



**Agenda Item No:**

**Bristol City Council**  
**Minutes of Licensing Annual General Meeting**  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 2.00pm

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**Members Present:-**

Councillor Abraham, Councillor Budd, Councillor Clark, Councillor Fodor, Councillor Telford, Councillor Wollacott, Councillor Hance, Councillor Jama, Councillor Khan, Councillor Payne, Councillor Pearce.

**Officers in Attendance:-** Pauline Powell, Nick Carter, Allison Taylor

**1. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest.**

Apologies were received from Councillors Windows, Davies and Morris.

There were no declarations of interest.

**2. Annual Business**

**A) Membership of the Committee**

**RESOLVED - that the membership for the 2015/16 Municipal Year be noted as follows:-**

**Councillor Abraham;**  
**Councillor Budd;**  
**Councillor Clark;**  
**Councillor Davies;**  
**Councillor Fodor;**  
**Councillor Telford;**  
**Councillor Wollacott;**  
**Councillor Hance;**  
**Councillor Jama;**  
**Councillor Khan;**

**Councillor D Morris;  
Councillor Payne;  
Councillor Pearce;  
Councillor Windows.**

**2B. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR.**

Councillor Jama was nominated and seconded for the Chair of the Licensing Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year. There were no further nominations.

**RESOLVED - that Councillor Jama be elected Chair of the Licensing Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year.**

**2C. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR.**

Councillor Abraham was nominated and seconded for the Vice-Chair of Licensing Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year. There were no further nominations.

**RESOLVED - that Councillor Abraham be elected Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year.**

**2D. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**RESOLVED - that the terms of reference of the Licensing Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year be noted.**

**2E. DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS.**

**RESOLVED - that the dates and times be noted.**

**2F. Establishment of Special Purposes Sub-Committee.**

The Committee noted that this Sub-Committee was able to deal with matters that would normally be considered at a Full Committee but which needed to be dealt with urgently.

**RESOLVED - (1) that a Special Purposes Sub- Committee be established with the terms of reference as set out in Appendix A to the report.**

- (2) that Councillor Hance be the third member to sit on the sub-Committee.

**2G. Establishment of Other Sub-Committees.**

- RESOLVED - (1) that the Licensing Committee establish Licensing (Hearings) Sub-Committees comprising any three members of the Licensing Committee and that each member of the Licensing Committee be appointed to serve on any such Sub-Committee which is convened so as to include him or her in its membership; and**
- (2) that each of the Sub-Committees so established shall have the terms of reference as set out in Appendix A.**

**2H. Delegations to Sub-Committees and Officers.**

The Committee noted an amendment to one of the posts with delegated powers. It should read 'Licensing Enforcement Officer' and not 'Senior Enforcement Officer'.

- RESOLVED - (1) that all Sub-Committees established by the Licensing Committee shall have delegated authority to discharge all functions falling within their terms of reference;**
- (2) That the Committee approves delegations to officers as recommended in paragraph 1 of this report; and**
- (3) that for the avoidance of doubt any authority conferred upon a Sub-Committee or an officer in connection with the discharge of any function includes the power to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of the function concerned.**

**3. Public Forum.**

There was none.

**4A. Minutes of the Annual Licensing Committee 19 June 2014.**

**RESOLVED – These minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

**4B. Minutes of the Licensing (Special-Purposes) Sub-Committee 6 November 2014.**

**RESOLVED - These minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

**4C. Minutes of the Licensing (Hearings) Sub-Committee 7 April 2015.**

**RESOLVED - These minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

**4D. Minutes of the Licensing (Hearings) Sub-Committee 9 April 2015.**

**RESOLVED - These minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

**4E. Minutes of the Licensing (Hearings) Sub-Committee 10 April 2015.**

**RESOLVED - These minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

**5. Announcements from the Chair.**

There were none.

**6. Licensing Policy Statement.**

The Regulatory Services Manager reported that there were three policies relating to licensing matters – Licensing Act functions, Gambling Act functions and Sexual Entertainment Venues. An 18 month review of the Licensing Policy had attracted 29 responses to consultation. The key interest appeared to be the local dynamics of the CIA. The refreshed policy, which also took into account changes in legislation and statutory guidance, would be reported to Full Council on 21 July 2015. The policy would come into effect 31 days later and would be in place for 5 years. A new Gambling policy would be in place by January 2016.

**7. Review of Sexual Entertainment Venue (SEV) Policy.**

The current policy was set in 2011 with the work being undertaken through a member/officer working group. The policy was a framework for dealing with SEVs and allowed applications to be refused in a locality if numbers there were already appropriate. There were originally five licensed premises and this was reduced to three through the SEV policy being applied at Committee. This policy had now been in place for 4 years and there had been some interest in reviewing it. A statement had been made to the Special Purposes Sub-Committee on this matter and there had been a number of petitions. The report recommended a review of the policy and that the review considered the suitability of standard conditions being imposed on every licence granted. The review would have regard to the outcome of

The following comments arose:-

- A Councillor endorsed the need to review the policy and proposed that other Local Authorities policies should be considered as part of the review;
- A Councillor supported a review but urged caution with respect to the content of the review. He proposed that the Committee agree a review in principle and ask for a report setting out review content which the Committee would consider and decide how to go forward;
- The Regulatory Services Manager responded that a report would set out the key issues regarding locality and numbers as this had been the primary issue that had occupied court decisions. Lobbyist's view was that the numbers should be set at zero. The Committee's Legal Advisor added that a review of the policy would look at guidelines for all grounds and not just numbers. Focussing on numbers would create difficulties and she therefore advised that the Committee should focus on grounds. A member/officer working group would ensure all issues were anticipated;
- A Councillor stated that the Committee needed to be sure that the policy was in line with what could be sustained. He added that there would be interest from various groups as soon as a review was publicised so it was important to be clear what we were proposing and that the policy reflected what was agreed;
- The Committee's Legal Advisor observed that the Committee had a breadth of discretion so wide that whatever decision it made would be defensible;
- The Chair proposed that officers produce a two-page report overview of the remit of the Committee relating to SEVs and this be circulated as an Information Briefing. This was agreed.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1. That the City Council's policy for the control of sex establishments should be reviewed having regard to the outcome of a public consultation exercise;**
- 2. That consideration be given to the suitability of the standard conditions generally imposed on every licence that was granted or renewed; and**
- 3. That the Director of Neighbourhoods circulate an Information Report overviewing the remit of the Committee relating to SEVs.**

**END: 3pm**

**(Chair)**

