

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN

FRIDAY, 7TH JANUARY 2011 (10.30AM)

Present:

Councillors: J Baker (Chairman), A J Buckley, P Dyke, J Greener, P B Harrison, P V Hayward, M B Kelly, M Price and D R Sheppard.

Observers:

There were no members present as observers.

Before the meeting commenced, Mark Kay – Licensing Manager informed Members of the latest position with regard to the Worcestershire Regulatory Services. He introduced Niall McMenamin – Licensing Officer from Malvern Hills would be taking voluntary retirement at the end of March 2011. He did not anticipate much change in the way that the current system operated at present. The Committee/Scrutiny Officer would circulate to Members details for Niall McMenamin should they need to contact him.

Members also asked for a letter to be sent from the Licensing & Environmental Committee to Brian Kent passing on thanks and wishing him well for the future.

LIC.64 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors H E Dyke and B T Glass.

LIC.65 Appointment of Substitutes

Councillor P Dyke was appointed as a substitute for Councillor H E Dyke.

LIC.66 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

LIC.67 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

LIC.68 Increase in Fees and Charges for Licensing the Council's Regulatory Service Function for 2011/2012

The Committee received a report from the Director of Planning & Regulatory Services that recommended to Council the proposed increases in the fees and charges in respect of the Council's Regulatory Service Function for 2011/2012.

The Licensing Manager explained to Members that the proposal in the report to increase fees needed to be revisited as the local government settlement had been less than expected.

Members were informed that the way in which fees may increase in future years may change in that Worcestershire Regulatory Services and Wyre Forest District Council could charge different elements for the work involved.

A Member had concerns that the decision would not be considered by Members of the Licensing & Environmental Committee but understood why it needed to be done.

Recommended to Council:

The proposals for fees and charges within the Council's Licensing, and Health and Safety and Pollution Control functions for 2011/2012 rise by the same percentage as all the other fee increases across the Council.

LIC.69 Policy for the Exhibition of Unclassified Films Licensing Act 2003

The Committee received a report from the Director of Planning & Regulatory Services that asked the Committee to approve the Policy for dealing with unclassified films.

The Licensing Manager explained to Members that the Council did not have a policy at present and that all other authorities in Worcestershire would be asked to adopt the same policy.

In response to a Member's question, the Policy would cover people making profit out of showing films and not people who made films as a hobby.

Recommended to Council:

- 1. The Policy for dealing with unclassified films be approved.**
- 2. Delegated responsibility for the authorisation of films which have not already been classified by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) be given to the Director of Planning and Regulatory Services.**

The meeting ended at 10.40am.