

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

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

WEDNESDAY, 27TH JUNE 2012 (10.30AM)

Present:

Councillors: P B Harrison (Chairman), A T Hingley (Vice-Chairman), G W Ballinger, R Bishop, C Brewer, H E Dyke, J Greener, J A Hart, P V Hayward, V Higgs, A Hingley, N Knowles, M Price, N J Thomas and G C Yarranton.

Observers

There were no members present as observers.

LIC.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Dyke, M A Salter and D R Sheppard.

LIC.2 Appointment of Substitutes

Councillor G W Ballinger was appointed as a substitute for Councillor D R Sheppard.

Councillor H E Dyke was appointed as a substitute for Councillor P Dyke. Councillor J A Hart was appointed as a substitute for Councillor M A Salter.

LIC.3 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

The Chairman welcomed Members to the Committee and advised that the Code of Conduct and Committee Membership listed on the second page of the agenda were the old version and did not reflect the Constitutional changes made at the meeting of the full Council on 20th June 2012.

LIC.4 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

LIC.5 Consultation of the Review of the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles

A report was considered from the Director of Worcestershire Regulatory Services on behalf of Wyre Forest District Council which updated and sought approval from Members to undertake the required consultation on the Statement of Gambling Principles.

The Senior Licensing Practitioner led Members through the report and advised that the 12 week consultation period was required as part of the statutory triennial review

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in accordance with Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005.

Members were invited to send any comments on the policy to the Senior Licensing Practitioner. In response to a question, it was confirmed that the consultees listed at point 4.4 of the report to the Licensing and Environmental Committee was not exhaustive and could be added to if required.

Agreed:

Approval be given to undertake a 12 week consultation exercise with regard to its statutory duty to review its Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles and report back the findings of the consultation to the Licensing and Environmental prior to its implementation in January 2013.

LIC.6

The Licensing Act 2003 – Authority to Suspend Premises Licenses / Club Premises Certificates on Non Payment of Fees

A report was considered from the Director of Worcestershire Regulatory Services on behalf of Wyre Forest District Council regarding the changes in legislation in relation to the suspension of licenses and club premises certificates due to non-payment of fees.

The Committee were advised by the Senior Licensing Practitioner that following dialogue with the Legal Section and the Chief Executive, the recommendation on the report had changed as Officers already had delegated authority to suspend premises licenses and club premises certificates on non payment of fees.

Members were led through the report by the Senior Licensing Practitioner and advised of the current process used to chase non-payment of fees. Members were also advised that payment of fees were due on the anniversary of the current licence and the majority of the licence holders paid the fees on time. Members asked for a summary of the licence premises within the District and the relevant fee banding, and also the percentage figure for non-payment of fees.

Agreed:

- **The report be noted.**
- **The Senior Licensing Practitioner to advise Members of a summary of the licence premises, the relevant fee banding and the percentage figure of non-payment of fees.**

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10.53 am.