed as substitutes would always be trained Members of the main Committee who were able to make themselves available.
- 7.5 Members of the Committee are asked to note the existing terms of reference of the Licensing Sub-Committees. These are currently set out in Part 3 C of the Constitution and attached as Appendix 3 to this report. Members will note that the great majority of hearings will fall to the Sub-Committees but any case of special significance or difficulty can be called up to the parent Committee to decide. Reports on matters of general concern and decisions on general procedural issues will come to the Committee.

8 Recommendations

- That Members note the resignation of Councillor Sheik Thompson as Member of the Licensing Committee, and the subsequent vacancy on the Licensing Sub-Committee B, and the appointment of Councillor Sheila Peacock to fill the resultant vacancy on the Licensing Committee, as confirmed by Full Council on 22 February 2010 in accordance with the Council's Constitution;
- 8.2 That Members agree the to the variation of the Membership of the existing Licensing Sub-Committee B by the inclusion of Councillor Peacock to fill the vacancy arising from Councillor Thompson 's resignation from the Licensing Committee.:

9 Comments of the Chief Financial Officer

- 9.1 There are no specific financial implications.
- 10. Comments of the Head of Legal Services
- 10.1 The legal implications are set out in the body of this report.
- 11. Use of Appendices / Tables / Photographs.

- 11.1 Appendix 1 to this report is the terms of reference of the Licensing Committee
- 11.2 Appendix 2 to this report is the proposed variation to membership of the Licensing Sub-Committee B, and the membership of the Sub-Committees A & C
- 11.3 Appendix 3 to this report is the terms of reference of the Licensing Sub-Committees

APPENDIX 1

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION PART 3 SECTION C

6. Licensing Committee

- (1) The Licensing Committee has all the functions referred to it by law under the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005. These include:
 - (a) To be responsible for monitoring the operation of the Acts licensable activities and gambling in the Borough;
 - (b) To receive reports on these matters and on the functions delegated to the Licensing Sub-Committees and to officers. To call for a report on any individual case;
 - (c) To be consulted on the review and determination of the Licensing Policy Statement and the Statement of Gambling Policy including procedures for Council consultation with external stakeholders;
 - (d) To determine the procedures to be followed in handling applications, notices, representations and all hearings, subject to the relevant Regulations;
 - (e) Subject to Regulations, to determine the fees payable for applications for premises licences and related matters under the Gambling Act 2005;
 - (f) To exercise the functions of the Licensing Sub-Committees in relation to any premises, site or event where 500 or more persons are to be present;
 - (g) To exercise the functions of the Licensing Sub-Committees in any case referred to the Committee by its Chair, or by the Chair of a Licensing Sub-Committee on the grounds of its special significance or difficulty;
 - (h) In a Council Election Year when there is a need to hold a hearing in the period between Election day and the Annual Meeting of the Council, those Members of the Licensing Committee who are re-elected as Councillors shall meet as the Licensing Committee to exercise any of the functions of the Licensing Sub-Committees, or under (f) above, and shall elect a Chair for the meeting.

- (2) Excluded from the Licensing Committee's terms of reference are:
 - (a) The functions statutorily referred to the General Purposes Committee, the Cabinet and the full Council including the formal review and determination of the Licensing Policy Statement and the Statement of Gambling Policy;
 - (b) The functions delegated to the Licensing Sub-Committees, as set out below, except where referred back to the Committee under sub-paragraph 6(1)(g) above.

<u>Licensing Committee – Revised Membership 2009/10 as agreed by Full Council - 22 February 2010</u>

| Licensing Committee Cllr Patel (Chair) Cllr Lister (Vice Chair) Cllr Demirci Cllr Dodds Cllr Peacock Cllr Beacham Cllr Edge Cllr Newton Cllr Reid Cllr Scott | 5 Lab, 5 Lib Dem Members. | Licensing Sub Committee - A Cllr Patel (Chair) Cllr Demirci Cllr Reid | 2 Lab, 1 Lib Dem Members. |
|---|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| | | Licensing Sub Committee – B Cllr Lister (Chair) Cllr Peacock Cllr Newton | 2 Lab, 1 Lib Dem Members. |
| | | Licensing Sub Committee – C Cllr Beacham (Chair) Cllr Scott Cllr Dodds | 1 Lab, 2 Lib Dem Members. |
| | | Cllr Edge - Floating | |

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APPENDIX 3

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION PART 3 SECTION C

3. Under Licensing Committee

3.1 Licensing Sub-Committees

General Provisions

- (a) To exercise all the functions listed in these terms of reference in relation to any premises, site or event where less than 500 persons are to be present;
- (b) The Chair of a Licensing Sub-Committee may, before hearing it, refer any case falling within these terms of reference to the Licensing Committee on the grounds of its special significance or difficulty. This power may also be exercised by the Chair of the Licensing Committee;
- (c) Licensing Sub-Committees have the power to make final decisions on behalf of the Council on matters within their terms of reference and there is no right of appeal to the Licensing Committee.

Functions under both the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005

- (d) To determine applications for premises licences where relevant representations have been made;
- (e) To determine applications for provisional statements where relevant representations have been made;
- (f) To determine applications for variations of premises licences where relevant representations have been made;
- (g) To determine valid applications for review of premises licences;
- (h) To decide on any other matter where it is necessary or desirable for Members to make that decision;

Functions under the Licensing Act 2003 alone

- (i) To determine applications to vary designated premises supervisors following police objections;
- (j) To determine applications for transfer of premises licences following police objections;
- (k) To consider police objections made to interim authority notices;
- (l) To determine applications for club premises certificates where relevant representations have been made;
- (m) To determine applications to vary club premises certificates where relevant representations have been made;
- (n) To determine valid applications for review of club premises certificates;
- (o) To decide whether to give counter notices following police objections to temporary event notices;
- (p) To determine applications for grants of personal licences following police objections;
- (q) To determine applications for renewals of personal licences following police objections;
- (r) To decide on revocation of personal licences where convictions come to light after grant;

Functions under the Gambling Act 2005 alone

- (s) To determine applications for transfers of premises licences following representations by the Gambling Commission or others;
- (t) To determine applications for the re-instatement of premises licences where relevant representations have been made;
- (u) To decide whether to give counter notices following objections to temporary use notices;
- (v) To determine applications for the grant of club gaming permits and club machine permits where objections have been received;

- (w) To determine proposals to cancel club gaming permits and club machine permits where the holder requests a hearing;
- (x) When the licence holder requests a hearing, to determine officer proposals: (i) to make an order removing the entitlement of an on-premises alcohol licence holder to have one or two gaming machines, or (ii) to cancel or vary a licensed premises gaming machine permit;
- (y) To determine licensed premises gaming machine permit applications for 5 or more machines and all applications for any number of machines where there is cause for concern about the proper management of the premises;

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