



LICENSING COMMITTEE

4.30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

11 November 2010

Present: Councillors Driver (chair), Ramsay (vice-chair), Altman, Blower, Dylan, Gihawi, Hooke, Jeraj, Lay, Stephenson and Thomas

Apologies: Councillors Banham and George

1. MINUTES

The senior licensing officer updated members regarding a petition submitted at the previous meeting on the issue of the allocation of taxi rank spaces. He stated that Mr Clodd had been unable to provide the information required in time for the council to hold an effective consultation. Further work would need to take place including confirmation of the population data available and a comprehensive consultation on the issues raised. It was suggested that members receive a report in January 2011.

RESOLVED to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2010.

2. LICENSING POLICY REVIEW

The senior licensing officer presented the report and circulated some additional wording for inclusion in the policy. The draft policy had been available on the website and interested parties and bodies (both internal and external to the council) had been consulted during August to October 2010. He took members through the table of responses following the public consultation.

The council had recently responded to a wider 'fees' consultation for premises licenses which was currently charged at a flat fee and did not vary depending on the size of the premises. The council would support an approach for fees to reflect the actual cost of each individual case and to take into account enforcement by police etc.

In response to members' questions, he explained that due to the fire safety order 2006, any issues relating to fire safety, for example capacity issues, would not fall within the remit of the licensing authority. He also confirmed that it was a standard condition for premises to inform the licensing authority before temporary decorations were used.

He explained that the licensing policy would provide guidance to applicants on various licensing issues, however, if there was adequate evidence, the licensing authority could impose specific conditions. The model conditions within the policy were provided to help guide members and applicants in assessing each case on an individual basis.

A member raised concerns that use of non-glassware could increase littering and public nuisance and suggested that the policy should encourage use of re-useable or recyclable non-glassware.

The senior licensing officer circulated an extract from the equalities act and informed members that as a result of an impact assessment, an additional paragraph would be added at 18.3 to state 'Applicants should be aware that the provision of facilities (including tables, chairs, barriers etc) on the public highway will require a separate permission in accordance with the Highways Act 1980.'

If members were to approve the amendments to the licensing policy, it would go before council for final approval on 30 November 2010 and then published with an effective start date of 7 January 2011.

RESOLVED that members recommend council to adopt the revised Norwich City Council licensing policy, subject to:-

- (1) proposed amendments detailed in Appendix B of the report;
- (2) an additional paragraph at 18.3; and
- (3) inclusion of polystyrene in 5.1 of appendix 2.

3. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED to:-

- (1) ask the committee officer to organise an additional licensing committee for January 2011 to receive a report on the allocation of taxi rank spaces.
- (2) note that the subsequent meeting will take place on Thursday 10 March 2011 at 4:30pm.

CHAIR