



Licensing committee

16:30 to 17:00

9 March 2017

Present: Councillors Button (chair), Woollard (vice chair), Ackroyd, Brociek-Coulton, Davis Herries, Jones (B), Malik, Price, Raby and Thomas (Vi)

Apologies: Councillors Driver and Jones (T)

1. Public questions/petitions

There were no public questions or petitions.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

RESOLVED to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2016.

4. Licence and Registration Fees

The licensing manager presented the report.

During discussion, the licensing manager referred to the report and answered questions about the process of setting the levels of fees and the charging policy for each licence type under the "Discretionary Fees" heading of Appendix A. A member was particularly concerned that the cost of enforcement should not be a financial burden on the council. Residents in Thorpe Hamlet considered that there was not enough enforcement. The licensing manager explained that the enforcement element of the proposed fees was obtained from the number of complaints received by the council in respect of each licence type and the estimated time spent by the enforcement team in investigating and resolving these. This cost was then evenly spread across the number of licence holders in the relevant category. The council's civil enforcement team carried out licensing enforcement as well as planning and environmental health enforcement. In reply to a member's question, the licensing manager said that under the Gambling Act, the council charged the maximum that it could to commercial bingo club operators. The playing of bingo in community centres and sheltered housing was exempt. Members also noted that "tables and chairs" licences were for permissions to place tables and chair on the highway.

In answer to a members' question, the licensing manager confirmed that the sexual entertainment venue policy had been adopted and that applications would be considered at the next meeting.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) approve the fees detailed in the column headed 'total recommended licence fee 2017-2018' of Appendix A as attached to the report;
- (2) agree the charging policy detailed in paragraphs 10 and 11 of the report.

5. Standing Item – Regulatory Subcommittee Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the regulatory subcommittees held on 19 September 2016, 14 November 2016 and 9 January 2017.

CHAIR