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LICENSING ACT 2003 SUB-COMMITTEE

Thursday, 22 August 2019

Present:

Councillors L Rowlands
 G Davies
 D Mitchell

4 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

Resolved – That Councillor L Rowlands be appointed Chair for this meeting.

5 **MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the Sub-Committee were asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non pecuniary interests in connection with any application on the agenda and state the nature of the interest.

No such declarations were made.

6 **APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003 - TRANMERE ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB, PRENTON ROAD WEST, PRENTON, WIRRAL CH42 9PY**

The Director of Governance and Assurance reported upon an application that had been received from Tranmere Rovers Football Club to vary a Premises Licence in respect of Tranmere Rovers Football Club, Prenton Park, Prenton Road West.

It was reported that the premises currently holds a Premises Licence and the details of the variation of the Premises Licence were outlined within the report. The applicant had submitted an operating schedule setting out how the business would be conducted/managed in accordance with the four licensing objectives. A copy of the full application was available. Members were advised that the proposals set out in the operating schedule may become conditions of the licence should the application be granted and that following discussions with Merseyside Police the applicant had agreed to include a number of conditions on the Premises Licence.

In respect of the application, eight representations had been received from local residents. The representations related to concerns that granting the application would result in an increase in noise nuisance and anti-social behaviour. Copies of the representations were available.

The applicant attended the meeting together with the Safety Officer and the Managing Director of Tranmere Rovers Football Club.

The Licensing Manager confirmed that all documentation had been sent and received and that no local residents were in attendance.

The applicant addressed the Sub-Committee and informed them that the Fan Zone had been running successfully for four years, had encouraged good relations between football fans and had led to the Club receiving an award. He advised that in view of the concerns raised, he would be content to have a condition attached to the Premises Licence that would restrict the use of the outside area to pre match times. It was considered that this would address the concerns raised regarding the potential use of the area late at night.

In response to questions from Members, Mr D K Abraham, the Legal Advisor to the Sub-Committee and the Licensing Manager, the applicant responded to queries in respect of the policies and procedures that would be in place, staffing levels and waste disposal. The Club explained that in terms of the use of the area, the safety of the public would always overrule the sale of alcohol. It was reported that the area would be managed with an increase of SIA registered stewards and safety stewards and that the area would be monitored to prevent public nuisance to local residents.

In determining the application, the Licensing Act 2003 Sub-Committee had regard to the Licensing Objectives, the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the Statutory Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Members of the Licensing Act 2003 Sub-Committee gave careful consideration to the submissions made by the applicant at the hearing and the representations made by local residents which had been submitted in writing.

It was noted by Members that the use of the Director's car park as a Fan Zone would be subject to the Club satisfying the Safety Advisory Group that the Club can manage the area without compromising their Sportsground Safety Certificate.

In determining the application, Members took into consideration the representations made by local residents, the conditions put forward by the applicant, the conditions agreed with Merseyside Police and the fact that there were no representations from any of the Responsible Authorities.

Members had particular regard to the compromise made by the applicant in reducing the use of the proposed area to approximately two to three hours prior to kick off on match days.

In coming to their decision Members also took into account Section 11 of the Guidance in respect of the review mechanism provided by the Licensing Act 2003 when problems associated with the Licensing Objectives occur after the grant of a Premises Licence.

Resolved –

- (1) That in accordance with Regulation 14(2) of the Licensing Act 2003, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the application.**
- (2) That the application to vary a Premises Licence in respect of Tranmere Rovers Football Club, Prenton Road West, Prenton, Wirral CH42 9PY be granted.**

(3) That the following condition be attached to the Premises Licence:

- **The area outside of the marquee identified as the Director's car park may only be used on match days and must not be used beyond the kick-off time of any game.**

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