

MINUTES OF LICENSING COMMITTEE HELD ON

19 January 2009

7.30pm-8.29pm

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Nick Churchill (Chairman)

David Carter
Sarah-Jane Dangerfield
Tony Hall
Sue Livings

Joel Charles
Bob Davis
Maggie Hulcoop
Linda Pailing

Jean Clark
Manny Doku
Muriel Jolles
Russell Perrin

APOLOGIES

Lesley Rideout

Robert Thurston

78. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

79. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2008 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

80. MATTERS ARISING

None.

81. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

None.

82. LICENSING COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PLAN

The Chairman, congratulated the Licensing Team for their hard work, in conjunction with the Safer Harlow Partnership , Essex Police and Trading Standards, to address under-age alcohol sales in the town through the introduction of the 'Challenge 21' policy.

Since this initiative had been introduced, there had been a vast improvement in the number of shops making underage alcohol sales in Harlow. Further to this, a report on the Community Alcohol Partnership would be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee.

Noting the work plan, Members suggested that reports could be added to the March Committee from the 'to be allocated' list.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the work plan be noted;
- (b) 'Community Alcohol Partnership' report be added to the next meeting of this Committee;
- (c) 'Review of Gambling Policy' be added to the 'to be allocated' list for reporting before the end of 2009;
- (d) reports be taken from the 'to be allocated' list and assigned to specific Committee meetings as appropriate.

83. **REGULATION OF MOTOR SALVAGE OPERATORS**

The Committee received a report on the regulation of motor salvage operators, in line with regulations introduced by central government.

The regulations provided that every local authority should establish and maintain a register of all motor salvage operators in their area.

RESOLVED that

- (a) it be recommended to the Environment & Community Committee that the Safety and Licensing Department be responsible for the registration of motor salvage operators and the maintenance of the public register;
- (b) it be recommended to the Environment & Community Committee that the Safety and Licensing Manager has delegated authority to make initial decisions in respect of refusal of an application to register, refusal to renew a registration and cancellation of an existing registration (see paragraph 11 of the report) ;

- (c) a report back be made to a subsequent Licensing Committee on progress with the registration of motor salvage operators and the setting up of the public register.

84. **SCRAP METAL DEALERS**

The Committee received a report on the requirement for local authorities to register scrap metal dealers.

RESOLVED that

- (a) it be recommended to the Environment & Community Committee that the Safety & Licensing Department be responsible for the registration of scrap metal dealers and the maintenance of a public register;
- (b) a report back be made to a subsequent Licensing Committee on progress with the registration of scrap metal dealers and the setting up of the public register.

85. **HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE CONDITIONS – SIGNAGE**

The Committee received a report proposing the modification of the hackney carriage and private hire vehicle conditions to include restrictions on advertising signage on windows.

Two letters of objection to the proposals were tabled.

Whilst Members agreed that signage should not be permitted on front windscreens or side windows, they did not agree that there should be a restriction on the size of advertisements on rear windscreens (provided it did not obstruct the drivers view).

RESOLVED that

- (a) “and only covers a maximum of two thirds of the rear windscreen area.” be deleted from the proposed additions in paragraph 7 of the report;
- (b) paragraph 9 be deleted;
- (c) the modification to the vehicle conditions, as outlined in paragraphs 7 to 8 of the report and as amended above, be agreed;

- (d) the adoption of the proposals contained within paragraphs 7 to 8 of the report and as amended above, be recommended to the Environment & Community Committee.

86. **RISK BASED INSPECTION PROGRAMME UPDATE**

The Committee received a progress report on the implementation of the risk based inspection programme for premises which had been licensed under the Licensing Act 2003.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

87. **PRIVATE HIRE TRADE CONSULTATION MEETING**

RESOLVED that the notes of the private hire trade consultation meeting held on 17 December 2008 be noted.

88. **HACKNEY CARRIAGE TRADE CONSULTATION MEETING**

RESOLVED that the notes of the hackney carriage trade consultation meeting held on 23 December 2008 be noted.

89. **REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

None.

90. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE