

WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held in the Council Chamber - The Guildhall on 10 June 2021 commencing at 6.30 pm.

Present: Councillor Mrs Jessie Milne (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs Angela Lawrence (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Liz Clews
Councillor Timothy Davies
Councillor Mrs Caralyne Grimble
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan
Councillor Mrs Cordelia McCartney
Councillor Mrs Judy Rainsforth
Councillor Jim Snee

In Attendance:
Andy Gray Housing and Enforcement Manager
Katie Storr Democratic Services & Elections Team Manager (Interim)

Apologies: Councillor David Cotton

1 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all Members of the Committee back to the Chamber for the first time since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020. The safety measures that were in place were highlighted. In the absence of a public gallery, due to capacity within the Chamber, the Chairman advised the Committee meeting would be live webcast and extended her welcome to those watching at home.

2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING/S

For Approval:-

(a) Licensing Committee – 10 September 2020

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on

Thursday, 10 September 2020 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

For Noting: -

(a) Licensing Sub-Committee – 17 December 2020

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing – Sub Committee held on 17 December 2020 be noted.

(b) Licensing Sub-Committee – 10 February 2021

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing – Sub Committee held on 10 February 2021 be noted.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this point in the meeting.

5 GAMBLING ACT 2005 STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES (GAMBLING POLICY) - APPROVAL FOR CONSULTATION

Members gave consideration to a report which sought Committee's approval for the updated statement of principles for the Gambling Act 2005 to be consulted upon.

The Council was required to publish a Statement of Licensing Principles in relation to gambling licensing. The policy was intended to guide decision makers, applicants, objectors and others regarding the decision making process.

The Policy would be the basis of the Licensing Authority's decisions and set out how the Authority would work to fulfil the licensing objectives.

It was a requirement upon the Authority, to review and Publish its Statement of Principles at least every three years, ensuring relevant consultation was undertaken on any proposed amendments.

Officers outlined the proposed consultation dates, noting consultation would last 8 weeks and would commence on 21 June, as opposed to 14 June, as stated within the report. The Gambling Act 2005 set out a number of statutory consultees and these were detailed in section 4.21 of the Statement of Principles.

Following the consultation, the Licensing Committee would be asked to consider the final document at their meeting on 16 September 2021 before recommending the document to Full Council in November for approval and adoption.

Brief debate followed, during which, in reference to Appendix 5 of the Draft Statement of Principles, which related to Safeguarding, it was suggested the wording "should consider"

should be strengthened by the removal of the word “consider”. Safeguarding of vulnerable adults was of paramount importance.

Officers indicated they would need to check the legal implications of amending the wording, but undertook to ensure the comment was captured as a consultation comment. If deemed appropriate, and legally sound, the wording would be amended when the document returned to Committee in September, following the consultation period.

Whilst not within the Committee’s remit to monitor or control, disappointment was expressed, at the installation of ATMs in betting establishments. Such practice, was considered, to be counter-productive in trying to safeguard and protect the vulnerable.

RESOLVED that the Statement of Principles, Gambling Act 2005 be approved for consultation purposes and be re-submitted to the Committee in September 2021 for further consideration.

The meeting concluded at 6.41 pm.

Chairman