

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 31 May 2007 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa, at 4.30 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Britland, Crowther, Dhillon, Edwards, Mrs Falp, Mrs Gallagher, Mrs Grainger, Harris, Hatfield, Mrs Mellor, Mobbs, Pratt and Shilton.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs Goode.

84. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Mellor be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

85. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor Shilton be appointed Vice Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

86. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

87. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28 March 2007 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

88. RECORD OF PANEL HEARINGS

The Committee considered the minutes of the Licensing Panel Hearings held on 29 March, 5 April and 12 April 2007 for information.

The minutes of the Licensing Panels were submitted for information but also at the request of the Licensing Committee because it allowed them to build knowledge of decisions and applications.

The Committee took this opportunity to discuss the Licensing training they had received on 24 May 2007.

Concern was expressed by some members of the Committee that, the Council could not consult with residents or inform Ward Councillors of applications in the same way it did with Planning Applications. It was explained by the Head of Legal Services and the Senior Committee Services Officer that the Licensing Act 2003 did not permit the Council to do this.

LICENSING COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

The Senior Committee Services Officer highlighted that brief details of applications are available to view on the Council's website under the Licensing Act pages. A reminder about this is included each week in the Members' Weekly Bulletin.

It was asked if, with the Smoking Legislation coming into force on the 1 July 2007, there would be a number of applications to remove the conditions regarding no entry or re-entry after 23:00 or the conditions restricting the use of the outside areas after 23:00. The Senior Committee Services Officer outlined that a few applications for this and smoking shelters had been received and had been refused by the Council. None of these decisions were appealed to the magistrates. It was important to remember that the conditions were to reduce noise nuisance and not to stop people drinking outside.

RESOLVED that the records of the Panel Hearings held on 29 March, 5 April and 12 April 2007, be noted.

(Councillor Pratt left during this item)

(The meeting ended at 5.10 pm)