

## WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Licensing Sub Committee held in the Guildhall, Marshall's Yard, Gainsborough on 26 August 2016 commencing at 10.00 am.

**Present:** Councillor Sheila Bibb  
Councillor Owen Bierley  
Councillor Mrs Jessie Milne

**In Attendance:** Phil Hinch - Licensing Team Manager  
Tracey Gavins – Licensing Officer  
Kim Newbould Robertson – Legal Advisor  
Dinah Lilley – Governance and Civic Officer

**Present** Paul Lamb – Applicant  
Graham Cushion – Applicant's Solicitor  
Town Councillor Sharon Hopkinson - Objector  
Sharon Walster – Objector  
Shirley Cooke - Objector

**Also Present** Steve Dyke – Member of the Public

### 10 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THIS MEETING ONLY

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

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

### 11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence

### 12 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

### 13 LICENCE HEARING

Licence Number: TBC

Hearing Type: Application for the Grant of a Premises Licence

Applicant: Martin Richards Developments LLP

Premises: "Lords" 31-35 Lord Street, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire DN21 2DD

The Licensing Team Manager introduced the report setting out the reason for the application as being that following the dissolution in March 2016 of Richards Developments Ltd, which had held the licence for the premises since 2007, the licence had lapsed. A new licence had

been applied for by Martin Richards Developments LLP, and a number of objections had subsequently been received.

The applicant then presented their case, stating that it had simply been an administrative error that the licence had been allowed to lapse following the Company restructure. The applicant then stated that although there had been occasional problems, this was to be expected at a town centre establishment. Action was always taken to deal with issues that arose, even dismissing the tenant and closing the premises when necessary, and no enforcement had ever been required. There had been no objections from statutory consultees such as the Police or Environmental Health, and the manager worked closely with the Police. A new tenant was currently being sought, and an appropriately experienced person was hoped for.

The objectors asked a number of questions, primarily around what steps the applicants were going to take to ensure that there was no trouble in the future. The applicant noted that there was full camera coverage of the premises and reiterated that problems were dealt with as they arose. Assurance was given that the right tenant would be put in place, who would manage the establishment effectively.

No further questions were put by Members of the Sub-Committee.

The objectors then presented their case citing instances of noise, antisocial behaviour and poor management, meaning that it was unsafe for people walking past in the street due to unruly behaviour outside. One of the objectors requested sight of the incident book, however this was not required as part of the hearing, and the legal representative noted that incidents that required police involvement in the vicinity were not necessarily tied to the public house, nor recorded as such. One objector, Town Councillor Hopkinson, requested that a number of conditions be attached to the licence – e.g. permanent door staff; plastic glasses; an incident book; regular police checks; and an appropriate pavement licence with tables and chairs. It was noted that plastic glasses were usually supplied for outdoor use.

No further questions were put by Members of the Sub-Committee, nor the applicant.

The Sub-Committee then adjourned at 10.50 to deliberate their decision, and the meeting reconvened at 11.10. The Sub-Committee were accompanied by the legal representative and committee clerk.

The Chairman then read out the decision:

The Sub-Committee have read and heard the information before them.

The Sub-Committee have heard from the applicant, Cllr Sharon Hopkinson, Shirley Cooke and Sharon Walster. The Sub-Committee have heard from the applicant that an administrative error led to the licence lapsing. They have also heard that whenever problems were raised by the police this has previously been addressed by the landlord with the tenant at that time.

The Sub-Committee have heard from the objectors that there has been noise emanating from the premises and problems with antisocial behaviour both in the premises and outside.

Having considered all of the information the Sub-Committee are of the view that it is appropriate to grant the licence as applied for. The Sub-Committee have not been

presented with any evidence to show problems are directly associated with the premises. The Sub-Committee also note the information provided relates to previous tenants at the premises and no evidence has been presented to show that these problems will occur in the future.

The Sub-Committee are recommending to the applicant that all members of staff receive training on Challenge 21.

There is a right of appeal to the Magistrate's Court within 21 days.

The meeting concluded at 11.13 am.

Chairman