

# LICENSING ACT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 14 October 2020

<u>Present:</u>	Councillor	A Hodson (Chair)	
	Councillors	M Collins	D Mitchell
		C Cooke	L Rowlands
		G Davies	J Stapleton
		K Greaney	I Williams
		AER Jones	KJ Williams
		C Jones	S Williams
<u>Apologies</u>	Councillors	T Norbury	

## 1 MINUTES' SILENCE

The Chair asked that the Committee observe a minutes' silence in tribute to the memory of former Councillor Bill Davies who had served on Licensing Committees for a number of years and who had sadly passed away on 2 October, 2020.

## 2 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the 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.

## 3 MINUTES

**Resolved** – That the accuracy of the minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Act 2003 Committee held on 22 May 2019, the special meeting held on 25 July 2019 and the meeting held on 13 November 2019 be approved.

## 4 MINUTES OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003 SUB-COMMITTEE

**Resolved** – That the accuracy of the minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Act 2003 Sub-Committees held on 25 April 2019, 8 May 2019, 22 May 2019, 14 June 2019, 22 August 2019, 29 November 2019, 12 June 2020, 15 July 2020, 17 July 2020, 22 July 2020 and 14 August 2020 be approved.

## 5 APPOINTMENT OF LICENSING PANEL

The Committee was requested to appoint the Licensing Panel with the term of membership to be continued until amended or otherwise changed by this Committee and until such time as a new Licensing Panel is appointed.

The Chair explained that each Licensing Panel is to be comprised of three Members drawn from the pool of fifteen Committee Members with the Chair being appointed on the day of each meeting.

The Legal Advisor to the Committee outlined the terms of reference as stated in paragraph 12.3 of the Constitution and agreed at Council on 28 September 2020 which state:

### **“12.3 Licensing Panels (Licensing Act)**

Sub-Committees of three (3) members of the Licensing Act Committee with responsibility for the Council’s functions to deal with applications, determinations and reviews of licences, permissions and any related matter in respect of the Licensing Act 2003 or the Gambling Act 2005. Up to two (2) further members of the Licensing Act Committee may attend with the Licensing Panel as observers.”

### **Resolved –**

- (1) That the Licensing Panel be appointed with the term of membership to be continued until amended or otherwise changed by this Committee and until such time as a new Licensing Panel is appointed.**
- (2) That each Licensing Panel meeting with the terms of reference outlined above be comprised of three members to be drawn from the following pool of fifteen Committee Members:**

**Councillors George Davies, Karl Greaney, Adrian Jones, Chris Jones, Tony Norbury, Jean Stapleton, Irene Williams, Jerry Williams, Andrew Hodson, Mike Collins, Les Rowlands, Steve Williams, Dave Mitchell and Chris Cooke (1 vacancy).**

## 6 UPDATE FROM THE LICENSING MANAGER

At the request of the Chair, the Licensing Manager provided an update on the work that had been carried out to support local businesses during the pandemic.

It was reported that meetings had taken place with licensees to provide them with a briefing in terms of the new regulations and the implications of those and also to provide advice and support, in particular financial support for those businesses who had had to close.

The Licensing Manager was pleased to report that further to the inspection of over 90% of premises during the last two to three weeks a high level of compliance had been demonstrated, however if it had been found that premises had not complied with the regulations warning letters had been issued and in one case a Fixed Penalty Notice.

The Licensing Manager advised that work was ongoing in conjunction with Environmental Health and other agencies in order to keep people safe and to keep Wirral well.

The Chair gave thanks to all those involved for their hard work and support.