



**NORWICH**  
City Council

**MINUTES**

**LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**16:30 – 18:30**

**11 December 2014**

Present: Councillors Button (chair), Gayton (vice chair) Ackroyd, Barker, Bogelein, Brociek-Coulton, Henderson, Jones, Maxwell, Sands (M) (substitute for councillor Gihawi) Stammers and Woollard.

Apologies: Councillors Gihawi and Price

In attendance: Gail Harris, cabinet member for customer services and Inspector Brown, Norfolk Constabulary

**1. Declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

**2. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2014.

**3. Sexual entertainment venue and sex establishment policy**

The licensing manager presented the report. He tabled a document with responses to comments received from Simon Goodings. The licensing manager explained that adopting the policy would allow sexual entertainment venues to be regulated and conditions placed on these licences.

Members then addressed the committee with their concerns which included; the safety and working conditions of the performers; advertising outside sexual entertainment venues and mobile advertising and the locality of such venues.

An independent consultant for Spice addressed the committee and said that the manager of the venue recognised the need for sexual entertainment venues to be licensed and wanted to ensure that all performers were safe.

Inspector Brown said that there had been eight recorded crimes at such venues in the last twelve months which comprised two assaults, one disorder charge, one drugs offence and four thefts. A scheme had been in place for the last three months in which those brought into custody were asked to complete a questionnaire about premises they had visited that evening. There had been no mention of any of the

four sexual entertainment venues. These premises were inspected in the same way as other premises and the police had no concerns which were severe enough to be brought to the licensing committee.

A member expressed concern that performers needed an anonymous way to report any crimes without fear of repercussion. The licensing manager suggested that it could be made a condition of the sexual entertainment licence that businesses must display information on how to anonymously report concerns in an area designated for the performers.

(Councillor Ackroyd left the meeting at this point.)

In response to a member's question, the licensing manager said that a zero sexual entertainment venue policy could not be put into place straight away as the four venues which currently fit the criteria had to have the opportunity to apply for the licence. Each application would have to be considered against the policy.

**RESOLVED**, with Councillors Button, Gayton, Bogelein, Maxwell, Jones, Woollard, Brockiek-Coulton, Sands (M), Stammers and Barker voting in favour and Councillor Henderson voting against, to adopt the sexual entertainment venue and sex establishment policy.

#### **4. Standing item – regulatory subcommittee minutes**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the regulatory subcommittee meetings held on 14 July 2014, 11 August 2014, 15 September 2014 and 17 November 2014.

CHAIR