

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE (LICENSING ACT 2003 FUNCTIONS)

3.00PM 12 MARCH 2020

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors O'Quinn (Chair), Henry (Deputy Chair), Deane (Opposition Spokesperson), Simson (Group Spokesperson), Allcock, Appich, Bagaeen, Davis, Ebel, Fowler and Rainey

Apologies: Councillors Atkinson, Lewry, Osborne and Wares

PART ONE

21 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

21(a) Declarations of Substitutes

21.1 Councillor Allcock was present in substitution for Councillor Hill. Apologies were given on behalf of Councillors, Hill, Lewry, Osborne and Wares.

21(b) Declarations of Interest

21.2 There were none.

21(c) Exclusion of Press and Public

21.3 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any of the items listed on the agenda.

21.4 **RESOLVED:** That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items contained in part two of the agenda.

22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 22.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003 Functions) Meeting held on 28 November 2019 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

23 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 23.1 The Chair provided the following updates:

Licensing Reviews

- 23.2 Whilst both Pride 2020 and the interim report on the review of the Statement of Licensing Policy would be discussed as part of the agenda, the Chair stated that she wanted to acknowledge the work done by both officers and members in dealing with a number of challenging licensing reviews over the last few weeks. This had culminated in an ongoing interim review of a licensed premises involved with serious disorder. The action taken by the licensing authority showed how seriously issues which undermined the licensing objectives were taken. The Chair referred to the fact that in response to a recent summary review application made by the Police under S53A of the Licensing Act 2003 that the exceptional decision had been taken to suspend the licence of a premises associated with serious disorder with immediate effect pending a full review.

LGA Annual Licensing Conference

- 23.3 The Chair stated that she also wanted to mention that Councillor Lizzie Deane, Jim Whitelegg and herself had attended the LGA Licensing Conference in February. It had been an extremely useful and interesting day and had served to highlight the trail blazing policies and initiatives which were in place in the city, that were only just being adopted elsewhere in the country, such as mapping of crime statistics linked with alcohol in an area, hospital admissions etc., right down to the street an incident had occurred in, she wished to place on record her thanks to the team that provided that information. That said it had been useful to learn from similar health related licensing schemes and best practice initiatives. It had also been useful to see that some towns and cities were trying to encourage non-alcohol events, premises in their city centres.

Members Training

- 23.4 Members Training had taken place in February and had included a session on the licensing application process, decision making, making representations and the hearing protocol, as well as looking at our special policy on cumulative impact. The training session had been well attended and lots of questions had been asked. Jim Whitelegg and Rebecca Sidell were thanked for organising the event and for their presentations on the day.

- 23.5 **RESOLVED** – That the content of the Chair's Communications be noted and received.

24 CALLOVER

- 24.1 All items on the agenda were called for discussion.

25 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

25(a) Petitions

25.1 There were none.

25(b) Written Questions

25.2 There were none.

25(c) Deputations

25.3 There were none.

26 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**26(a) Petitions**

26.1 There were none.

26(b) Written Questions

26.2 There were none.

26(c) Letters

26.3 There were none.

26(d) Notices of Motion

26.4 There were none.

27 PRESENTATION: PRIDE VILLAGE PARTY

27. The Operations Manager for Pride, Jayne Babb gave a presentation outlining the arrangements which were being put into place for the 2020 Pride Festival which included the Pride Village Party in

27.2 RESOLVED – That the contents of the presentation be received and noted.

28 REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY 2021 - INTERIM REPORT

28.1 The Committee considered an interim report of the Executive Director, Housing, Neighbourhoods and Communities providing a Review of the Statement of Licensing Policy recommending that a further report be provided to the next scheduled meeting of the Committee in June 2020 with an updated SoLP for approval for statutory and public consultation.

28.2 It was explained that the Council as Licensing Authority had a statutory duty to review its SoLP every five years. The current policy had been adopted by Full Council in March

2016 and revised in March 2019 and it was a requirement that the policy should be kept under review and that the Council as a licensing authority must carry out a consultation exercise prior to any review of its Licensing Policy.

- 28.3 The cumulative impact policy zone (CIZ) and special stress area (SSA) had been introduced in 2008 and expanded in 2011 with the SSA being extended into central Hove in 2019. A review looking at extending up London Road and Lewes Road had taken place in 2014 but had found no evidence to justify such an expansion.
- 28.4 The Chair, Councillor O’Quinn welcomed the report stating that it was timely that a review to be undertaken, considering that it would be appropriate to consider whether the Marina area should be included. The Deputy Chair, Councillor Henry agreed stating that since the SoLP had been first drawn up the population density of some parts of the city had changed dramatically for instance the potential impact caused by housing developments associated with the Preston Barracks site in Brighton and the Sackville Road site in Hove needed to be factored in when considering whether/what changes might be needed going forward.
- 28.4 Councillor Wares was in agreement that it would be appropriate to carry out a review and that the perspective and observations of the Police should also be factored in, it was important to make an informed decision when deciding whether or not to amend the existing arrangements.
- 28.5 Councillor Bagaeeen considered that it was important to provide a context to the maps included with the report. Councillor Deane considered that it would be helpful to provide greater clarification of the any areas where there appeared to be anomalies or blips and background to that data.
- 28.6 Councillor Simson stated that in the past the SoLP had differentiated between premises located in local shopping parades and elsewhere. That differentiation had been removed by a subsequent review but she considered that it might be appropriate for that to be revisited and to consider whether it should be re-included.
- 28.7 **RESOLVED** – (1) Officers to continue to carry out work to review the Statement of Licensing Policy (SoLP); and
- (2) Officers to report back to the June 2020 Committee with an updated draft SoLP for statutory and public consultation document.

29 SCHEDULE OF APPEALS

- 29.1 The Committee considered a schedule prepared on behalf of the Executive Lead of Strategy, Governance and Law covering the period since the last meeting of the Committee.
- 29.2 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the report be noted.

30 SCHEDULE OF REVIEWS

30.1 The Committee considered a schedule prepared on behalf of the Executive Director, Housing Neighbourhoods and Communities covering the period since the last meeting of the Committee.

30.2 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the report be noted.

31 ITEMS REFERRED FOR COUNCIL

31.1 There were none.

The meeting concluded at 5.55pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of

