

Minutes

of a meeting of the

General Licensing Committee



held at 11.15am on Thursday 25 November 2010
at the South Oxfordshire District Council's Offices, Crowmarsh Gifford

Open to the public, including the press

Present:

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

Substitute members: Councillors Dudley Hoddinott (in place of Councillor Bob Johnston) and Councillor Reg Waite (in place of Councillor Peter Saunders)

Also attending from South Oxfordshire District Council: Councillors Mr C Daukes, Mrs E Gillespie, Mr M Leonard, and Mr J Nowell-Smith

Officers: Nigel Haverson, Margaret Reed and Jennifer Thompson

GE.3 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. Councillor Reg Waite attended as Councillor Peter Saunders' substitute, and Councillor Dudley Hoddinott attended as Councillor Bob Johnston's substitute.

GE.4 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.

GE.5 Declarations of interest

None

GE.6 Urgent business and chair's announcements

None

GE.7 Statements, petitions, and questions from the public relating to matters affecting the General Licensing Committee

None

GE.8 Joint statement of policy on the control of sex establishments - approval of draft policy for consideration by Council

The committee considered the draft report of the head of legal and democratic services to the Council. This presented a draft policy on the licensing of sexual entertainment venues under the provisions of Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982. The draft policy had been prepared jointly with South Oxfordshire District Council. The policy, as amended by the two councils' committees, would be submitted to each council for approval, accompanied by the officer's report.

The committee discussed the report and agreed a number of amendments to clarify wording and ensure that, as applications for this type of licence were likely to generate public scrutiny, all applications were considered by a committee or sub-committee.

RESOLVED

- (a) To recommend that the policy and covering report be submitted to Council with the following amendments:
- Clarify the wording in paragraph 8.4 "... councillors may represent interested parties, providing they do not also sit on the general licensing committee/sub-committee dealing with that application
 - In paragraph 8.5 to delete the words "...and not on the basis of any political judgement..."
 - Delete paragraph 9.2 entirely, and remove recommendation 7(c) from the covering report.
- (b) To recommend that the level of fees for the grant, renewal, variation, and transfer of these licences be set sufficiently high to cover all actual and potential costs associated with issuing, monitoring compliance with, and enforcing a licence, including any charges, which may be levied by other authorities for providing information in connection with an application or on-going licence.

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

None

The meeting rose at 12.30 pm