

Minutes of the Meeting of the LICENSING (HEARINGS) SUB-COMMITTEE

Held: FRIDAY, 10 JULY 2015 at 9:30am

PRESENT:

Councillor Thomas (Chair)

Councillor Byrne

Councillor Cank

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1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Councillor Thomas was elected as Chair for the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary or other interest they may have in the business on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest

4. APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE: SAVERS, 24 MARKET PLACE, CANK STREET, LEICESTER LE1 5GF

The Director of Local Services and Enforcement submitted a report that required Members to determine an application for a new premises licence for Savers, 24 Market Place, Cank Street, Leicester LE1 5GF.

Members noted that four representations had been received, three from Officers of the Leicester City Council and a representation from Leicestershire Police, which necessitated that the application had to be considered by Members.

Mr Terry Reid, Project Manager for the Alcohol Department at Savers was present to represent the applicant. Also present was the Licensing Team Manager and the Solicitor to the Sub-Committee.

Introductions were made and the procedure for the meeting was outlined to those present.

It was noted that none of the objectors were present. The Licensing Team Manager informed the hearing panel that one of the objectors, the City Centre Director had contacted the Licensing Team Manager to give their apologies.

The Licensing Team Manager presented the report. It was noted that four representations had been received between 27th May and 3rd June 2015 that related to the prevention of crime and disorder and the prevention of public nuisance.

The Licensing Team Manager advised that the Leicestershire Police had agreed a number of conditions with the applicant to be added in the event the licence was granted as set out in appendix B of the report.

The Chair commented that the panel had read the written representations and it was noted that none of the objectors had attended the hearing today.

Mr Terry Reid, the applicant's representative was then given the opportunity to outline the details of the application and respond to the points made in the representations and answer questions from Members.

All parties were then given the opportunity to sum up their positions and make any final comments.

Prior to Members considering the application, the Solicitor to the Sub-Committee advised Members of the options available to them in making a decision. Members were also advised of the relevant policy and statutory guidance that needed to be taken into account when making their decision.

In reaching their decision, Members felt they should deliberate in private on the basis that this was in the public interest, and as such outweighed the public interest of their deliberation taking place with the parties represented present.

The Licensing Team Manager, the Solicitor to the Sub-Committee and Mr Terry Reid the applicant's representative then withdrew from the meeting.

Members then gave the application full and detailed consideration.

The Solicitor to the Sub-Committee was then recalled to the hearing to give advice on the wording of the decision.

The Licensing Team Manager and Mr Terry Reid the applicant's representative then returned to the meeting.

The Chair informed all persons present that they had recalled the Solicitor to the Sub-Committee for advice on the wording of their decision.

RESOLVED:

To grant the licence subject to the conditions consistent with the operating schedule (at Appendix C) together with the conditions agreed with the Police as stated in Appendix B, where there was duplication the Police worded condition would take precedence.

In making their decision the Hearing Panel had listened to the presentation by Savers and were impressed by the professionalism of their training programme. The hearing panel did not believe the products on sale would prove attractive to the normal street drinker and they did not believe that the other objections could be justified as this was a new licence with no track record.

5. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 10.25am.