

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

6 February 2023 at 9.30 am

Present: Councillors Gregory, Daniells and Hamilton

Andrew Burrows, Licensing Officer presenting report
Neil Williamson, Environmental Health Team Manager
(Responsible Authority)
Richard Sargeant, Trading Standards (Responsible Authority)
David Bateup, Sussex Police (Responsible Authority)
PC Marvin Lucas, Sussex Police (Responsible Authority)
Krasimir Adamov, Company Director representing the applicant
Daniel Shing, Council Lawyer
Louise Dewberry, Licensing Officer
Glenn James, Licensing Officer
Jane Fulton, Committee Services Manager
Andrew Bishop, Committee Services Officer

43. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Prior to commencement of the meeting, it had been agreed that Councillor Gregory would chair the meeting. The Chair then invited all parties present to introduce themselves.

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

45. ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA WHICH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The Chair confirmed there were no urgent items.

46. LICENSING ACT 2003 S17 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE

The Chair asked if any representations had been received to enable the hearing to be dispensed with and was advised by the Licensing Officer that none had been received. The hearing was then formally commenced.

The Licensing Officer outlined the detail of the case for an application for a premises licence under Section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003 from Todor Dimitrov Stavrev on behalf of Best Bulgarian Shop Ltd, Unit 7, Durban Road Business Centre, Durban Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO22 9FE. The application was contested, with representations having been received from Arun District Council Licensing Authority, West Sussex County Council Trading Standards Service and Sussex Police. A representation had also been received from the applicant. It was explained that Best Bulgarian Shop Ltd was a registered company with one listed director, Krasimir

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Adamov, who was also the sole director for the Best Mini Market Ltd, 25 Station Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 1QD which had its premises licence revoked at the Licensing Sub-Committee meeting on 23 January 2023.

Following the Council's procedure for Licensing Sub-Committees, the applicant's representative made representations and answered questions from the Sub-Committee and responsible authorities. Detailed representations were also heard from the relevant parties in attendance, followed by questions from the Sub-Committee and other parties present which were responded to at the meeting. Questions revolved around the following themes:

- the absence of the applicant from the hearing
- how the licensing objectives would be observed and whether the applicant was aware of them
- what research had been undertaken to identify and mitigate local issues and risks
- the conditions included in the Police representation
- the location of the shop on an industrial estate and its proposed business model
- the management of the shop and who would supply cover during times of absence or be involved in the hiring of new staff
- the experience of the applicant running a licenced premises
- the formal or informal training received and ongoing by the applicant and manager of the shop
- what the shop would be selling and whether the business could survive without the sale of alcohol

Following the summing up of the responsible authorities present and the applicant's representative, the panel retired to consider its decision. On reconvening the meeting, the Chair advised that the Sub-Committee had taken into account all the representations made before them, both written and oral in respect of this matter, and also had due regard to the Statutory Guidance, the Council's own Licensing Policy and licensing objectives. The decision of the Sub-Committee was then delivered to all present.

The Sub-Committee

RESOLVED

That the application be refused.

..... Chair

(The meeting concluded at 11.33 am)