

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 25 April 2018

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held at Committee Room - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Wednesday, 25 April 2018 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Peter Dunphy (Chairman)	Christopher Hayward
Sophie Anne Fernandes (Deputy Chairman)	Michael Hudson
Caroline Addy	Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Deputy Keith Bottomley	Shravan Joshi
Mary Durcan	Deputy Edward Lord
Emma Edhem	Andrien Meyers
Marianne Fredericks	Judith Pleasance

In Attendance

Officers:

Leanne Murphy	-	Town Clerk's Department
Alistair MacLellan	-	Town Clerk's Department
Andrew Buckingham	-	Town Clerk's Department
Jenny Pitcairn	-	Chamberlain's Department
Rachel Pye	-	Markets & Consumer Protection
Paul Chadha	-	Comptroller & City Solicitor's Department
David Smith	-	Director of Markets & Consumer Protection
Jon Averbs	-	Markets & Consumer Protection
Peter Davenport	-	Markets & Consumer Protection
Daniel White	-	City of London Police

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy Kevin Everett, Graham Packham and James Tumbridge.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. ORDER OF THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

The Order of the Court of Common Council dated 19 April 2018 appointing the Committee for the ensuing year was received.

4. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

An election of Chairman was conducted in line with Standing Order 29. Peter Dunphy, being the only Member indicating a willingness to serve, was elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

5. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

An election of Deputy Chairman was conducted in line with Standing Order 30. Sophie Anne Fernandes, being the only Member indicating a willingness to serve, was elected Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.

6. **APPOINTMENT OF SUB COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND REFERENCE SUB COMMITTEE**

The Committee proceeded to appoint four Licensing (Hearing) Sub Committee Chairmen for the ensuing year, in addition to the current Chairman and Deputy Chairman and Past Grand Committee Chairmen.

The following four Members declared a willingness to serve on the Reference Sub Committee and to serve as Sub Committee Chairmen: Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark, Michael Hudson, Deputy Keith Bottomley and Caroline Addy.

RESOLVED – That the Licensing (Hearing) Sub Committee Chairmen and the Reference Sub Committee for 2018/19 comprise of the following Members:

- Peter Dunphy (Chairman)
- Sophie Fernandes (Deputy Chairman)
- Kevin Everett (Past Grand Committee Chairman)
- Marianne Fredericks (Past Grand Committee Chairman)
- Michael Hudson
- Deputy Jamie Ingham-Clark
- Deputy Keith Bottomley
- Caroline Addy

7. **PUBLIC MINUTES**

The public minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2018 were approved as a correct record.

Matters arising

The Port Health & Public Protection Director advised Members that a resolution regarding a dedicated inbox for Members and/or members of the public was brought to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration as recommended at the last meeting (see item 12 of the minutes). An out of hours service will be addressed once the relocation of the City Police has completed.

8. **MINUTES OF LICENSING HEARING (SUB)**

8.1 **Benk & Bo Bakery Ltd**

The Committee were advised that the public minutes and decision notice of the hearing regarding the licensing application for 'Benk & Bo Bakery Ltd', 4-6 Gravel Lane, London, E1 7AW held on 20 April 2018 had not yet been finalised and would be circulated in due course.

The Chairman explained that the application was approved and that earlier hours plus no alcohol on Sunday were agreed as a compromise between the Applicant and Objectors providing a content outcome.

The Town Clerk noted that the planned hearing for 'Oyster Shed' on 27 April 2018 had been cancelled that morning as the Applicant had withdrawn their application.

9. FINAL DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN 2018/19 - MARKETS & CONSUMER PROTECTION

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection presenting the final 2018/19 Business Plan for the Department of Markets and Consumer Protection.

Members were advised that this was a high-level business plan and that licensing reference items were mainly limited to pages 11 and 12. In response to a question regarding what the objectives were, Members were advised that there was a subsequent plan which sits underneath the 2018/19 Business Plan providing detailed targets.

10. DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE DIRECTOR OF MARKETS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION PERTAINING TO PREMISES LICENCES

The Committee received a report of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection detailing the premises licences, and variations to premises licences, granted under the Licensing Act 2003 by the Licensing Service from 1 January 2018 to 31 March 2018.

In response to a query regarding inconsistencies in format in Appendix 1 on comments concerning "CCTV system" on pages 18, 20 and 21, Members were advised that the Applicant had used this wording in the proposal conditions in their original application. It was noted that there was an issue with just approving proposals when happy in the first instance rather than setting conditions.

11. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There was one question regarding the recent London Marathon event. A Member highlighted the detrimental effect of overcrowding to residents, the Police and members of the public at Trinity Square where a band performs each year. The traditionally family friendly atmosphere had been damaged by people arriving with large quantities of alcohol and poor behaviour had meant the City and Met Police were constantly needed in this area. It was noted that the residents of Trinity Square commended City Police for how they handled the day, but the huge amount of mess was concerning and the Member felt that feedback to the organisers was required and potentially a change of times to the area. The Chairman stated that the Committee were restricted only to licensing issues. It was noted that planning for this event comes through the Streets and Walkways Committee and they should be notified of safety concerns.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
Supplementary item - Violent Crime from Licensed Premises

The Committee considered a report of the City of London Police regarding violent crime from licensed premises during the period 7 January to 7 April.

A Member was pleased that this report showed provided figured but felt that trends giving a year on year comparison would be beneficial.

Licensing training

The Chairman advised that based on responses from Members, the most suitable date for a full day certificated licensing training course was 1 June 2018 and full details on the course would be circulated to the Committee by the Town Clerk. Members were encouraged to advise the Town Clerk if they wished to attend this course or if one-on-one training would be required on an alternative date.

In response to a query, Members were advised that new licensing guidance had come into effect as of April 2018 which must be followed. This would be covered in the training course and the new guidance circulated to Members for their information.

Ongoing agenda items

It was noted that the Comptroller and City Solicitor previously had an ongoing verbal update item on the agenda relating to appeals and that this should remain on every agenda.

13. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

14. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2018 were approved as a correct record.

15. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

16. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were two non-public items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 2.58 pm

Chairman

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Violent Crime from Licensed Premises

Overview

From the 7th January up to 7th April 2018, licensed premises within the City of London have accounted for 82 violent crimes. This report covers a period of 91 days, the previous report covered a 96 day period during which 66 violent crimes occurred. The crimes comprise a variety of offences:

Grievous Bodily Harm -5 offences

Actual Bodily Harm -38 offences

Common Assault - 26 offences

Public Order -7 offences

Sexual Assault -5 offences

Assault Police - 1 offence

37 of the offences occurred at 10 premises accounting for between 2 and 8 crimes each. 40% of violent crime during this period originates from these 10 premises.

Promoted Events

Of the 82 violent offences within this period 5 crimes occurred whilst a premises hosted a promoted event. During this period a total of 171 promoted events were held at City premises.

Traffic Light Scheme – In Context

Working from the 'Traffic Light Scheme- Top Premises Sheet', currently available, dated 1st September 2017 to 28th February 2018 there are 7 premises listed as 'red':

- We have held a meeting with the General Manager and Area Manager for number 1 and have written to them advising action that the police desire in order to reduce incidents. We await a response.
- Number 2 on the list have engaged with police wholeheartedly taking very significant measures to reduce incidents which have proved effective.
- Number 3 met with police in January and gave assurances that effective measures would be implemented which has been the case with no further cause for concern. We remain vigilant.
- Number 4 remains a challenge. The crime is generally low level assaults resulting from excessive intoxication. Police met with area management recently and a further meeting is being arranged in order to achieve commitment towards improvement. The venue has suffered 8 violent crimes since 7th January this year.
- Number 5 does not concern police, at this time, with 2 violent crimes since 7th January.
- Number 6 is not regarded as a problem venue but is being monitored. One of the two violent crimes for this venue since 7th January was a sexual assault perpetrated by a

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member of door staff no longer employed. This individual was arrested by the Police Licensing Team and subsequently charged with the offence.

Inspector Simon Douglas, Police Licensing Team

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