

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONDON**

**LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE**

Edward Lord OBE JP (Chairman)  
Marianne Fredericks CC  
Deputy John Barker OBE CC

Monday 2 December 2013 (14:40-15:21)

IN RE:

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THE DOLLHOUSE  
7-8 BISHOPSGATE CHURCHYARD EC2M  
(WARD OF BISHOPSGATE)

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*The Sub-Committee was addressed by Mr Gary Grant of Counsel for the Applicant and by Inspector Hector McKoy.*

This was an application made by the Commissioner of Police for the City of London pursuant to Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 for a Summary Review of the premises licence for premises known as The Dollhouse, 7-8 Bishopsgate Churchyard, London, EC2M 3TJ.

We received the required certificate submitted by Superintendent Collicot on behalf of the Commissioner and the application from Inspector McKoy, which was accompanied grounds for a summary review dated 1 December 2013 that included details of the trigger incident on the night of 28/29 November 2013.

The Sub-Committee considered the matters were of the utmost seriousness and accepted the view of the Commissioner that they needed to be dealt with as expediently as possible to prevent a repeat incident of the public disorder that took place on 28/29 November.

There had been an on-going failure to co-operate and communicate with the City of London Police and to inform them of promoted events, and unfortunately this most recent incident occurred at such an event.

In light of all the evidence presented to the Sub-Committee, we considered that pending the substantive hearing, and in accordance with Section 53B (1) of the Act, it was appropriate and necessary to take the interim step of suspending the premises licence with immediate effect, which we considered to be the only interim step we could reasonably take in the circumstances.

We then proceeded to hear the representations of Mr David Wilcox, the premises licence holder, against the interim steps. Mr Wilcox submitted that the incident of 28/29 November was a "one off" and that there had been no previous serious instances of violence and disorder and that the problems arose as a result of allowing a previously unknown promoter to promote the event on that night. He went on to submit that, despite assertions to the contrary, he had co-operated with the City Police in the past. Furthermore, he submitted that suspending the premises licence would have an extremely adverse effect on the business as it had a number of bookings in the period leading up to Christmas. Mr Wilcox suggested that a more appropriate course of action would be to prohibit promoted events and, possibly, reduce the permitted hours until 3am pending the full review hearing.

The Sub-Committee acknowledged that its decision to suspend the premises licence pending the full review hearing could adversely affect the business. However, it was unconvinced that the premises licence holder had engaged with the police and has serious concerns regarding the premises licence holder's ability to maintain order at the premises. Furthermore, the Sub-Committee remained of the view that the levels of violence and disorder on 28/29 November were so serious that it was necessary and appropriate to suspend the premises licence pending the full review hearing.

The Sub-Committee set down a substantive review hearing for this matter on the morning of Monday 30 December 2013.

**C E Lord**  
**M Fredericks**  
**J Barker**