

Licensing Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Committee held in the Ditchling Room, Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes on Monday 24 February 2014 at 2.00pm.

Present:

Councillor J Stockdale (Chair) Councillors G R Amy, S J Gauntlett, P Gander, J M Harrison-Hicks, R Robertson and C Sugarman

Officers Present:

Ms Z Downton, Committee Officer
Ms J Fletcher, Solicitor
Mr E Hele, Principal Environmental Health Officer

Minutes Action

14 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

15 Apologies for Absence/Declaration of Substitute Members

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors C Butler and P A Howson.

16 Street Trading in Lewes District

The Committee considered Report No 44/14 which sought approval for a new policy for Street Trading across Lewes District, together with the application processes and conditions applicable to traders.

The Principal Environmental Health Officer took councillors through the Report. As background he explained that in October 2013, following a consultation period, the Licensing Committee had authorised council officers to take the necessary steps to designate all Lewes District streets as "Consent" streets. That process included a review of existing practices as well as those of other authorities, the drafting of a new Policy framework and drawing up operating conditions and application processes. The intention was that the draft Policy, once approved and implemented, would

be reviewed every 5 years.

The draft Policy was set out in Appendix 1 of the Report, along with the street trading licence application processes and conditions set out in Appendices 2 and 3 respectively.

In response to councillors' questions, the Principal Environmental Health Officer explained that each application would be considered on its own merits. He also explained that some activities fell outside of the Council's Street Trading controls, but may require consent or approval from other agencies, such as pedlars, charitable stalls and markets/fairs. He added that the relevant licensing legislation enabled the Council to withdraw or revoke a street trading licence, in circumstances where it was deemed necessary.

The Principal Environmental Health Officer explained that, if the Committee was minded to authorise council officers to proceed with the consultation, the draft Policy, application processes and conditions would be publicised as soon as was practically possible after the meeting. After a 28 day consultation period had elapsed, the results would be collated and presented to members at a future meeting.

The Committee commended the Principal Environmental Health Officer and his team for producing a comprehensive draft Policy framework.

Resolved:

That 'Relevant East Sussex County Councillors' be added to the list of consultees, as set out under the 'Service Standards for Processing your Application' on page 17 (Appendix 2) of Report No 44/14;

PEHO

16.2 That the draft Lewes Street Trading Policy, as set out in Appendix 1 of Report No 44/14, be agreed and council officers be authorised to formally consult on the draft Policy;

Director of Service Delivery/ PEHO

16.3 That, subject to Resolution 16.1 above, the draft Street Trading application processes and conditions relating to the draft Policy, as set out in Appendices 2 and 3 on pages 15 – 33 of Report No 44/14, be agreed and council officers be authorised to formally consult on these;

Director of Service Delivery/ PEHO

That a further report be brought to a future meeting of the Licensing Committee to consider the results of the formal consultation and to approve a Policy for Lewes District, application processes and conditions and a date for implementation; and

Director of Service Delivery/ PEHO

16.5 That delegated powers continue to remain with the Principal Environmental Health Officer to determine non contentious, properly made applications.

PEHO

17 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved:

17.1 That the next meeting of the Licensing Committee to be held on Wednesday 16 April 2014 at 12.00noon in the Telscombe Room, Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes be noted.

All to note

The meeting ended at 2.40pm.

J Stockdale Chair