

ALCOHOL AND ENTERTAINMENTS LICENSING COMMITTEE

12 SEPTEMBER 2017

Present: Councillor D A Burnett, (Chair)

Councillors: E H Atherton M E Plackett
W J Longdon K E Rigby
R MacRae P D Simpson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T A Cullen and M J Crow.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2016 were confirmed and signed. It was noted that Councillor W J Longdon had been present at the meeting, although he had not been included in the list of attendees.

3. LICENSING TRAINING

The Committee received a presentation in relation to the Alcohol and Entertainments Committee, hearing panel training and a Licensing Act update. This included updating members on their role and responsibilities in regards to alcohol, entertainment and gambling practices within the Borough.

The following significant points were noted under legislative updates:

- i. The definition of 'alcohol' had been amended to include powdered or 'vaporised' alcohol.
- ii. Police and Crime Act 2017 - powers to revoke or suspend personal licences were being transferred from the Courts to councils.
- iii. The Immigration Act 2016 - certain applications were required to be served on the Immigration Service.
- iv. The House of Lords Select Committee had conducted post-legislative scrutiny of the Act which contained 14 strands. A number of recommendations had been identified including:

- Transfer of functions from local authority Licensing Committees to Planning Committees. This would be trialled in pilot areas.
- Co-ordination between licensing and planning systems should begin immediately in all local authorities.
- All members on Licensing Committees should undertake compulsory training and S182 guidance should be amended.
- Revoked licences to be listed in the Magistrates' court as soon as possible.
- Local authorities to publish reasons for setting an appeal.
- No need to advertise applications in local newspapers – online publication by local authorities would be sufficient.
- Police training on licensing issues required.
- Updated gov.uk website for all licensing applications and should be adopted by all local authorities.
- A national database to be established for personal licence holders.

An overview of the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005 was presented to members.