

Monday 15 October 2007  
at 6.00pm



# General Licensing Committee

**MEMBERS:** Councillor Mrs MORRIS (Chairman) Councillor THOMPSON (Deputy Chairman), Councillors BELSEY, Mrs GOODALL, GOODWIN, GOODYEAR, HOUGH, PURCHESE and Miss WOODALL

(Apologies for absence were reported from Councillors Bloom, Elkin, Harris, Mrs Heaps, Mrs Madell, and Mrs Salisbury).

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## 7 Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2007 were submitted and approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a correct record.

## 8 Declaration of Interests.

None were received.

## 9 Raising of Standards in Licensed Animal Establishments.

The Committee considered the report of the Licensing Manager regarding a review of the Councils current licensing conditions relating to pet shops, animal boarding and breeding establishments in the Borough. The report also detailed the implications for the Council of the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

The Committee was advised that the public had a right to expect that all the animal establishments licensed in the Borough satisfied the basic standards for the health, safety and welfare of animals. It was equally important that proprietors of animal establishments had a clear understanding of the minimum standards to be attained.

The proposed new conditions and guidance detailed within the report had been agreed by the bodies involved in the provision and control of licensed establishments and aimed to raise standards and apply a consistency of approach. The proposed revisions set a benchmark standard and responded to the concerns expressed by the industry, enforcement authorities and those concerned with animal welfare.

The Committee discussed amendments to proposed conditions no's 26 and 49 and agreed that the exact wording be formulated by the Licensing Manager and Solicitor to the Council in consultation with the Chairman of the Licensing Committee.

**RESOLVED: (1)** That the progress and implementation timetable of the Animal Welfare Act 2006, and its implications for Eastbourne Borough Council be noted.

**(2)** That the Council's licence conditions relating to pet shops, animal boarding and breeding establishments be amended as detailed in the appendices to the report, the exact wording in respect of no's 26 and 49 (pet shops) to be delegated to the Licensing Manager and the Solicitor to the Council, in consultation with the Chairman.

**10 Nightwatch – Presentation by the Chairman of the Nightwatch Steering Committee.**

The Committee received a brief overview of the Nightwatch Scheme by Mr C Islip, Chairman of the Nightwatch Steering Committee. Mr Islip sought the support of the Licensing Committee in promoting the Nightwatch scheme particularly too late night eating establishments. The Deputy Chairman of the Committee and the Area Manager for Markone Security were also in attendance to advise Members on how the scheme worked in Eastbourne.

The Committee was advised of a new night bus scheme that had been running for five weeks for student nights, primarily on Mondays and Wednesdays and that the Nightwatch Scheme had been entered for a Town Centre Management Award.

The Licensing Manager advised that applicants for variations or new licences were made aware of Nightwatch, however there was no compulsory requirement to join, unless it was attached as a condition to a licence.

**NOTED.**

**11 Urgent Business – Gambling Act 2005 – Delegation Scheme.**

The Committee agreed that consideration of the Licensing Manager's report be deferred to the special meeting in December.

**RESOLVED:** That the proposed amendments to the Gambling Act Delegation Scheme be considered at the special Licensing Committee in December 2007.

The meeting closed at 7.05 p.m.

**Mrs S Morris  
Chairman**