

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING OF THE

ALCOHOL & ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING COMMITTEE THURSDAY 25 OCTOBER 2012

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

PRESENT:

Councillors J E Fearon (Chairman), R L Butler, G R Mallender, G S Moore, E A Plant, S J Robinson, J A Stockwood and B Tansley

OFFICERS PRESENT:

B Adams
D Collings
A Goodman
P Randle
Neighbourhood Manager
Senior Licensing Officer
Member Support Officer
Deputy Chief Executive (PR)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors R A Adair, B Buschman, T Combellack, P Smith and H Tipton

1. Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

2. Notes of the Previous Meeting

The notes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 May 2012 were accepted as a true record.

Trading Standards Training – The Senior Licensing Officer explained that no new date had been set due to the workload of Trading Standards officers and that revised dates would be circulated as soon they were available.

Action The Senior Licensing Officer to inform Members of the revised dates for the Trading Standards Training

In respect of the late night levy, the Senior Licensing Officer reported that some local authorities had received letters from the Police. However, as it was felt that this would fall under the remit of the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioners, no further action would be taken until after the upcoming elections in November 2012.

3. Statement of Licensing Principles Under The Gambling Act 2005

The Senior Licensing Officer reported that in December 2006 the Council approved the initial Statement of Licensing Principles ("the Statement") issued under Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 ("the Act"). The Act made provision for the Statement to be reviewed every three years.

In conjunction with the Nottinghamshire Authorities Licensing Group (NALG) a review was undertaken of the current Statement and only minor amendments were made to it which was approved in 2009. The draft statement together with a document outlining the minor proposed changes had been considered by the Committee at its meeting in May 2012. Members were reminded that this was the second review of the Statement, the first taking place in 2009. Over the three year lifespan of the current Statement few changes had been made, resulting in only minor amendments to it. These mainly related to clarification of applications to split existing premises and the removal of appendices that contained duplicate guidance documents.

Members were informed that Section 349 (3) of the Act stated that before determining its Statement for a three year period the licensing authority must consult with the chief officer of police, one or more persons who appear to the licensing authority to represent the interest of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the authority's area and other persons who appear to the Licensing Authority to represent the interests of persons likely to be affected by gambling.

In addition to the statutory consultees, the consultation exercise was extended in line with the recommendations contained within the statutory guidance. Additional organisations, whose opinion it was felt appropriate to seek, were consulted directly and a full list of consultees had been included in the draft statement. The general public were also given the opportunity to comment on the amended Statement via the Council's website during the consultation period.

The consultation period began on 28 July 2012 and ended on 24 August 2012. Only one comment was received from the Association of British Bookmakers, who stated that the existing policy had been effective and they were satisfied with the current draft. Across the County very few comments were received and none that would affect the draft proposed Statement as originally produced. This demonstrated that the current Statement of Licensing Principles had been successful in achieving its aim to provide an effective framework for the administration of the Act.

The Revised Statement of Licensing Principles Gambling Act 2005 would be presented to Council for approval on 13 December 2012, prior to its publication on 3 January 2013.

Deputy Chief Executive (PR) confirmed that paragraph 1.18 would be updated to reflect current legislation in respect of equality, prior to Council considering the Statement.

It was AGREED that the proposed Statement of Licensing Principles be presented for approval by Council on 13 December 2012.

4. Live Music Act

The Senior Licensing Officer reported that the Live Music Act, which removes restrictions on live music between the hours of 8.00 am and 11.00 pm, with an audience of 200 people or less, came into force in October 2012.

Members of the Committee expressed concern that incidents of noise nuisance would increase as conditions on licenses, that had been deemed necessary, would now not apply before 11.00 pm. The Neighbourhood Manager reminded Members that landlords still had a duty to comply with the legislation in respect of statutory nuisance and that any breach could result in a fine or prosecution. Although Members recognised that the majority of landlords were responsible, it was felt that problems could arise from one off events/festivals, particularly during the summer months when windows would be opened. Members therefore requested that officers monitor the situation and report back any incidences to the Committee.

Action The Neighbourhood Manager to monitor and report back to the Committee any incidences of noise nuisance as a result of the introduction of the Live Music Act

In response to a question, the Senior Licensing Officer agreed to investigate whether any incidents of trouble had been attributed to some premises in West Bridgford, which had changed from a food lead to a drink lead operation.

Members were informed by the Neighbourhood Manager that the Police had requested funding from the South Notts Community Safety Partnership through the Rushcliffe Locality Group to provide additional officers on the streets during Halloween and continuing until New Year's Eve (the 'darker nights' campaign) to deter incidents of crime and antisocial behaviour.

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm.

Action Sheet ALCOHOL & ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING COMMITTEE THURSDAY 25 OCTOBER 2012

Minute Number		Actions	Officer Responsible
2	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	Inform Members of the revised dates for the Trading Standards Training	Senior Licensing Officer
3.	Statement of Licensing Principles Under The Gambling Act 2005	None	
4.	Live Music Act	Monitor and report back to the Committee any incidences of noise nuisance as a result of the introduction of the Live Music Act	Neighbourhood Manager