

**LICENSING APPLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
6 FEBRUARY 2025**

Present: Councillors Woodward (Chair), Edwards (Vice-Chair) and Stevens.

**44. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE - CHAIIWALA, 140-142 WOKINGHAM ROAD, READING, RG6 1JL**

The Sub-Committee considered a report on an application for the grant of a premises licence in respect of Chaiiwala, 140-142 Wokingham Road, Reading, RG6 1JL. The premises did not currently benefit from a Premises Licence.

At the outset, the Sub-Committee confirmed with all parties present that they were aware that the application had erroneously not been posted on the Reading Borough Council website for the 28-day consultation period. The applicant had advertised the application via Reading Today Online and a blue notice displayed at the premises. Each party confirmed that they were content to continue with the hearing despite this lapse.

The application for a premises licence had been submitted by UTAD Limited on behalf of the applicant Mr Mohsin Mujtaba-Tariq. The application had been received on 28 November 2024. A copy of the application form was attached to the report at Appendix LIC-1. The application the grant of a premises licence to allow the following:

**Hours for the Provision of Late Night Refreshment:**

Monday to Sunday from 2300hrs until 0100hrs

**Hours the Premises is Open to the Public:**

Monday to Sunday from 0800hrs until 0100hrs

During the 28-day consultation period for the application representations against the variation application had been received from the following Responsible Authorities:

- Rebecca Moon – RBC, Environmental Protection Team – representation attached at Appendix LIC-2;
- Tabitha Shaw – Reading Borough Council (RBC), Licensing Team – representation attached at Appendix LIC-3.

The report stated that in determining the application the Licensing Authority had a duty to carry out its functions with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives, as follows:

- The prevention of crime and disorder;
- Public safety;
- The prevention of public nuisance;
- The protection of children from harm.

The report stated that any decision made in relation to the Premises Licence should be appropriate and proportionate with a view to promoting the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority could amend, alter, or refuse an application should it be deemed appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

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The report set out paragraphs 1.6, 2.9, 3.1, 3.2, 5.6, 5.7, 6.1, 6.2, 6.5, 6.19 to 6.26, 7.2, 7.6, 7.7, 7.12, 8.6, 10.1 and 10.3 from the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy. The report also set out paragraphs 1.2 to 1.5, 8.41 to 8.49, 9.12, 9.38, 9.39, 9.40, 9.42 and 9.43 from the Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 issued in December 2023.

Ben Williams, Licensing Enforcement Officer, RBC, attended the hearing and presented the report outlining the application to the Sub-Committee.

The Applicant, Mr Mohsin Mujtaba-Tariq, and his representative, Mr Bill Donne of Silver Fox Consultants attended the meeting. Both addressed the Sub-Committee on the application and asked and responded to questions.

Robert Smalley, Licensing Enforcement Officer, RBC; attended the meeting, addressed the Sub-Committee on the representations that had been submitted in opposition to the application, asked and responded to questions.

**Resolved:**

- (1) That, after taking into consideration the Licensing Act 2003, the Secretary of State's Guidance issued under section 182 of that Act and Reading Borough Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and having considered the likely effect that granting the application would have on the promotion of the four Licensing Objectives:

- the prevention of crime and disorder;
- public safety;
- the prevention of public nuisance; and
- the protection of children from harm

and having considered:

- the written report and associated paperwork for the meeting;
- the written and oral representations from the applicant, including the skeleton argument provided by Silver Fox Consultants prior to the meeting;
- the written professional representations of Tabitha Shaw and the oral professional representations of Robert Smalley on behalf of Reading Borough Council's Licensing Team; and
- the written professional representations of Rebecca Moon on behalf of Reading Borough Council's Environmental Health Team;

that a Premise Licence in respect of Chaiiwala, 140-1442 Wokingham Road, Reading, RG6 1JL, be granted allow the licensable hours as follows:

**Hours for the Provision of Late Night Refreshment:**

Monday to Sunday                      from 2300hrs until 0100hrs

**Hours the Premises is Open to the Public:**

Monday to Sunday                      from 0800hrs until 0100hrs

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Subject to the conditions set out in the report as part of Appendix LIC-1, with the removal of Condition 6 which was not required as this was covered under other legislation.

- (2) That it be noted that, whilst the application to vary the premises licence had been granted, the premises could not operate past 2300hrs until the relevant planning consent had been obtained.

(The meeting started at 9.30 am and closed at 10.39 am)