Licensing Sub-Committee Meeting 2 September 2011 at Norwich City Council

Present:

Councillors Kendrick (Chair), Henderson and Stammers Ian Streeter, Licensing Officer David Johnson, nplaw Solicitor to the Sub-Committee Bruce Faulkner, Solicitor for the Applicant

Interested parties:

Trevor Elphick, Margaret Elphick, Nigel Disney and Susanne Etheridge in attendance.

The Applicant presented his application. He explained that the police drew to the attention of the Licensees that they did not have a Licence currently permitting indoor sporting events at a point where the Licensee was promoting such an event. This application was therefore made to close that gap. The numbers of events were not yet known but the Applicant thought that it would be no more than 20 a year.

The interested parties made representations as to how, at times, the premises were noisy both in terms of music and persons sitting outside smoking. Discussion ensued as to the existing Licence conditions and how well they were enforced. The Applicant's representative said that he would draw the existing conditions to the attention of his clients.

Members asked questions about how the site was used and about parking restrictions.

Mrs. Etheridge, although not technically an interested party, spoke with the applicant's consent.

The point made by the interested parties that more permitted regulatory activity (albeit over the same time frames) would be likely to increase attendance numbers and consequently exacerbate any existing noise nuisance problems was accepted by the sub committee.

The Licensing Manager and the Applicant explained the reason for the proposed removal of the outdated conditions. David Johnson advised that the conditions related, in the main, to superseded legal regimes and could be removed without prejudice to licensing and enforcement of the licence terms.

Members excluded the public to consider their decision.

Members felt that the concerns raised by the interested parties were sufficiently serious as to necessitate imposing a condition as to the frequency of any additional activity. Twenty events in total per calendar year appeared appropriate.

The parties and the public were re-admitted and Members' decision formally announced.