

Minutes of the Licensing Committee

6th September, 2013 at 10.00am
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury

Present: Councillor Allen (Chair);
Councillor Piper (Vice Chair)
Councillors Cherrington, Dhallu, Eaves, Edis,
Hadley, Preece, Silvester and Tranter.

Apologies: Councillors K Davies and P Davies.

8/13 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 24th May, 2013, be confirmed as a correct record.

9/13 **Annual Report of the Licensing Committee and Licensing Panels for the 2012/13 Municipal Year**

The Committee considered the proposed Annual Report of the Licensing Committee and Licensing Panels for the 2012-2013 municipal year.

It was noted that the Council, on 18th May 2010, approved role descriptions for committee and scrutiny chairs and that these role descriptions included a responsibility to report periodically to Council on the performance of their duties.

Members discussed the annual report and concluded that it included the pertinent points required to enable Council to gain an understanding of the business conducted.

Resolved that the Annual Report of the Licensing Committee and Licensing Panels for the 2012-2013 municipal year be presented to Council on 1st October, 2013.

10/13 **Review of the Council's Policy under the Licensing Act 2003**

The Committee considered the draft Statement of Licensing Policy which set out how the authority intended to carry out its licensing functions under the Act.

Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 (the Act) required the Council as the Licensing Authority to prepare and publish its own Statement of Licensing Policy and the current Statement had been approved by full Council and became effective from January 2011.

The Act required the Council, in respect of each five year period, to determine its policy with respect to the exercise of its licensing functions, and publish a statement of that policy before the beginning of the period.

The next five year period was not due to commence until January 2016 but there had been a number of legislative changes to the licensing process during the past eighteen months so it was considered more appropriate to review the policy now.

Approval was also sought to the consultation period running from the end of September to mid-November 2013.

Any changes to the policy following the consultation process would be brought before the Committee at its meeting in November 2013.

A report would be submitted to the full Council meeting on 3 December 2013 for the policy to be approved for the next five years, and to be effective from January 2014 to January 2019.

Resolved:-

- (1) that the draft Statement of Licensing Policy be approved for consultation, in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003;

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- (2) that, in relation to the review of the licensing policy, a consultation period between the end of September to mid-November 2013 be approved.

(The meeting ended at 10.57am)

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