

LICENSING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING of the Licensing Committee held on Friday 15 September 2006 at 9.30am in the Executive Meeting Room in the Guildhall, Portsmouth.

Present

Councillors Les Stevens (Chair)
Mike Blake (Standing Deputy for Councillor Alan Langford)
Frank Jonas
Geoff Goble
Hugh Mason (Standing Deputy for Councillor David Stephen Butler)
Robin Sparshatt

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors David Stephen Butler, Alan Langford, Margaret Foster, Richard Jensen, Jacqui Hancock and Lee Mason. Standing Deputies, Councillors Mike Blake and Hugh Mason were in attendance.

11 Members' Interests in Accordance with Standing Order No 14 (AI 1)

There were no declarations of interest.

12 Minutes of the Licensing Committee meetings held on 20 January and 16 May 2006 (AI 2)

(TAKE IN MINUTES)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Licensing Committee meetings held on 20 January and 16 May 2006 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

13 Matters Arising From the Minutes (AI 3)

There were no matters arising.

14 Minutes of the Licensing Sub Committee meetings held on 20 January, 27 January, 3 February, 10 February, 21 February, 4 April, 11 April, 18 April, 24 April, 23 May, 13 June, 20 June, 4 July, 18 July, 1 August, 8 August, 15 August, 22 August and 5 September 2006 (AI 4)

(TAKE IN MINUTES)

Councillor Blake referred to the minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2006 and pointed out that Councillors Lee Mason and Mike Blake were in attendance but it referred to Councillor Blair being appointed as chair for the meeting.

It was agreed to amend the minutes of 20 January 2006 to reflect the fact that it was Councillor Lee Mason in the chair for the meeting.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Sub Committee meetings held on 20 January, 27 January, 3 February, 10 February, 21 February, 4 April, 11 April, 18 April, 24 April, 23 May, 13 June, 20 June, 4 July, 18 July, 1 August, 8 August, 15 August, 22 August and 5 September 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the appropriate member as Chair of the meeting, subject to the above amendment to the minutes of the 20 January meeting.

15 Matters Arising From The Minutes (AI 5)

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

16 The Gambling Act 2005 – Briefing report for Members (AI 6)

(TAKE IN REPORT BY THE LICENSING MANAGER)

The Licensing Manager, Nickii Humphreys, introduced her report and explained to members about the new legislation regulating gambling in Great Britain and the role of the Council as licensing authority. The Act received royal assent on 7 April 2005 and provides for a new regulatory system to control the provision of all gambling, other than the National Lottery and spread betting.

The Licensing Manager explained the timetable for implementation and that the Department of Culture, Media & Sports had extended the transition period by 3 months which means the period from when Licensing authorities commence accepting licence applications had now slipped from February to 1 May 2007.

Specialist in-house training would be arranged for members, likely to be in the New Year.

Members noted the briefing report.

17 The Gambling Act 2005 – Draft Statement of Licensing Principles (AI 7)

(TAKE IN REPORT BY THE LICENSING MANAGER)

The Licensing Manager, Nickii Humphreys, explained that before the transition process can commence, the Council, as licensing authority, is required to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Principles. It is this policy document that the licensing authority, and the applicants', will refer to when considering applications for licences or permits under the Act.

RESOLVED that (1) the Licensing Committee approve the draft Statement of Licensing Principles as the consultation document for the purposes of the Gambling Act 2005;

(2) the Licensing Committee approve the timetable for the consultation period, consideration of responses to the consultation process

and submission of reports on the final document (including any amendments if necessary) to the Licensing Committee and Council as appropriate.

The meeting concluded at 10.10am.

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Signed by the Chair.