

LICENSING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE - 8 OCTOBER 2014

Present: Councillor Woodward (Chair);
Councillors D L Absolom, Chrisp, D Edwards, Jones, Livingston
and Page.
Also present: Inspector Keith Stacey and Mike King - Thames Valley Police
Apologies: Councillors Skeats and Vickers.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 2 October 2013 and 11 June 2014 were confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chair.

3. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved -

That, pursuant to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), members of the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following item of business as it was likely that there would be disclosures of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act.

4. ENFORCEMENT ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH PREMISES LICENSING IN THE TOWN CENTRE, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS UPON THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY

The Committee and representatives from Thames Valley Police discussed the impact of the Council's Licensing Policy Statement, especially in respect of cumulative impact, and the effect on Town Centre premise licences. It was noted that a number of applications for variations and grants of premise licences, which were within the cumulative impact area, were not addressing the Cumulative Impact Policy in their applications and were not submitting evidence or attempting to rebut the presumption to refuse. Officers agreed to investigate whether applications could be refused if the applicant had not addressed the Cumulative Impact Policy. Officers were also asked to look at the hearing procedure and whether this should be amended to reflect that the application had to rebut the presumption to refuse.

Resolved -

- (1) That officers investigate the legal implications of refusing to accept applications from premises within the Town Centre which had not addressed the Cumulative Impact Policy within their application;
- (2) That officers investigate whether the hearing procedure for applications within the Cumulative Impact Policy area should be amended.