



To be submitted to the Council at its meeting on 29th July 2021

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

9th July 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Present:

Councillors Harness, Rodwell and Woodward.

Officers in attendance:

- Iain Peck (Senior Licensing Enforcement Officer)
- Eve Richardson-Smith (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
- Kate Todd (Licensing Enforcement Officer)
- Paul Windley (Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager)

Others in attendance:

- Andrea Forrest (Solicitor representing Applicant)
- Arumugam Kalamohan (Applicant)
- Councillor Parkinson

LSC.4 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Councillor Woodward was appointed as Chair for this meeting.

COUNCILLOR WOODWARD IN THE CHAIR

LSC.5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received in respect of any item on the agenda for this meeting.

LSC.6 APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE – “TODAY’S EXPRESS” CARTERGATE, GRIMSBY

The Chair introduced herself, the other members of the sub-committee, and the officers present.

The purpose of the meeting was to hear and determine an application for a new Premises Licence for the Premises to be known as "Today's Express", 40 Cartergate, Grimsby.

Mrs Richardson-Smith explained the procedure for the hearing.

The Chair invited Ms Forrest to address the sub-committee on behalf of the applicant. She referred to the applicant's experience in the trade and emphasised that this would be a convenience store with the sale of alcohol rather than an off-licence. There had been substantial financial investment to refurbish the premises and a well-run store would be likely to attract less anti-social behaviour than an empty one. All Responsible Authorities had been given the opportunity to comment and no representations had been received from them. She noted the significance of the police not having any concerns in relation to potential crime and disorder and the conditions which had been agreed with Humberside Police in relation to CCTV, Challenge 25 policy, staff training and refusals log. Ms Forrest referred to the representations that had been received and was of the view that many of the issues raised were irrelevant to the licensing objectives. Nevertheless, the applicant had sent a letter to residents responding to the concerns and Ms Forrest suggested that, having now had sight of the proposed operating schedule and conditions, this may be a reason for the non-attendance at this hearing of those who had made representations.

The sub-committee sought clarification on the number of people expected to be employed and whether the applicant had experienced any issues of people congregating outside the premises that he operated.

Ms Forrest noted that staff had experience of such issues but had received appropriate training and she provided an assurance that there was a procedure in place for dealing with such issues. Ms Forrest also explained the 'safe place' that had been established at one of the applicant's premises whereby if someone was in fear of attack then they could go to the premises as a safe haven.

The sub-committee withdrew to deliberate. After an interval, the sub-committee returned to advise of their findings.

The Chair advised that the sub-committee had decided to grant the application as set out. The sub-committee felt assured that the operating schedule and proposed conditions were appropriate and would promote the licensing objectives.

In taking its decision, the sub-committee had been mindful of the representations received, but felt that the applicant was an experienced and reputable operator with a track record of adhering to conditions, particularly the Challenge 25 policy, and would make sure that staff were adequately trained and supported. The sub-committee noted that no objections had been received from Responsible Authorities and was reassured that the proposed conditions had been agreed with the police,

experts in the field of crime and disorder, and were understood by the applicant.

The sub-committee had also been reassured by the applicant's willingness to work with the community. On that point, the Chair made reference to the Safer Streets initiative that was due to commence and suggested that more 'safe places' be established by small businesses. She welcomed the applicant's willingness to consider further discussions with the police on this issue.

RESOLVED – That the premises licence be granted with the operating schedule and conditions agreed between the applicant and Humberside Police.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked those in attendance for their contributions and concluded the meeting at 10.41 a.m.