

# Minutes

of a meeting of the

## Licensing Acts Committee

held at 10am on Thursday 25 November 2010

at the South Oxfordshire District Council's Offices, Crowmarsh



Open to the public, including the press

### Present:

Members: Councillor Zoe Patrick (Chair), Richard Farrell, Terry Fraser, Alison Rooke, Robert Sharp, Elaine Ware, Richard Webber and Julie Mayhew-Archer

Non-participating members: Councillors Dudley Hoddinott and Reg Waite

Also attending from South Oxfordshire District Council: Councillor Ms J Bland, Capt. J Flood, Mrs E Gillespie, Mr M Leonard, Mrs A Midwinter, Ms R Myer, Mr J Nowell-Smith, Mrs P Slatter, Mr D Turner, and Mrs M Turner

Officers: Nigel Haverson, Margaret Reed and Jennifer Thompson

### LA.9 Notification of substitutes and apologies for absence

Councillors Gareth Jennings, Bob Johnston, Janet Morgan, John Morgan, Peter Saunders, and Val Shaw had all given their apologies for absence.

### LA.10 Minutes

#### RESOLVED

To approve the minutes of the committee meeting held on 19 May 2010 as a correct record and agree that the chair signs them.

### LA.11 Declarations of interest

Several councillors declared interests in the item on the joint statement of licensing policy. Councillor Richard Farrell declared a personal interest as he was a member of Blewbury Parish Council and chairman of Blewbury recreation ground management committee that held a premises licence. Councillor Terry Fraser declared a personal interest as he was chairman of the Vale and Downland Museum that held a premises licence. Councillor Julie Mayhew-Archer declared a personal interest as a member of Abingdon Town Council. Councillor Alison Rooke declared a personal interest as the council's representative on the North East Abingdon Community Association. Councillors Robert Sharp and Elaine Ware both declared personal interests as close associates of Councillor Peter Saunders who held personal and premises licences. Councillor Richard Webber declared a personal interest as

a member of Drayton Parish Council, and of the Drayton village hall committee, and as the Vale's Executive member with responsibility for the Guildhall in Abingdon and Wantage Civic Hall, both of which held premises licences.

## **LA.12 Urgent business and chair's announcements**

None

## **LA.13 Statements, petitions and questions from the public relating to matters affecting the licensing acts committee.**

None

## **LA.14 Joint statement of licensing policy - approval of policy for recommendation to Council**

The committee considered the report of the head of legal and democratic services, which set out a draft statement of licensing policy. The policy had been prepared jointly with South Oxfordshire District Council and sent out for public consultation during the summer. The committee considered the consultation responses and the officer's comments and made the following amendments to the draft policy for recommendation to the Council:

- Accept suggested amendments to the text resulting from comments 1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25
- Note the comments and reasons for taking no action, and make no changes as a result of comments 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35

The committee asked the licensing officer to write to all those who had responded, giving an explanation for making or not making changes to the policy as a result of their comments. The committee also asked the licensing officer to write to parish councils to clarify the roles of the parish council and individual councillors and how they should notify the licensing authority of complaints about licensed premises.

### **RESOLVED**

- (a) To accept the amendments set out in appendix 1 to the report to the text resulting from comments 1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25;
- (b) To authorise the head of legal and democratic services to incorporate the agreed amendments within the policy as the final joint statement of licensing policy for submission to the Council;
- (c) To recommend the Council to:
  - Adopt the final joint statement of licensing policy as its statement of licensing policy to come into force on 7 January 2011; and
  - Authorise the head of legal and democratic services in consultation with the chairmen of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils' Licensing Acts Committee to make minor administrative amendments to the policy where necessary.

**Exempt information under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972**

None

The meeting rose at 11.05 am