
LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT on Tuesday, 26 March 2024 from 11.36 am - 12.20 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Derek Carnell (Chair), Carole Jackson and Chris Palmer.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Billy Attaway, Mohammad Bauluck, Alona Diachenko and Helen Ward.

791 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair outlined the emergency evacuation procedure.

792 NOTIFICATION OF CHAIR AND OUTLINE OF PROCEDURE

The Chair opened the meeting and asked those present to introduce themselves.

793 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

794 CONSIDERATION OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A NEW PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

The Licensing Officer introduced the report which asked Members to consider an application for the grant of a new premises license under the Licensing Act 2003 at 13 Market Place, Faversham, ME13 7AF.

The Licensing Officer introduced the application as set out in the report and highlighted as below:

- The proposed sale of alcohol between the hours of 10:00 and 24:00 daily for consumption on and off the premises;
- the provision of late-night refreshment between the hours of 23:00 and 00:30 daily indoors and outdoors; and
- opening hours from 08:00 and 00:30 daily.

The Licensing Officer explained that there had been two representations from members of the public objecting to the application and two representations in support. The representations against were made on the basis of the licensing objectives of crime and disorder and prevention of public nuisance. The Licensing Officer also confirmed that, following submission of the application, the applicant had proposed to reduce the hours sought for opening and licensable activities to midnight, 7 days a week.

The Chair asked the Applicant to present his case.

The Applicant declared his readiness to change the Operating Schedule in this way:

- Sale of alcohol Sunday – Thursday 10:00 – 23:00, Friday – Saturday 10:00 – 23:30;

- opening hours Monday – Sunday 08:00 – 00:00; and
- late night refreshment – Sunday – Thursday 22:00 – 23:00, Friday – Saturday 22:00 – 23:30.

In addition, late night refreshment would be limited to hot drinks only and no hot food would be available beyond 23:00.

The Applicant explained about the productive discussions with the objectors prior to the hearing and that the objectors were in agreement to the application, subject to the changes proposed.

The Chair invited the Objectors to speak.

The Objectors confirmed that, with the proposed additions as outlined by the Applicant, they were in support of the application. They would have preferred 23:00, but otherwise were in agreement.

In response, the Applicant said the Lounge concept was not a bar, but it was a homely, relaxed place which attracted a diverse customer base from breakfast and coffee, to lunch and afternoon tea, and evening meals.

The Chair invited Members to ask questions.

The Chair invited the Applicant and Objectors to summarise their closing remarks.

Members of the Sub-Committee adjourned at 11.55 am to make their decision. Members of the Sub-Committee, the Lawyer (Contentious) and the Democratic Services Officer returned to the meeting at 12.15 pm and the decision, attached as Appendix I to these minutes, was announced.

Resolved:

- (1) That the Application be granted subject to the proposed reduction in hours notified verbally at the hearing and the additional condition regarding late night refreshments as set-out in the Decision Notice.***

Chair

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All Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel