

Minutes of the meeting of the LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE held on TUESDAY 5 JANUARY 2021 at 6.30 pm

- Present:** Councillor Legg (Chair)
Councillors Bowyer and Nazir
- Officers:** M Tiley (Solicitor - Litigation), S Teesdale (Licensing and Business Manager), J Sloan (Senior Licensing Officer) and J Crighton (Committee Manager)
- Also Present:** J Thirumurugarajah (applicant), M Kaleen (applicant's representative) and G McCormack (interested party)

LSC14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None disclosed.

LSC15 VARIATION TO A PREMISES LICENCE - THE POINT KIOSK, CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES

The Sub-Committee considered an application for a Variation to a Premises Licence in respect of The Point Kiosk, Central Milton Keynes.

The Senior Licensing Officer informed the Sub-Committee that the application was to amend the Plan and to remove Condition 2.4 on the current licence, which would permit the applicant to sell beers that were a higher percentage ABV and also spirits, which had previously been prohibited due to the 6% limit.

The Senior Licensing Officer advised that during the consultation process, an objection had been received from Thames Valley Police.

The applicant's representative informed the Sub-Committee that the premises had not sold alcohol since the licence had been granted in 2017; there was very limited space in the premises; the applicant was aware that higher strength alcohol could potentially encourage street drinkers and teenagers to attempt to purchase alcohol from the premises; the premises had not failed a test purchase and team members were adequately trained.

The Sub-Committee noted that the premises was situated beside The Point in the middle of the Central Milton Keynes Shopping Centre and was surrounded by commercial and shopping units, a public transport hub and the Market.

It noted that the premises had not sold alcohol in the last three years as the landlord had not given permission for them to do so, however, the premises was under a new landlord who had granted consent for the sale of alcohol.

The Sub-Committee noted the main concern of the Police was that Central Milton Keynes was the most prolific area relating to street drinking and anti-social behaviour and, if the application was granted, this could result in an increase of this behaviour in the area. There was no objection made against the amendment to the Plan.

It noted that Central Milton Keynes was subject to a Public Space Protection Order which prohibited the consumption of alcohol within the area and gave the Police more powers when dealing with alcohol related anti-social behaviour.

The Sub-Committee noted that the premises had recently been inspected by the Licensing Authority and the necessary documentation was in place ready to sell alcohol in compliance with the conditions on the Licence.

It noted that the applicant's representative had suggested that, if the Licence Variation was granted, it should be for a three month trial period and if no evidence was found that the sale of alcohol increased street drinking and anti-social behaviour, then the Licence Variation could be made permanent.

The Senior Licensing Officer advised the Sub-Committee that it did not have the authority to grant a Licence Variation for a time limited period.

RESOLVED -

That the variation to the Premises Licence be granted, with the following conditions:

1. That Condition 2.4 be amended to read:
'No Alcohol with alcohol levels above 6% ABV be sold at the premises after 8.00 pm'.
2. That alcohol be stored in a lockable cabinet.
3. That the following Informative be added to the License:

'A review of the Licence will take place if problems arise, such as anti-social behaviour.'

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 7.23 PM

5 January 2021

CHAIR'S INITIALS

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned to the right of the text 'CHAIR'S INITIALS'.