
DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING AND HEALTH AND SAFETY ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

29 APRIL 2014

Present –

MEMBERS:

Councillors Lawson (Chairman), Bhinder, Conway, Fantham, Mrs Green, Link, Peter, Ryan, G Sutton, R Sutton, Taylor and Whitman

OFFICERS:

S Scrowther	Solicitor
R Hill	Licensing Team Leader
S Taylor	Lead Licensing Officer
T Coston	Member Support Officer

The meeting began at 7.00 pm

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2014 were confirmed by the Members present and signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor G Chapman. Councillor R Sutton substituted for Councillor G Chapman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

5. LICENSING SERVICE UPDATE – APRIL 2014

R Hill advised the committee of the following figures which were unavailable at the time of the agenda being completed:

- ❖ 443 premise licences in force within the Borough
- ❖ 43 club premise certificates
- ❖ 353 authorised sale of alcohol licences

Councillor Mrs Green referred to paragraph 5.3 and expressed her concern for licence refusals being overturned by councils regarding charitable collections. R Hill explained that

the case in question wasn't local, it was within Cardiff Council, but was relevant due to policy changes in the near future.

Resolved:

The Licensing and Health & Safety Enforcement Committee noted the report.

6. LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO LICENSING SCHEMES

S Taylor explained the first part of the report set out changes proposed within the Deregulation Bill; paragraphs 2.1 to 2.8 set out the proposed areas of de-regulation of the Licensing Act 2003, and paragraphs 2.9 to 2.11 highlighted the impact of provisions in the Bill for licensing of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles. Paragraphs 3-9 provided an update on other changes that will affect the Licensing Service now and in the near future.

R Hill advised section 10 was for information purposes and details had already been circulated to members via email and paper copies had been placed in the group rooms.

Councillor G Sutton referred to page 15 and sought clarification between the minimum and maximum prices for cider as there was a significantly high price difference between them. R Hill replied that the price difference related to the definition of cider and sparkling cider, and the content of juice levels in the cider.

Councillor Lawson asked if there had been any applications for the forthcoming World Cup games. R Hill advised there had been some enquiries from pubs for temporary events notices and if premises wished to hold any other activities, such as a post-match disco, they would need to approach the council for a temporary event notice. He explained that the Government had relaxed the hours of alcohol sales during any England match through the tournament. He said that all members of Pub-watch had been informed of the relaxed hours and the requirement of temporary event notices.

Councillor Whitman referred to page 15 and asked if there would be an impact on pub sales in accordance with the changes of minimum alcohol prices. R Hill said they had been advised by Government that there would be very low impact on pubs, according to an impact survey that was carried out.

Resolved:

The Licensing and Health & Safety Enforcement Committee noted the report.

7. REVIEW OF STANDARD CONDITIONS FOR ANIMAL RELATED LICENCES

R Hill explained that the council were responsible for six types of animal related licences, and they had a standard set of conditions which have been attached to licences and have been for a number of years. He said they are now proposing an overhaul of those conditions and bring them up to date in accordance with the CIEH (Chartered Institute of Environmental Health).

Councillor G Sutton asked if there was a possibility to look in to licensing for professional dog walkers as he felt some individuals were irresponsible by not picking up dog faeces and allowing the dogs to be off the lead. He said there should also be a limit on the number of dogs per individual walker. Councillor Mrs Green echoed Councillor Suttons view and felt it was an area of concern. R Hill said he could contact DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) at the committees request to discuss producing a local piece of legislation.

Councillor Taylor asked if there was any legislation that covered dog walkers. R Hill confirmed there was not.

Councillor Lawson asked the committee if they would like R Hill to contact DEFRA to discuss the matter. All members of the committee agreed they would like R Hill to investigate.

Resolved:

The Licensing and Health & Safety Enforcement Committee instruct officers to begin consultation with licence holders on revising the councils standard conditions for animal boarding establishment licences, dog breeding establishment licences and pet shop licences, as per the model conditions attached to the report, and for riding establishments following discussions with suitable advisors and businesses, and report the results to a future meeting of the committee.

Councillor Bhinder arrived at 7:18 pm.

8. DELEGATION OF POWERS TO SUB-COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS

R Hill noted the report may have been misleading and there was no proposed delegation to the Licensing and Health & Safety Enforcement Sub-Committee, just to officers.

Resolved:

The Licensing and Health & Safety Enforcement Committee delegated responsibility for the exercise of those powers listed in Annex A of the report to the Councils Assistant Director (Chief Executives Unit).

The meeting ended at 7:21 pm