LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT on Tuesday, 28 November 2017 from 3.30pm - 4.22pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Cameron Beart (Chairman), Tina Booth and Tony Winckless.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Philippa Davies, Tom Dunn and Robin Harris.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: PC Chris Hill (Kent Police) and Mr Jacob Mead-Baker (Applicant's representative).

354 FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chairman ensured that those present were aware of the Fire Evacuation Procedure.

355 ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman advised that the Senior Lawyer had been delayed at court and was running late. The Sub-Committee adjourned until 3.30pm.

356 NOTIFICATION OF CHAIRMAN AND OUTLINE OF PROCEDURE

The Chairman opened the meeting by introducing the Sub-Committee and officers present, the representative from Kent Police and the Respondent.

357 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

358 NEW PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

The Licensing Officer introduced the application for a new Premises Licence for the Platinum Bar, Sittingbourne. The application was for the provision of regulated entertainment and the supply of alcohol. The proposed hours of the licensable activities were outlined on page 2 of the report. The Licensing Officer explained that representations had been received and these had referred to all four of the licensing objectives.

Mr Jacob Mead-Baker, the Applicant's representative, advised that he had worked at the Platinum Bar for one year, and had worked hard with Licensing Officers at Swale Borough Council (SBC) and Kent Police. He considered that he had addressed all that was required of him.

A Member raised concern with the extension of the hours applied for at the premises.

In response to a question, the Senior Lawyer (Contentious) explained that opening hours at the premises were not a licensing activity, it was the live music and supply of alcohol that were licensing activities.

The Applicant's representative responded to questions from the Sub-Committee. He explained that the proposed new licensing hours were extended from 1am to 3am, which he considered made the premises a safer environment. The Applicant's representative further clarified the opening hours, and some of this was historic, when the premises had been used for out-of-school activities. He explained that the booths within the premises were a raised area, and that bottles of drink bought for consumption in the booths, were not permitted to be taken out onto the dance floor.

PC Chris Hill explained that he had worked with the Applicant to address issues that the Police had, and he had compiled a list of conditions for the Applicant to comply with. PC Hill acknowledged the previous crime and disorder activity at the premises which had been raised by representations made to the application, but assured the Sub-Committee that he was content with the current situation, and that the premises would be monitored in the future by Licensing Officers.

Members of the Sub-Committee adjourned to make their decision at 3.42pm. Members of the Sub-Committee, the Senior Lawyer and Democratic Services Officer returned at 4.15pm, when the meeting was reconvened.

The decision as set out in Appendix I to these minutes was announced.

Resolved: The Sub-Committee agreed to grant the licence as applied for subject to conditions.

Chairman

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