

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING

held at

The Council Chamber  
The Symington Building, Adam and Eve Street  
Market Harborough LE16 7AG

On

9<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Commencing at 6.30pm

Present:

Councillor Neil Bannister (Vice-Chairman of the Council in the Chair)

Councillors: Beadle, Burrell, Dunton, Elliott, Frenchman, Liquorish, Nunn, Rickman

Officers: J. Evans, S. Green, N. Kwasa, J. Nicholls

Apologies: Councillors Bilbie, Modha, Robinson

INTRODUCTIONS

The Vice-Chairman of the Council opened the meeting and introduced the Members and Officers present, as well as those watching the meeting online.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2021/2022 YEAR

The Vice-Chairman stated that, as it was the first Licensing Committee meeting of the year, the first item was to elect a Chairman. Nominations were invited and Councillor Geraldine Robinson was nominated by Councillor Rickman and seconded by Councillor Nunn.

There being no other nominations, it was therefore;

**RESOLVED that Councillor Geraldine Robinson be elected Chairman of the Licensing Committee for the 2021/22 year.**

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2021/2022 YEAR

Councillor Nunn then proposed to appoint Councillor Sindy Modha as Vice-Chairman. This was seconded by Councillor Rickman. There being no other nominations, it was therefore;

**RESOLVED that Councillor Sindy Modha be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Licensing Committee for the 2021/22 year.**

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the Vice-Chairman of the Council remained in the chair.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES

Apologies were received from Councillors Bilbie, Modha and Mrs Robinson, who were substituted by Councillors Rickman, Bannister and Nunn respectively.

4. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were none.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 be approved and signed as a true record.

6. GAMBLING ACT 2005 - REVISED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The Senior Licensing Officer presented the report which asked the Committee to consider the Council's Revised Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005 to go out for public consultation and subject to any consultation responses be recommended to Council for approval. She noted that there had been no major changes due to the fact there have been no legislation changes or changes in the district. The Committee had the opportunity to question the officer and following the discussion it was;

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the Revised Statement of Principles is subject to a period of public consultation from 14<sup>th</sup> February – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2022;**
- 2. That the Regulatory Services Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Licensing Committee, is given delegated authority to consider any consultation responses received;**

- 3. Subject to the outcome of 2 above, refers the revised Statement of Principles attached as Annex A, to Council for approval and adoption.**

- 7. ANY URGENT BUSINESS**

Councillor Dunton asked officers if any breaches of Covid regulations over the last 18 months would be considered at a Licensing Sub-Committee. The Director of Communities and Wellbeing agreed to look into this and after the meeting, the following update was provided;

The regulations the Council enforced for covid were made under the Public Health legislation not the Licensing Act so would not have needed a licensing hearing.

The enforcement powers were split between the police and local authorities depending on what the breach was. We also had authority to act on behalf of the County Council if something was deemed to be an imminent public health risk. Simply if the breach was in relation to business activity it was the local authority and individual breaches were down to the police.

The agreed approach across LLR was the 4 'E's' Engage, Explain, Encourage and ultimately Enforce and this was used by the police and the local authorities and there was an agreed MOU on how all organisations worked together.

Generally, our compliance was good and both the Commercial Team and the Licensing Team worked closely with our premises. Whilst we issued a number of advisory and warning letters the only formal enforcement we did was to issue a FPN on a pub in Market Harborough because there were a number of breaches witness by an EHO. The other enforcement work we did was with the Trading Standards Team and they issued a direction on a pub in one of the villages following a breach.

The Meeting closed at 18.41