

**MINUTES OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE C
THURSDAY, 10 APRIL 2008**

Councillors Baker, Edge and Patel (Chair)

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
LSCC01.	<p>ELECTION OF CHAIR</p> <p>In the absence of the Chair the Committee was asked to elect a Chair. The Committee agreed that Cllr Patel would chair the meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That Councillor Patel be appointed as Chair for the duration of the meeting.</p>	
LSCC02.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Beacham for whom Cllr Edge was substituting and from Cllr Dodds for whom Cllr Patel was substituting.</p>	
LSCC03.	<p>URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>There were no items of urgent business.</p>	
LSCC04.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>None received.</p>	
LSCC05.	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>The minutes of the Licensing Sub Committee C meetings held on 27 June 2006, 14 November 2007 and 19 March 2008 were deferred to the next meeting.</p>	
LSCC06.	<p>SUMMARY OF PROCEDURE</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
LSCC07.	<p>ALEXANDRA PALACE, ALEXANDRA PALACE WAY, N22 (ALEXANDRA WARD)</p> <p>This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Licensing Committee.</p>	
LSCC08.	<p>JENNINGS BET, 144 HIGH ROAD, N22 (NOEL PARK WARD)</p> <p>The Licensing Officer, Ms Barrett presented the report on the application from Jennings Bet. The Committee was asked to consider an application for the provision of facilities for betting, a betting premises licence.</p>	

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The committee was informed that during the consultation the licensing authority had not received any representations from the responsible authorities. No representations were received from the police however, this had been omitted from the report. Objections had been received from interested parties, The Salvation Army and William Hill.

The Salvation Army objected to the application on the ground that the area already had a number of gaming venues and 102 criminal incidents had been linked to gaming and betting venues in Wood Green in the last 12 months. It was felt that further applications would escalate the crime and disorder already experienced within the area and raise the impact on children and vulnerable people.

William Hill objected to the application on the basis that over-exposure to gambling in this part of Wood Green would happen if another gambling outlet were to open. In the immediate vicinity were four licensed betting offices with a further three located along the High Road.

The Committee enquired as to the exact location of the premises along the High Road and were informed that the location was along the parade opposite Wood Green Library arcade.

The applicant's representative addressed the Committee and stated that William Hill's letter of representation made reference to the Licensing Sub Committee however, they had chosen not to bring forward any evidence. The letter was sent to protect their business interest.

The Committee was informed that the shop would be a standard betting office as seen up and down the Country and would stay open until approximately 10pm. Jennings Bet was the oldest family run business in the Country based in Epping, Essex. The company had 39 shops in the South of England. The first shop was opened in 1960, they have had 48 years of experience running a betting establishment. Jennings Bet had opened shops in similar positions to this application on main high roads between other shops

Jennings Bet took their social responsibility seriously, upon receipt of the report they went straight to the police to determine what were the concerns and discovered they related to the alleyway behind the Quicksilver premises, an amusement arcade and not a betting shop.

The Committee questioned the applicants on the location of their established shops and in response were informed they were generally located in Town Centre:

- South London
- Bowes Park, Enfield
- Waltham Cross
- Epping, Essex
- Camden
- Barkingside

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- Kent
- Woolwich

The Committee enquired about the number of gaming machine to be provided within the shop, what was the maximum payout per machine and whether the shop would offer refreshments to customers. In reply the applicant stated that there would be four gaming machines, which was the maximum per shop and a fixed odds betting terminal (FOBTs). The maximum payout per machine was £500. Refreshments of tea, coffee and snacks would only be provided to betting customers. The Licensing officer enquired whether there would be a virtual betting machine within the shop and was advised that this was not part of the business.

The Legal Officer questioned the applicants on the reports of crime associated with FOBTs and how the applicant proposed to deal with such problems. The applicant replied that all their FOBTs were not located near the front door, staff were trained to monitor the behaviour of people using the machines. The Officer further queried the level of staff to be employed in the shop. In response the applicant stated there would be a manager, assistant manager and cashiers. It was normal to always have a manager on duty during operating hours.

The Committee further questioned the applicants on whether the Directors of the company visited the shop and how often. Enquired of their training policy, what training staff undertook, how often and whether they provided a training manual. The Committee was advised that the Directors regularly visited all the shops, both directors were the grandchildren of he founder of the company. There were currently:

- Two directors
- A development and licensing manager
- A general manager
- Two area managers
- Security manager with an assistant
- A compliance manager and
- A training manager

Training was provided to all staff initially when employed and further on the job training was conducted for cashiers. It was the intention to employ local staff who must be experienced in managing and working in a betting shop. The current area managers had been employed for 40 and 10 years respectively. The applicant's representative gave an undertaking to send a copy of the company's written training manual to the licensing authority.

RESOLVED

That the Committee decided to grant the application as asked, subject to the mandatory and default conditions.

The Committee was satisfied that the applicant had met the following

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	<p>principals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a). In accordance with any relevant code of practice under section 24.b). In accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Commission under section 25.c). Reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives (subject to paragraphs a) and b), andd). In accordance with the statement published by the authority under section 349 (subject to paragraphs a) and c). <p>The Committee took into account the written objections from interested parties and were satisfied that the Company's social responsibility policies, management structures and staff training would adequately deal with any concerns raised.</p> <p>INFORMATIVE:</p> <p>The Committee requested that the company sends to the Licensing Authority a copy of the company's staff training manual provided to individual members of staff as undertaken by the applicant's legal representative.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The meeting concluded at 8:45pm.</p>	
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Cllr Jayanti Patel
Chair