

Minutes of Licensing Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 26 March 2019, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor I Sayers (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Atkinson	S Hore
S Bibby	G Mirfin
A Brown	G Scott
S Brunskill	N Walsh
S Hind	

In attendance: Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Solicitor.

Not in attendance: Councillors G Geldard and A Knox.

724 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors L Graves, R Hargreaves and T Hill.

725 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

726 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

Councillor G Mirfin declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 5.

727 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

728 WHALLEY CUMULATIVE IMPACT ASSESSMENT – CONSIDERATION OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing Committee about the responses received to the Council's consultation about a Cumulative Impact Assessment for Whalley and to seek Committee's support for progressing the CIA.

This matter had been considered by Committee on three previous occasions and a subsequent consultation had been carried out for a six week period. Only one response had been received, from Billington and Langho Parish Council, which was supportive of progressing the CIA.

Members were therefore requested to consider approving the CIA for inclusion within the Council's Licensing Policy.

Members discussed the impact CIA would have in Whalley and recognised it was neither a preventative tool or a deterrent for the current establishments. It was also disappointing to see the level of response to the consultation after so many complaints received from residents of the area.

*** RESOLVED: That Committee recommend to Council that the Cumulative Impact Assessment for Whalley be approved to form part of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy. ***

729 PROTECTING USERS – TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing Committee about a consultation exercise which was being carried out by the Department for Transport between February 2019 and 22 April 2019 for which the Council needed to formulate a response.

The guidance had arisen from concerns which had been raised about the involvement of licence holders in the abuse and exploitation of some of the most vulnerable in society. The consultation was being carried out in exercise of the power to issue guidance which comes from Section 117 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017 and was addressed in particular to the requirement to safeguard children and vulnerable adults. The consultation document was attached for Members' information. In order for a response to be made on behalf of the Council it would be necessary to carry out a careful comparison of the Council's existing policies with the proposals which were set out in the full consultation document. As this had only recently been issued it had not been possible to examine the document in any detail.

Members made reference to the compulsory use of dash-cams in some other authorities.

RESOLVED: That Committee delegate to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of this Committee, the formulation of a response on behalf of the Council.

730 TACKLING GAMBLING RELATED HARM – A WHOLE COUNCIL APPROACH

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Committee's information on the advice of the Local Government Association and Public Health England which was seeking to reduce gambling related harm.

The Gambling Act 2005 gave the Council responsibility for licensing a variety of types of premises including eg betting offices and arcades. There were very few premises in the Council's area which hold such licences. However, many premises licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 also hold permits under the Act for gaming machines.

The Local Government Association and Public Health England have now produced guidance on how Councils could seek to address the issue as part of wider public health provision.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

731

MINUTES OF THE RIBBLE VALLEY EVENT SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
– 18 SEPTEMBER 2018 AND 5 MARCH 2019

Committee received the minutes of the Ribble Valley Events Safety Advisory Group meetings held on 18 September 2018 and 5 March 2019. A brief discussion ensued regarding the Beatherder Festival.

The meeting closed at 7.02pm.

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