

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD IN  
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS,  
HERTFORD ON WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER  
2015, AT 10.00 AM

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PRESENT: Councillor Michael McMullen (Chairman).  
Councillors R Brunton and N Symonds.

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillors A Alder, Mrs R Cheswright,  
G McAndrew and T Page.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Peter Agbley	- Licensing Officer
Lorraine Blackburn	- Democratic Services Officer
Robin Clark	- Licensing Enforcement and Community Safety Manager
George Robertson	- Legal Services Manager

5 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor R Brunton and seconded by Councillor N Symonds that Councillor M McMullen be appointed Chairman of the Licensing Sub-Committee for the meeting.

RESOLVED – that Councillor M McMullen be appointed Chairman of the Licensing Sub-Committee for the meeting.

6 MINUTES – 2 SEPTEMBER 2015

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2015 be confirmed as a correct

record and signed by the Chairman.

7 APPLICATION BY SIXTY ONE FORE STREET FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE – 61 FORE STREET, HERTFORD SG14 1AL

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The Chairman outlined the procedure to be followed. All those present were introduced. The Licensing Officer summarised the application, comments received from local residents and the conditions which had been requested by the Police. The objectors were in attendance and summarised their key concerns as detailed within the report.

The applicants were in attendance and outlined their joint experience within the licensing trade. The applicants explained that they aimed to attract a more mature clientele base with high end spirits and ales rather than as a young persons' bar. The facility would also comprise a 40-cover restaurant.

The applicant summarised how each of the objectors' concerns would be addressed. He referred to the fact that conditions requested by the Police in relation to displaying a notice aimed at persons arriving or departing the venue about noise; the installation of CCTV; and, no open containers allowed outside the front of the premises, had been accepted by them. He confirmed that they had no interest in the use of the office. The applicant advised that the licensable hours requested, including on Bank Holidays, were no different to those currently being used by other licensed premises locally. The applicant stated that Fore Street was a commercial area with an active night-time economy. As such, noise and disturbance would always be a factor in the area.

The objectors appreciated the efforts the applicants had made to address their concerns but felt that these had not been sufficient to make them happy. The objectors referred to the acoustics and the fact that their property was single glazed and noise would carry when bottles

were decanted and from general disturbance. The applicants stated that they would be happy to double glaze their property, locate a “no smoking” area at the rear of the premises and accept a condition on the decanting of bottles into paladin bins. They stated that a member of staff meeting and greeting at the door would go some way to minimising noise by those arriving and leaving the premises.

In response to a query from Councillor R Brunton regarding the gates, the objectors confirmed that residents above them would be happy to contribute to their restitution.

At the conclusion of the representations, the Sub-committee withdrew with the Legal Services Manager and the Democratic Service Officer to consider the evidence.

Following this they returned, and the Chairman announced that the Sub-Committee had listened to the objectors and the applicants’ representations and had agreed that the application for a new premises licence be granted, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) acceptance of the three Police conditions as set out on Page 19 of the report, as amended in paragraph 3 (with regard to the installation of CCTV);
- (2) acceptance of the condition set out on Page 29 of the report requiring no playing of amplified music on the ground floor;
- (3) addition of a condition requiring a no smoking area to the rear of the premises;
- (4) addition of a condition requiring that the timescales for the decanting of bottles in to paladin bin should be:
  - not after 8pm or before 9am weekdays and not after 8pm and before 12 midday Saturday and

Sunday; and

- (5) addition of a condition requiring that secondary glazing be installed to the bar area on the ground floor windows.

The applicant was also advised that although not a condition, the Sub Committee suggested that the applicant continue their discussions with residents regarding the installation of secondary glazing in the flat and regarding the provision of gates to the rear of the property.

The Sub Committee also pointed out to residents that should they experience any problems regarding noise they should contact Environmental Health.

RESOLVED – that, for the reasons and subject to the conditions now detailed, the application for a new premises licence be granted.

The meeting closed at 11.35 am

Chairman	.....
Date	.....