

Minutes of Licensing Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: Friday, 5 August 2016, starting at 10am
Present: Councillor J Alcock (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Brunskill
P Elms

In attendance:

Solicitor - RVBC
Administration and Licensing (Alcohol & Entertainment) Officer – RVBC
Malcolm Ireland – Applicant's Solicitor
Jonathan Crompton – Applicant
Councillor Allan Knox }
Mrs Catherine Roberts } Persons who had made relevant representations
Mr Richard Cowman }
Mr Alan MacLardy }

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies from the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no pecuniary and non-pecuniary declarations of interest.

SOBAR, 1B KING STREET, CLITHEROE

Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on the determination of an application for a variation of a premises licence pursuant to Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003. The Applicant already has the benefit of a premises licence originally granted on 13 September 2012 and transferred to him on 18 May 2015. The Applicant had now made an application to vary the premises licence. This included the extension of the hours within the operating schedule and alterations to various conditions.

The Applicant's Solicitor informed Committee that the Applicant had operated a premises in Whalley for the last 13 years and therefore had much experience. They were aware of historic issues at SoBar and had therefore waited for 12 months of trading before submitting the application for the variation. Some sound attenuation works had already been carried out. He informed Committee that the application to add a hour onto the trading hours across the board was in order to make the business viable, along with the addition of Bank Holiday trading. The late night refreshment application was to include hot cocktails and possibly food at some time in the future.

With regard to the application to change conditions he reported that several of these would be replaced by more rigid and relevant conditions which made reference to more recent acts. He was prepared to concede any extra use of the balcony if the yard area was allowed to be used for smokers during trading

hours, with the restriction of alcohol after 10.30pm. He referred to documents from Linda Boyer, the Council's Noise Pollution Officer and the Police Licensing Officer. He also informed Members that they would concede Thursday's of Bank Holiday weekends except for the Easter weekend and would use temporary event notices otherwise.

The Applicant's Agent made reference to the representations that had been submitted and in particular to their worries about discarded bottles and glasses and vomit and urine. He informed Committee that clients from the SoBar were not allowed to leave the premises with any bottles or glasses and that his staff also clear up at the end of the night. It would therefore appear that these were perhaps left by clients of other premises in the town. He went on to inform Committee that he was a big advocate of partnership working with residents and neighbours and that they were willing to move forward with this relationship and work together with particular regard to these issues as well as noise issues.

Five written representations had been received, four of which were attached to the report for Committee's information. Councillor Knox attended and made verbal representations with regard to the operation of the yard and the need for additional door supervisors.

Mrs Roberts attended and made verbal representations with regard to the noise of music and talking as well as the discarded glasses, bottles and other effluent.

Mr Cowman attended and made verbal representations with regard to the same issues and the worry that increased hours would destroy his quality of life.

Mr MacLardy attended and made verbal representations with regard to the extended hours and noise issues. He agreed that relationships needed to improve and accepted that if the two parties worked together then perhaps some noise attenuation could be achieved.

Written representations were also taken into account.

The Licensing Sub-Committee gave careful consideration to the application and to the representations by all parties, both written and verbal. The Licensing Sub-Committee also considered the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003, the relevant regulations, the licensing objectives and the Council's Licensing Policy.

RESOLVED: The Sub-Committee resolve to grant the variation (reflecting the concessions made at the hearing) and to incorporate additional conditions on the licence. The Sub-Committee decision is available at:
https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/10725/sobar_1b_king_street_clitheroe.pdf

The hearing closed at 11.35am.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Diane Rice (414418).