LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT on Tuesday, 8 August 2017 from 10.28am - 10.55am.

PRESENT: Councillors Prescott, Anita Walker (substitute for Councillor Lesley Ingham) and Ted Wilcox (Chairman).

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mohammad Bauluck, Jayne Bolas, Philippa Davies, Tom Dunn and Della Fackrell.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Colin Barrett (Respondent), PC Dan Hunt and PC Diane Holroyd (Kent Police), and Miss Bethany Probert and Mr Paul Tapsell (Counsel for the Licence Holder).

APOLOGY: Councillor Lesley Ingham.

160 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

161 REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Counsel for the Licence Holder made an application to adjourn the hearing on the basis that he had received a large bundle of papers from Kent Police which amounted to some 20 documents referring to 12 incidents. PC Hunt indicated that he intended to rely on two or three of these documents, with the rest as background. Counsel was not sure which incidents and what it was alleged they demonstrated. CCTV had just been played to him that morning and there were 8 cameras for over 4 hours. If both parties referred to CCTV and all the incidents, the hearing would not finish that day. He sought a summary of what would be relied upon to narrow the facts being disputed. This would assist the decision process and hopefully prevent a part-heard hearing. It would be appropriate to adjourn to a date as soon as possible with enough time for the evidence.

The Police applicant for the review stated that reluctantly they did not oppose an adjournment to attempt to narrow facts, and have the matter heard on one occasion. However, they made it clear that all the evidence had been provided in time. A precis was sent three to four weeks ago and redacted reports had been sent last week. He felt that the request for a summary should have been made last week, not that morning. The Police felt that this could have been avoided and suggested the adjourned date be as soon as possible, as they had concerns with the premises remaining open, and not promoting the licensing objectives.

Members decided to agree a short adjournment and a date of 23 August 2017 at 10am was agreed, with the possibility of determination going over to the evening or the next morning if necessary.

Resolved: That the meeting be adjourned until 10am on 23 August 2017.

Chairman

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All Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel