

Licensing Sub-Committee

26 September 2014 at 9.00 am

1. Election of Chairman

Prior to commencement of the meeting it had been agreed that Councillor Tyler would chair the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest made.

3. Application to Vary a Premises Licence, Licensing Act 2003 Section 34 – Central Stores, Summerley Lane, Felpham

The Licensing Manager informed the Sub-Committee that the applicant had withdrawn this application.

4. Application to Vary a Premises Licence, Licensing Act 2003 Section 34 – the William Hardwicke, High Street, Bognor Regis

Licensing Manager	Sarah Meeten
Applicant	Alan Frith – Premises Licence Holder The William Hardwicke Public House
Interested Parties	Graham Kerbey – Local Resident
Legal Representative	Richard Orridge – Legal Advisor to the Council

The Chairman asked if there was any reason to enable the hearing to be dispensed with and was advised by the Licensing Manager that there was not.

Prior to commencement of consideration of this item, the Chairman requested those in attendance to introduce themselves and stated that there was a laid down procedure to be followed, a copy of which was before all those speaking at the meeting. He also stated that a verbatim note of the meeting would not be taken and should anyone wish anything particular to be noted they should indicate accordingly to enable this to be done.

The Licensing Manager presented the report and advised that the applicant was seeking authorisation to vary a premises licence at the premises known as The William Hardwicke, 12 High Street, Bognor Regis,

West Sussex, PO21 1SR and that the application was to extend the terminal hour for the supply of alcohol and to extend the terminal hour for the playing of recorded music and dancing. The Licensing Manager confirmed that representations had been made by a local resident and the Sussex Police but that matters had since been resolved between the applicant and the Sussex Police by the agreement of certain conditions. The Sub-Committee was advised that a noise management plan had been agreed between the applicant and the Council's Environmental Health Officers and that the applicant had produced a risk assessment at the request of the Sussex Police in relation to its operating hours. The terminal operating hour had been reduced.

In line with the Council's procedure, written and verbal representations were received and taken due account of from the local resident and the applicant.

The applicant advised the meeting that on Sussex Police advice he had amended his original application revising the timings for the supply of alcohol on the premises only to 2.00 am instead of 3.00 am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and a closing time of 2.30 am to minimise any effect on residents. The applicant confirmed that the Sussex Police had accepted his amendment requesting that the time that the ID scanner would be in use would be to start by 11.00 pm instead of 10.00 pm.

The local resident then presented his case in which a number of concerns were raised relating to noise and disturbance; anti-social behaviour and the dispersal of customers from the premises.

Following questions and answers from all sides, the Sub-Committee then retired from the meeting to consider its decision. The Council's legal representative was asked to verify the lawfulness of the decision being made and, on the meeting being reconvened, the Chairman gave advice to that effect.

The Chairman then advised all those in attendance of the decision of the Sub-Committee as follows:-

That the licence be granted for the hours of:

Licensable activities	0900-0000 Sunday to Wednesday; 0900-0200 Thursday to Saturday
Opening hours	0900-0030 Sunday to Wednesday 0900-0230 Thursday to Saturday

With conditions agreed with Environmental Health and Sussex Police plus a condition that 'a public meeting will be held if requested by local residents to discuss any issues regarding the operation of the premises'.

Reason for the decision:-

As no documented evidence was offered by the local resident or could be provided by the Council relating to a contravention of the licensing objectives in terms of public nuisance and having considered the applicant's reduction in hours and acceptance of the Sussex Police's conditions, the Sub-Committee agreed that the conditions proposed were appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives but that a further condition be added to prevent public nuisance this being that 'a public meeting will be held if requested by local residents to discuss any issues regarding the operation of the premises'.

(The meeting concluded at 9.45 am)

Signed Chairman