

Minutes of the meeting of the LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE held on MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2020 at 6.00 pm

**Present:** Councillor Legg (Chair)  
Councillors Marlow and Nazir

**Officers:** K Hulatt (Principle Solicitor - Litigation), J Sloan (Senior Licensing Officer) and J Crighton (Committee Manager)

**Also Present:** Councillor Hosking, M Tiley (Principle Solicitor - Litigation), R Taylor (applicant), A McGrath (applicant's representative), P Norbury (interested party) and D Waddell (supporter)

**LSC03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None disclosed.

**LSC04 APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE - OLNEY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB, RECREATION GROUND, EAST STREET, OLNEY**

The Senior Licensing Officer advised the Sub-Committee that a hearing was necessary to determine an application for a New Premises Licence in respect of Olney Rugby Football Club, Recreation Ground, East Street, Olney, for the following licensable activities:

- (a) Live, Recorded Music and anything similar  
0900 - 0100 hrs
- (b) Sale of Alcohol on and off the Premises  
0800 - 0100 hrs
- (c) Late Night Refreshment  
2300 - 0100 hrs

It was reported that, during the consultation process, eight objections had been received from Thames Valley Police, six interested parties and the Council's Environmental Health Team.

The representations submitted by Thames Valley Police and Environmental Health were subsequently agreed by the applicant and the following conditions would form part of the operating schedule:

- (a) that the Club only permit off-sales of alcohol from the 'shed' to be provided to those attending rugby matches or Club events; and
- (b) a noise limiter be installed if management controls were not sufficiently robust so as to prevent repeated and justified complaints of noise from amplified music from the licensed premises.

The remaining six representations raised concerns regarding the length of time for potential drinking and entertainment, current problems with noise and behaviour of members of the Club and the application to permit the Club serving alcohol seven days a week until 0100 hrs.

The application had also received a representation from the Olney Bowling Club in support of the application.

The applicant's representative informed the Sub-Committee that the Club was attempting to ensure it was providing licensable activities with the correct requirements. The number of events within the next 12 months was proposed between 16 and 22 which far exceeded the number of Temporary Event Notices permitted in a year, which was 15, and events would not take place seven days a week. The Club had recently been awarded 'The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service'.

Councillor Hosking, on behalf of the six representations, informed the Sub-Committee that, whilst the majority were in support of the Club, there was concern it was becoming a licensed premises and that events be limited to 15 a year through Temporary Event Notices. There had been reports of anti-social behaviour prior to the application being submitted and the 'shed' backed onto a children's play area.

The Sub-Committee noted that the Club already held a Club Premises Certificate to supply alcohol and provide regulated entertainment to members and guests between 10.00 - 0100 hrs. The application contained a relatively comprehensive operating schedule and that the applicant had offered some conditions to add to the application in respect of monitoring noise breakout.

The Sub-Committee were of the view that, given the concerns regarding potential anti-social behaviour, an 8:00 am start would increase the chances of people drinking for longer and associated issues. As a result, the Sub-Committee was of the view that all licensable activity should only be licensed to commence at 10:00 am each day.

The Sub-Committee noted the concerns of residents about the potential noise nuisance and limited regulated activity only until 11.00 pm, Sunday to Thursday.

The Sub-Committee also agreed that a designated contact at the Club for noise concerns should be made available to address any noise concerns and, ultimately, the Sub-Committee expected the Premises to be good neighbours to those surrounding it.

The Sub-Committee endorsed the Police recommendation at Page 44 of the Agenda, regarding off sales generally and from the 'shed' and the Environmental Health recommendations regarding noise.

**RESOLVED -**

1. That the application for a New Premises Licence be granted, with the following conditions:
  - (a) that all licensable activities commence at 10.00 am each day;
  - (b) that regulated entertainment cease at 11.00 pm, Sunday to Thursday;
  - (c) that a designated employee of the Club be a point of contact for any noise concerns residents may have and a contact number be available on the Club's website and noticeboard and the Club work with the local community; and
  - (d) that the condition from Thames Valley Police regarding off-sales of alcohol to those partaking in events and activities be endorsed.
2. That the Environmental Health Officer's conditions be applied, as agreed, in that:
  - (a) doors and windows to be closed when music (recorded or live) is being played, with an emphasis on the Environmental Health Officer's report regarding a

noise limiter if there were frequent complaints from residents; and

- (b) music to be limited to the Club House only, with the exceptions of the May Ball and Rugby Sevens events which were held outside and go on until 0100hrs on a weekend.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 7.25 PM