

## LICENSING APPLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE 2 MEETING MINUTES - 22 SEPTEMBER 2022

**Present:** Councillor Woodward (Chair); Edwards (Vice-Chair) and G Dennis

### 5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of Licensing Applications Sub-Committee 2 held on 20 June 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

### 6. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE, READING WINTER WONDERLAND, HILLS MEADOW CAR PARK, GEORGE STREET, READING, RG4 8DH

The Deputy Director of Planning, Transport and Regulatory Services submitted a report on an application for the grant of a Premises Licence in respect of Reading Winter Wonderland, Hills Meadow Car Park, George Street, Reading, RG4 8DH.

The report stated that the application was for the grant of a Premises Licence to permit the following licensable activities:

Provision of Recorded Music

Monday to Sunday from 1100hrs until 2200hrs

Sale by Retail of Alcohol (On the Premises)

Monday to Sunday from 1100hrs until 2200hrs

Hours the Premises is Open to the Public

Monday to Sunday from 1100hrs until 2230hrs

The application was for a 6-year, limited duration licence, to be valid for 54 consecutive days per year between November and January commencing in November 2022 and ending in January 2028.

A copy of the Premises Licence Application Form was attached to the report at Appendix RS-1.

A copy of the agreed conditions between Reading Borough Council's Licensing Team, Thames Valley Police and the Applicant were attached to the report at Appendix RS-2.

During the 28-day consultation period for the application three representations were received by Reading Borough Council (RBC) from:

- Ms Clare Smith - Director of Kingfisher Place Management - attached at Appendix RS-3;
- Ms Helen Lambert - Caversham and District Residents' Association (CADRA) - attached at Appendix RS-4;
- Reading Borough Council, Environmental Protection Team - attached at Appendix RS-5.

Further information, including reference to the updated terms and conditions for the use of the Hills Meadow site, was provided by Reading Borough Council's Leisure & Recreation Team and was attached to the report at Appendix RS-6.

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The following additional information, submitted after the agenda had been published on 13 September 2022, was also provided to the Sub-Committee:

- Additional information provided by the applicant (pages 75-129)
- Further information provided by Helen Lambert, CADRA (page 131)
- A list of complaints received in 2021 by RBC's Environmental Protection and Nuisance Team (page 133)
- A copy of correspondence between RBC's Environmental Protection Team and the applicant (pages 135-141)

A sound recording was also circulated to members of the Sub-Committee via email.

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 also stated that any conditions placed on the premises licence should be appropriate and proportionate with a view to promoting the licensing objectives and that the Licensing Authority could grant (subject to appropriate conditions to promote the licensing objectives), amend, alter or refuse an application should it be deemed appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

The report set out paragraphs 8.41, 8.42, 8.44, 8.45, 8.46, 8.47, 8.48, 8.49, 9.12, 9.39, 9.40, 9.42 and 9.43 from the Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 issued in April 2018. The report also set out paragraphs 1.6, 3.1, 3.2, 5.6, 5.7, 6.1, 6.2, 6.5, 7.2, 7.6, 7.8, 7.11, 7.12, 8.6, 10.1 and 10.3 from the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

Sue Dowling of Blandy & Blandy LLP, the solicitor for the applicant, and Billy Williams and William Williams from Premier Winter Wonderland Event Ltd, the applicant, were present at the meeting, addressed the Sub-Committee on the application and answered questions.

Rebecca Moon, RBC Environmental Protection & Nuisance Team, also attended the meeting, addressed the Sub-Committee on the application and answered questions.

Robert Smalley, RBC Licensing Enforcement Officer, presented the report to the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee heard that the applicant had been in correspondence with the Council's Leisure & Recreation Team regarding changes to the terms and conditions of hire for the site. This included the Council imposing a lower noise level limit for the site, set at 63dBa LAeq 15 minutes as measured 1-metre from the façade of any noise sensitive property, which the applicant was willing to agree to.

The Sub-Committee adjourned at 10.40 am to allow the applicant and the Council's Environmental Protection & Nuisance Team time to draft mutually acceptable conditions relating to production of a noise management plan and also arrangements for a letter drop to residents living near to the site. The Sub-Committee resumed at 10.53 am and the proposed draft wording was presented to the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee noted that the previous year's event appeared to have been well-run and commended the applicant for their cooperation.

**Resolved -**

That, in order to promote the four licensing objectives and having regard to the oral and written representations made in advance and at the meeting, the Secretary of State's guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (April 2018), the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy, the application for the grant of a Premises Licence in respect of Reading Winter Wonderland, Hills Meadow Car Park, George Street, Reading, RG4 8DH, be granted to permit:

Provision of Recorded Music

Monday to Sunday from 1100hrs until 2200hrs

Sale by Retail of Alcohol (On the Premises)

Monday to Sunday from 1100hrs until 2200hrs

Hours the Premises is Open to the Public

Monday to Sunday from 1100hrs until 2230hrs

Subject to the agreed conditions as set out in Appendix RS-2 of the report and the following further conditions:

1. The premises licence holder shall ensure that the noise level measured at least 1m from the façade of the nearest and all other noise sensitive premises (being premises where occupants are likely to suffer from excessive noise) shall not exceed 63dBa over a 15-minute period (Laeq 15 min).
2. That the Premises Licence Holder shall submit to the Environmental Protection Team, at least 28-days prior to the event, a noise management plan setting out clearly all the on-site noise sources and how they will be controlled.
3. That the Premises Licence Holder shall conduct a letter drop to residents of Kingfisher Place and Cardinal Close providing contact details for the Designated Premises Supervisor.

The Applicant was advised of their right to appeal.

(The meeting closed at 11.10 am)