

WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held in Trent Meeting Room at The Guildhall, Gainsborough on Monday 9 September 2013 at 10.30am

Present:
Councillor Owen Bierley
Councillor Chris Darcel
Councillor Jessie Milne

In Attendance :
Phil Hinch Licensing and Support Team Leader
Dinah Lilley Governance and Civic Officer

Also in Attendance :
In support of the Application:

Philip Bradley Applicant
Darren Lince Applicant

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor Jessie Milne be elected Chairman of the Licensing Sub-Committee for this meeting.

Councillor Jessie Milne took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting and round the table introductions were made.

2 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 LICENCE HEARING RE:
APPLICATION FOR THE VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE AT
THE WHITE SWAN, 9 THE GREEN, SCOTTER
APPLICANT: MR PHILIP BRADLEY**

The procedure circulated with the agenda was followed and the Licensing and Support Team Leader presented the report and summarised the purpose of the Hearing, this being an application for a variation to the premises licence at The White Swan, Scotter, in light of an objection having been raised.

Members noted the nature of the objections received from the interested person, the licensing objectives to which they related and the options available to the Sub-Committee in determining this matter. It was noted that no objections had been received from responsible authorities.

The applicants presented their case, pointing out that there was an error in the report, and that recorded music outside was requested up to 11pm only. They described how they had invested £300k on renovations and believed that the White Swan had good prospects, but in the current financial climate it was important to promote the establishment as a venue for functions and weddings. Many of the changes requested to the licence were simply rationalisation and correction of anomalies, but requested extensions to the hours for music and alcohol were to cater for the needs of guests attending functions and especially those staying overnight.

The applicants were sympathetic to the concerns of neighbouring residents and had undertaken works to mitigate as much nuisance as possible, e.g. air conditioning was to be installed to avoid the need for doors to be open in warm weather, thereby reducing the level of external noise.

Members of the Sub-Committee asked a number of pertinent questions of the applicants in relation to public safety and the prevention of public nuisance.

As the party who had submitted the objection was not present, the Licensing and Support Team Leader read out the submission which had been received, but the Sub-Committee and applicants were not able to question further. Whilst Members were sympathetic to the concerns of residents, it was felt however that some of the points raised were based on what could happen, rather than factual evidence, which the Sub-Committee were not able to take into consideration.

In summing up the applicants noted that there had been no complaints from neighbouring residents in the 9-10 months the White Swan had been open, and they were mindful that licences could be reviewed in the event of any complaints being received.

The applicants and the Licensing and Support Team Leader then withdrew, at 11.50am, whilst the sub-committee considered the application.

The applicants and the Licensing and Support Team Leader, returned at 12.10pm, following which the decision was announced, as follows:

“The Sub-Committee have listened to the applicants’ submission and also given consideration to the written representation which was read out. Having questioned the applicants at length and also taken into consideration the concerns of the local resident, the Sub-Committee is satisfied that the applicants are prepared to undertake all necessary mitigation to comply with the four licencing objectives. Therefore following

deliberation the Sub-Committee have decided to grant the application for variation of premises licence as applied for.

The Chairman advised that all parties would be notified of the decision in writing within five working days of today's hearing and reminded those present of the right to appeal to the magistrates' court within 21 days of receiving such notice.

RESOLVED that the premises licence for The White Swan, Scotter be granted as applied for.

The meeting closed at 12.20 pm

Chairman