HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

held in the Council Chamber, The Symington Building, Adam and Eve St, Market Harborough

5th September 2018

commencing at 6.30p.m.

Present: Councillor Bilbie (Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs Beasley Reynolds, Chapman, Dann, Dunton, Dr Hill, Liquorish, Mrs Robinson and Rook

Officers: Elaine Bird, Sarah Greenway, Sarah Hamilton and Jessica Nicholls

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Bilbie was elected as Chairman for the 2018/19 year.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Mrs Chapman was appointed as Vice-Chairman for the 2018/19 year.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs Burrell, Cllr Hammond and Cllr Mrs Wood.

DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None received.

GAMBLING ACT 2005 - REVISED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

In accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 ("the Act") the Council is required to consult upon and prepare a Statement of Principles for a further three year period.

Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 requires all Gambling Act Licensing Authorities to prepare and publish a Statement of Principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Act. The Council currently licences three Betting Shops within the District, approximately 100 lottery licences and 3 Gaming Machines within the remit of this policy. The consultation period will run from 10th September until 21st October 2018.

The Licensing Authority is required to review its policy every three years. Harborough District Council will be consulting on its Statement of Licensing Policy under the Gambling Act 2005. The existing Statement of Principles – Gambling Act 2005 became effective from 31st January 2016 until 30th January 2019. This revised Statement of Principles – Gambling Act 2005 will become effective from 31 January 2019 until January 30 2022.

As part of the review, consultation will take place with stakeholders, interested parties and the community in order to seek feedback. There has been no substantial change in the current legislation and the revised Statement of Principles has simply been updated to include three minor amendments in relation to an update regarding population numbers, a new paragraph on local risk assessments and amended wording for a Temporary Use Notice. The proposed amendments are set out in red in the document in Appendix A to the report.

An Initial Equality Impact Assessment was completed in September 2015 and it confirmed that there was no direct discrimination against any of the protected groups. Following the review further consideration was given and there is no further evidence to suggest that it will have a disproportionately negative impact against any of the protected groups.

In drawing up its policy, Harborough District Council has had regard for the three licensing objectives, which are: preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder, or being used to support crime; ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way and protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

RESOLVED that:

i. the Revised Statement of Principles be subject to a period of public consultation from 10th September 2018 – 21st October 2018;

ii. the Regulatory Services Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Licensing Committee, be given delegated authority to consider any consultation responses received;

iii. subject to the outcome of (ii) above, the revised Statement of Principles, as attached as Appendix A to the Report, be referred to Council for approval and adoption.

MATTERS OF URGENCY

The Committee requested that further training on the Gambling Act 2005 be provided and this request was confirmed by the Officers.

The Committee also requested a report on the Dog Breeding Licence and Officers confirmed that this was already scheduled to be covered at the meeting of the Licensing Committee meeting on the 12th February 2019.

The Meeting ended at 6.41 p.m.