

Confirmed



Minutes of a Meeting of the **Licensing Committee** held in the Deben Conference Room, East Suffolk House, on **Monday, 17 July 2023** at **6:30 PM**

Members of the Committee present:

Councillor Jan Candy, Councillor Janet Craig, Councillor Deborah Dean, Councillor John Fisher, Councillor Alan Green, Councillor Colin Hedgley, Councillor Mark Jepson, Councillor Keith Patience, Councillor Sarah Plummer, Councillor Lee Reeves, Councillor Ed Thompson, Councillor Tim Wilson

Other Members present:

Councillor Andree Gee, Councillor Mike Ninnmey

Officers present:

Teresa Bailey (Senior Licensing Officer), Martin Clarke (Licensing Manager and Housing Lead Lawyer), Matt Makin (Democratic Services Officer (Regulatory)) Alli Stone (Democratic Services Officer (Governance))

1 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Apologies were received from Councillor Robinson, Councillor Gee attended as substitute.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3 Minutes

On the proposal of Councillor Hedgley, seconded by Councillor Gee it was

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 April 2023 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Scheduled Review of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy

The Committee received report **ES-1605** of Councillor Ninnmey, Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Community Health. Councillor Ninnmey introduced the report which presented the Draft Statement of Licensing Policy. The Committee was required to review the policy every five years. Following review by the Committee there would be a public consultation and then approved by Full Council.

The Senior Licensing Officer summarised the purpose of the policy. The policy set out how the authority managed applications for premises licences. In the case of licences where no objections were received, these were granted as applied for. When an objection was received, the policy set out the process that should be followed to manage the application from this point. The policy was based on the four licensing objectives which were the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. The Policy also set out the Council's basis for making a decision should any decision be challenged in court.

The only substantive change in the policy was the inclusion of point 24, which dealt with the ancillary delivery of alcohol and/or late night refreshments. This service was becoming more widely available following Covid-19 and so this had been included in the policy to ensure this area was covered.

Following a question from Councillor Patience on licences for selling alcohol from a vehicle, officers confirmed that the sale of alcohol was not permitted from a moving vehicle. Companies that set up temporary bars from converted vehicles at various events had to apply for a licence for each event, or use the premises licence at that particular site if there was one in place. Officers also confirmed that riverboats were permitted to sell alcohol which would be covered by a premises licence.

Councillor Jepson asked what guidance had been issued on proof of age for home deliveries. The Licensing Manager and Housing Lead Lawyer confirmed that whatever policy was used on a premises should also be used for home deliveries offered by that premises, and that most premises had a Challenge 25 policy in place. Councillor Reeves asked how this applied to third party delivery apps and officers confirmed that any third party service also had to follow the policies from the premises they were delivering for. If a premises used a service that did not follow this policy then the premises licence could be revoked. The third party would be dealt with through other channels.

On the proposal of Councillor Hedgley, seconded by Councillor Plummer, it was

RESOLVED

That having considered the proposed amendments to the draft revised edition of the Statement of Licensing Policy, it be approved.

5 Issued Licences in East Suffolk and an overview of the work of the Licensing Sub-Committees April – June 2023

The Committee received report **ES-1605** of Councillor Ninnmey, Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Community Health. Councillor Ninnmey introduced the report which summarised the premises that had applied for a new licence or had otherwise had their licence changed in the months from April to June 2023. Councillor Ninnmey noted that there had been a general increase in the number of licences since 2020, although there had also been a reduction in the number of Hackney Carriage licences.

The Senior Licensing Officer stated that many Hackney Carriages had changed to private hire vehicles. There were several reasons for this including more flexibility over fares and charges and more secure work.

On the proposal of Councillor Jepson, seconded by Councillor Hedgley it was

RESOLVED

That the overview of some of the work of the Licensing Team and the Licensing Sub-committees during the second quarter of 2023 be noted.

The meeting concluded at 6.53pm

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Chair