

# Agenda



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A meeting of the

## Licensing Acts Committee

will be held on Wednesday 18 May 2022 on the rising of the preceding annual meeting of the Council.

### Members of the Committee:

To be confirmed at the annual meeting of Council on 18 May 2022.

To watch this meeting, follow this link to the council's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTj2pCic8vzucpzlaSWE3UQ>

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Patrick Arran

Head of Legal and Democratic

# Agenda

## Open to the public including the press

### 1. Apologies for absence

To record apologies for absence.

### 2. Minutes

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To adopt and sign as a correct record the Licensing Acts Committee minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2021.

### 3. Declarations of interest

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and any conflicts of interest in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

### 4. Urgent business and chair's announcements

To receive notification of any matters which the chair determines should be considered as urgent business and the special circumstances which have made the matters urgent, and to receive any announcements from the chair.

### 5. Public participation

To receive any questions or statements from members of the public that have registered to speak.

### 6. Appointment of licensing panels

**Purpose:** to agree the appointment of licensing sub-committees to consider matters under the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005.

#### **RECOMMENDATION** to:

1. appoint licensing sub-committees comprising any three members of the Licensing Acts Committee;
2. appoint each member of the Licensing Acts Committee to serve on any sub-committee which is convened so as to include her or him in its membership, subject to her or him having attended appropriate training in the last 12 months;
3. agree that the sub-committees be known as licensing panels;
4. authorise each licensing panel to discharge all functions under the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 including determining and dealing with applications for licences, certificates, temporary events and other notices and all variations, transfers, withdrawals

and reviews of such matters;

5. agree that wherever possible applications should be heard by a licensing panel comprising the chair or vice-chair of the committee plus two other members of the committee, but that this should not affect the principle that any three members of the committee will constitute a properly appointed licensing panel;
6. authorise the head of legal and democratic to invite an appropriate licensing panel to conduct a scheduled hearing having regard to members' availability and eligibility to take part and ensuring that as far as possible all members of the committee have the opportunity to conduct hearings.

# Minutes

of a meeting of the

## Licensing Act Committee

held on Thursday, 21 October 2021 at 10.30 AM

at the First FLOOR MEETING ROOM, 135 EASTERN AVENUE, MILTON PARK,  
MILTON, ABINGDON, OX14 4SB



**Open to the public, including the press**

### **Present:**

Members: Councillors Alison Jenner (Chair), Ron Batstone (Vice-Chair), Jerry Avery, Paul Barrow, Dr, Cheryl Briggs, and Diana Lugova

Officers: Paul Bateman and Laura Driscoll

### **Members also present virtually:**

Margaret Crick, Val Shaw and Richard Webber

### **Officers also present virtually:**

Sarah Commins, Michael Flowers, Diane Foster and Jeremy Lloyd

## **7. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Matthew Barber and Patrick O'Leary.

## **8. Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18 May 2021 as a correct record and agree that the chair sign these as such.

## **9. Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **10. Urgent business and chair's announcements**

None.

## **11. Public participation**

There were no statements submitted to the committee nor any public speakers.

## 12. Review of Joint Gambling Policy

The committee considered the head of housing and environment's report concerning the review of the Joint Gambling Policy. The committee noted that the council's current Joint Statement of Gambling Policy came into effect from 31 January 2019. The policy was subject to statutory review every three years and was thus due for review by 31 January 2022.

The licensing team leader reported that the committee was required to consider the policy following a statutory consultation, which had run from 13 July 2021 to 10 August 2021. The committee was advised that a report on the results of the consultation formed part of the report as appendix C. The committee noted that the appendix also detailed aspects of the draft policy which had been amended as a result of the consultation.

With reference to paragraphs 10 to 14 of the report, the committee noted that as part of its statement of gambling policy, the council, as a licensing authority, was entitled to pass a 'no casino resolution', or to state that it would welcome a casino, if the opportunity to bid for a premises licence became available. The committee was advised that its role was to recommend to the council whether there should be a 'no casino' resolution. If introduced, this would mean that the council could not consider any applications for casino premises licences in the area of the Vale of White Horse District Council.

The committee understood that a 'no casino' resolution had first been adopted in 2006. It continued to agree the underlying principles of this decision, namely that the rural nature of the district, containing market towns, was not an appropriate location for a casino, and that casinos were better located in large towns or cities, and that the council should also protect the most vulnerable people in the community from gambling in casinos.

The committee fully endorsed the content of the proposed new policy and were particularly supportive of the intention to continue the no casino policy.

### **RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the outcome of the consultation is noted and recommend Cabinet in turn to recommend to Council the following:
- i) adopt the proposed Joint Gambling Policy
  - ii) authorise the Head of Housing and Environment to make minor editorial changes to the Joint Gambling Policy.
  - iii) authorise the Head of Housing and Environment to publish the Joint Gambling Policy in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006.
- (b) to recommend that the Council adopts a 'no casino' resolution under section 166 (1) of the Gambling Act 2005, meaning that any such application would not be considered.

The meeting closed at 10.45 am