



NORWICH
City Council

Notes of hearing regarding The Steam Packet Public House, 39 Crown Road, Norwich

Date of Committee: 31st January 2019

Hearing of police objection to temporary event notice.

Name of Applicant: Mr Hakim Skalli

Name of Premises/Postal address: The Steam Packet Public House, 39 Crown Road, Norwich, Norfolk NR1 3DT

Members of Licensing Sub-Committee: Councillors David Fullman (Chair), Caroline Akroyd and Julie Brociek-Coulton

Other Persons Present: Ms Michelle Bartram representing the Norfolk Constabulary, Mr Hakim Skalli and Mr Christian Bray (Bar Manager), Ms Maxine Fuller, Licensing Officer and D Lowens, Clerk.

NOTES OF HEARING:

A note from the applicant regarding the intended management of the event and a witness statement from Inspector Darren Brooks were circulated prior to the start of committee. There were no declarations of interest.

Ms Fuller presented the report.

Ms Bartram addressed committee on behalf of the police, noting the venue has a premises licence enabling opening hours of 8 a.m. for non-alcoholic drinks. The football match between Norwich and Ipswich was planned for a midday start, agreed by various agencies, so as to reduce the opportunity to purchase alcohol in advance and thus to reduce the risk of crime and disorder.

The proposed temporary event notices undermined the careful planning of the control of crime and disorder and increased the risk of disorder at the premises and on the way to the football ground. The request for an objection to all sought extensions on this day had been requested by the police commander in charge of public order.

Ms Bartram noted the significant number of arrests relating to last season's derby match, noted that intoxication was a factor, noted that disorderly behaviour had taken place at the last derby and that NCFC was refusing alcohol consumption at the ground. Disorderly behaviour had arisen from both sets of fans. Ms Bartram noted that the proposed management methods could not be made conditions and in November last

year these premises had been a public order concern due to problems arising outside the premises between Millwall fans and home fans.

Ms Bartram noted the evidence from Inspector Brooks who had previous experience of derby games and public disorder and noted that one member of security was unlikely to be successful in controlling problems. She confirmed the request from the police commander was in relation to all premises and these premises were not being singled out.

In response to questioning from the applicant Ms Bartram confirmed that other places would be able to sell alcohol due to their pre-existing premises licence conditions.

The applicant addressed committee noting that the proposed event would reduce the crowds at other places and thus reduce the likelihood of trouble arising on the highway. The applicant noted the proposed management methods and whilst accepting there had been issues regarding the Millwall fans complained that he had not been informed of their likely arrival by the police. It was agreed that a glass had been thrown at the Millwall football match. The applicant proposed amending the start of the alcohol sales from 09.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. (this had not been agreed with the police prior to the start of committee).

DECISION OF COMMITTEE:

Committee determined that it was appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives namely the prevention of crime and disorder to serve a counter-notice to the temporary event notice for the reasons given on the notice of reasons attached to the counter-notice, which in summary was the acceptance of the police evidence, noting the incident of disorder previously experienced at the premises during a football match and noting that the majority of the proposed controls could not be made conditions on a temporary event notice.

RIGHTS OF APPEAL:

Those present were notified of their appeal rights and the limited opportunity to exercise these.

Dated 6th February 2019