



Licensing Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Committee** held in **Rooms 7 & 8, Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes** on **27 July 2007** at **14:00** .

Present:

Councillors P L Bennett, K D Mayers and D H Mitchell

In Attendance:

Mr M Wiltshire, Environmental Health Manager
Mr G Clark, Licensing Officer
Mr C Challenger, Environmental Health Trainee

Mr R Orridge, Licensing Lawyer acting for the Council
Mr D Feintuck, Committee Officer

Applicant Attending:

Mr W E G Webb, Buckle Holiday Park, Marine Parade, Seaford

Representors Attending:

Mr and Mrs F K Orde

Mr J T Richards

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Election of Chair of the Sub-Committee**Resolved**

1.1 That Councillor Mayers be elected Chair for the meeting.

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Application for Premises Licence: Buckle Holiday Park, Marine Parade, Seaford

Those present agreed to follow the Council's "Recommended Procedure under the Licensing Act 2003". The Sub-Committee considered Report No 147/07 to determine the Application for Variation of the Licence at Buckle Holiday Park, Marine Parade, Seaford, East Sussex. The Licensing Officer made the following points:

- The Council itself was neutral with respect to the application. The Sub-Committee would decide whether the Application should be granted in relation to the legislation, the licensing objectives and the Council's licensing policy.
- No responsible authority representations remained. Lewes District Council Planning Department had objected to the Application as submitted on 30 June 2007 which had sought to extend opening hours beyond those permitted by Planning conditions. As the Applicant had amended his application to restrict opening hours to 11:00pm, and to amend 'members and guests' to 'visitors', the Planning Department had withdrawn its objection. Details appeared at Appendix 1 to the Report. Three representations which had been received from the public remained; the representation from Mr and Mrs Cope had been withdrawn. The Representations were at Appendix 2.
- The numbers of permitted pitches at paragraph 2.1 of the Report were correct;
- The permitted capacity of 100 persons under Fire Regulations included staff; and
- No guests of static caravan residents would be permitted.

Mr Webb made the following points:

- Static caravan residents and all other residents would be issued with appropriate membership cards, either long term or temporary. A barrier entry system was in place at the site;
- Planning conditions for the Clubhouse included double glazing and insulation and the stage faced away from neighbouring buildings;
- There are double sets of Clubhouse entrance doors and, while the windows might need to be opened at times for the comfort of users, every effort would be made to make the environment peaceful and the windows kept shut if necessary;
- There had been no noise complaints received by Environmental Health and all Planning and Environmental regulations had been complied with;
- The Licence if granted would reduce the activity of visitors traveling to and from the nearest pub or off-licence to obtain alcohol and the Clubhouse licence would obviate the need for campers to consume alcohol in their tents, thus further reducing potential noise nuisance; and
- The Applicant had responsibly operated a similar site in Eastbourne.

In response to representors' questions, the following points were made:

- The amendments to the Application as originally submitted and detailed above had been made appropriately by the Applicant. The amendments were to conditions; it was unnecessary to re-advertise as such details were not specified in the advertisement.
- The advertisement had been moved at the advice of the Licensing Officer nearer to the public road from its original placement on the boundary of the site. It had complied with the requirement that it be placed prominently at or on the premises where it could be conveniently read.

- No condition need be applied that music should finish earlier than the permitted licensed hour of 11:00pm requested in the Application;
- A children's play area was to be created; unsupervised non-visitors' children playing outside the site were not the Applicant's responsibility;
- While consumption of alcohol on site away from the Clubhouse was not licensable and took place in any case, the Sub-Committee could consider the possible effect of such activity; and
- Car parking near caravans had not been raised as an issue by the Fire Authority.

The Sub-Committee withdrew to consider the Application.

Resolved:

"The Sub-Committee grants the Application as submitted and amended. It has carefully considered the Representations of the interested parties, both written and oral. It has also taken into account the locality and nature of the premises. The Sub-Committee does not consider that the representations provide sufficient evidence to justify refusal or further amendment of the Application. In coming to this decision, the Sub-Committee has taken into consideration the need to promote the Licensing Objectives as well as its own Statement of Licensing Policy, the Statutory Guidance and the Licensing Act 2003. Full consideration has also been given to the human rights of all parties in coming to this decision."

The Licensing Lawyer explained the rights of appeal and review and that the Applicant would be advised of the Sub-Committee's decision forthwith.

The Chair of the Committee added that it was desirable that the Applicant and representors had expressed willingness to communicate over any problems which might arise in the future.

The meeting ended at **15:25** .

K D Mayers Chair