

LICENSING COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 21 JANUARY 2015 AT 4.55PM

PRESENT: Councillor Bell (Chairman), Councillors Bowman, Cape, Ms Franklin, Layden Morton, Mrs Parsons, Mrs Stevenson, Mrs Warwick and Wilson

OFFICERS: Assistant Solicitor
Licensing Manager
Licensing Officer

LC.01/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Betton and Scarborough.

LC.02/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest affecting the business to be transacted at the meeting.

LC.03/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meetings held on 8 October 2014 be agreed as a correct record of the meetings and signed by the Chairman.

LC.04/15 UPDATE ON LICENSING ACT 2003

The Licensing Manager presented report GD.09/15 giving Members an update on the applications under the Licensing Act 2003.

The Licensing Manager reported on the licence figures as 7 January 2015. He reported that all fees under the Licensing Act were fixed by Central Government and would be reviewed to ensure that Licensing Authorities recovered the full cost of administering the licensing function.

The Licensing Act 2003 stated that the sale of alcohol must be authorised by a Personal Licence Holder. The licence was issued either under 'grandfather rights' or by the applicant passing a relevant course and disclosure check. The licence lasted for 10 years.

In 2014 the Government consulted on abolishing personal licences altogether. There was strong opposition from both the trade and licensing authorities and the Government decided to retain them, however they would last indefinitely rather than 10 years. The appropriate legislation had not yet been made and the first 10 year licence renewals were due in February 2015. Interim guidance had been issued by the Government for those licences due for renewal before the new legislation becomes law. The interim procedure had created additional work without any ability to charge a fee.

RESOLVED – That Report GD.09/15 be noted.

LC.05/15 GAMBLING ACT 2005 –UPDATE

The Licensing Manager presented report GD.10/15 giving Members an update on applications made under the Gambling Act 2005.

The Licensing Manager highlighted the licence figures as at 7 January 2015.

He reported that officers continued to visit local gambling premises to meet managers and answer any queries under the legislation. The Licensing team were also carrying out inspections, with the Compliance Manager from the Gambling Commission.

RESOLVED – That Report GD.10/15 be noted.

(The meeting ended at 5.00pm)