

LICENSING COMMITTEE

11 October 2010

10.00 - 10.40 am

Present: Councillors Smith (Chair), Rosenstiel (Vice-Chair), Benstead, Hart, McPherson, Pogonowski, Saunders, Stuart and Znajek

Officers Present:

Christine Allison, Licensing Manager

Martin Whelan, Committee Manager

Carol Patton, Legal Advisor

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

10/78/lic Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Boyce.

10/79/lic Declarations of Interest

Cllr Rosenstiel declared a personal interest as a member of CAMRA.

Cllr Saunders declared a personal interest as a part time employee of Cambridge Wine Merchants.

Cllr Smith declared a personal interest in item 10/83/Lic due to her office being located on Mill Lane.

10/80/lic Minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2010

The committee resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2010, subject to the addition of Cllr McPherson to the apologies list.

At the request of the Chair the Licensing Manager provided a verbal update on the taxi issues considered at the meeting in July.

10/81/lic To note Licensing Sub-Committee minutes

The committee noted the sub-committee minutes appended to the agenda.

Cllr Pogonowski requested that the minutes relating to the hearing on 28th June 2010 (Waitrose, Burleigh Street) were amended to reflect that the decision was not unanimous.

10/82/lic Public Questions

There were no public questions.

10/83/lic Statement of Licensing Policy

The committee received a report from the Licensing Manager regarding the "Statement of Licensing Policy". The committee were advised that the proposed revised policy had been subject to 12 weeks consultation.

The Licensing Manager drew the attention of the committee to the request from the Police to extend the City Centre Cumulative Impact Area to include Hills Road (City to Purbeck Road) and the Cambridge Leisure Park Area to include to Cherry Hinton Road. It was noted that the proposed revisions to cumulative impact areas would be subject to separate consultation.

Members of the committee made the following comments regarding the proposed policy

- i) A small number of typographical changes were proposed to the policy.
- ii) The request from the Police to extend the areas covered by cumulative impact areas was welcomed. It was requested that consideration should be given to joining up the areas between cumulative impact areas, with specific reference given to the area between Hills Road and Mill Road. The Licensing Manager advised that other authorities had been challenged for an area being too large.
- iii) Based on the evidence presented in the report it was suggested that the City Centre Area should cover the Mill Pond area.

- iv) The committee noted the ongoing consultation regarding changes to the licensing process. It was suggested that in future it might be possible to have a general policy of presumption against approval.
- v) The ability of the city council to proactively extend or revise the cumulative impact areas was questioned. The Licensing Manager confirmed that any changes needed to be based on evidence.

The Divisional Licensing Officer and the Police Analyst responded to questions asked by members of the committee.

- i) The Divisional Licensing Officer confirmed that the police responded to all calls for service equally irrespective of whether or not they came from a cumulative impact area or not.
- ii) The Divisional Licensing Officer responded to the suggestion regarding the area between Hills Road and Mill Road, and advised that due to the nature of the area there was a low density of licensed premises. The Police Analyst advised that the whole city had been reviewed in the preparation of the response, and areas with a high density of licensed premises and high prevalence of violent crime had been highlighted.
- iii) In response to the suggestions regarding the Mill Pond the committee were advised that there was a low level of violent crime and the majority of licensed premises were restricted to members of the university.
- iv) In future it was suggested that any analysis should also cover areas of high prevalence of violent crimes and low density of licensed premises.

The committee resolved (unanimously) to

- i) Endorse the inclusion of a special policy on cumulative impact relating to all types of premises (both on and off licences) in the Statement of Licensing Policy.
- ii) Agree that the special policy on cumulative impact is to continue in relation to the three existing areas:
 - i. The City Centre
 - ii. Cambridge Leisure Park

iii. Mill Road

- iii) Recommend that Full Council adopt the new statement of licensing policy and that the updated data provided by the police is included to replace the previous police data contained within the existing policy.
- iv) Note the new request from the police concerning the section of Hills Road running from the city to Purbeck Road and extension of the Leisure Park area to include the section of Cherry Hinton Road running from Hills Road to Clifton Road.
- v) Approve the commencement of public consultation as to whether the special policy on cumulative impact should be adopted/extended for the areas outlined in paragraph .iv of the resolution.

10/84/lic Licensing Act 2003 - update on minor variations

The committee received a report from the Licensing Manager regarding the use of the minor variation process.

The committee resolved (unanimously) to

- i) Continue with the existing procedures for processing applications and determining applications and to retain the existing scheme of delegation, as agreed by Licensing Committee on 24 August 2009, to the Head of Refuse and Environment (previously Head of Environmental Services).

10/85/lic Licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues

The committee received a report from the Licensing Manager regarding the licensing of sexual entertainment venues.

The committee sought clarification on a number of points raised in the report, including the implications of not adopting the provisions. It was noted that conditions including those related to off-site advertising would be considered at a future meeting.

The committee resolved (unanimously) to recommend to Council that

- i) Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, as amended by Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009, shall apply to the Cambridge City Council area with effect from 1st December 2010.
- ii) The licensing and regulatory functions and responsibilities are delegated to the Licensing Committee.

The meeting ended at 10.40 am

CHAIR

This page is intentionally left blank