

REGULATORY AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

23 November 2011

PRESENT:

Councillors Humphreys (Chairman), Leytham (Vice Chairman), Bacon, Mrs Bacon, Constable, Drinkwater, Mrs Hancocks, Heath, Lewin, Pearce, Smedley, Taylor, Warfield and Wilks.

ALSO PRESENT: Inspector A Farrington (Staffordshire Police) and Ms J Holloway (Licensing Manager, Staffordshire Police)

(AN APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE was received from Councillor Mrs Allsopp,)

176 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Bacon declared a Personal Interest in the Item 8 relating to Street Collections 2012 in view of being a member of the Greenhill Bower Committee

Councillor Humphreys declared a Personal Interest in the Item 8 relating to Street Collections 2011 in view of his involvement with Burntwood Rotary Club.

Councillor Lewin declared a Personal Interest in the Item 6 relating to deregulation of Schedule One of the Licensing Act 2003 in view of being Chairman of the Mile Oak committee and his sister running a Public House

Councillor Warfield declared a Personal Interest in the Item 8 relating to Street Collections 2012 in view of his wife being both Secretary for the Greenhill Bower Committee and a member of the Lichfield Soroptimists.

177 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2011, as printed and previously circulated were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to Councillor Lewin being recorded as submitting apologies for absence.

178 REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE – LICENSING UNIT ON LICENSING ACT 2003 AND LOCAL ISSUES

Members were given an update by Jeanette Holloway from Staffordshire Police and Inspector Ashley Farrington on policing activities in and around Lichfield. It was reported that the Police were supported by 20 Specials to help support the Licensing unit in carrying out regular checks in licensed premises. Pub Watch meetings supported by Lichfield District Council and other partners continued to be held and these had proved to be a successful means of combating anti-social behaviour.

Members were also updated on the current activities such as ‘Super Safer Nights’ where drink driving leaflets were issued together with breathalyser tests and Test

Purchasing for alcohol. Inspector Farrington reported the success stories of the District Council working in partnership with the Police together with Trading Standards. The damage that glassing can do was discussed and Members were informed that the police are presently trying to reduce this by recommending polycarbonate glassware to publicans to decant drinks into.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted

179 REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

The Licensing and Electoral Services Manager reported back to Members on the comments that had been received from the recent consultation exercise regarding the review of the Polling Districts and Polling Places, in accordance with section 18C(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983. The consultation was reported to have run for a period of six weeks ending on 21 October 2011 from which six representations were received and submitted.

RESOLVED: 1) That the proposed changes outlined at Appendix A to the report be explored and more detailed information on the proposals be brought to the next meeting on 8 February 2012 for Members to consider.

2) That any changes agreed go forward to Full Council on 21 February 2012 for final approval;

3) That the remaining Polling Districts and Polling Places should be those currently in use.

180 STREET COLLECTIONS 2012

Members were asked to consider the allocation of Street Collection Permits for 2012 for charitable organisations applications. They were informed of the current system of rotating permits enabling each organisation a year in either Lichfield or Burntwood, with the exception for those organisations whose activities were concentrated in one area.

RESOLVED: That permit applications for street collections for the organisations detailed in the report be agreed.

181 RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION PROPOSAL TO EXAMINE THE DEREGULATION OF SCHEDULE ONE OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

The Environmental Services Manager gave Members a brief overview of the Government proposal of the deregulation of Schedule One of the Licensing Act 2003 objectives and the provision of greater freedom for Operators and users in the trade. Members were informed that the implications of the proposals were that the service would become reactive rather than proactive.

RESOLVED: That the draft response as shown be submitted.

182 THE FUTURE OPTIONS FOR INVESTIGATION OF PREVIOUSLY USED LAND IN THE LICHFIELD DISTRICT

The Senior Environmental Protection Officer informed Members that the Government grant scheme that has now ceased and the impact it would have on the Environmental Health Department. It was explained that the only grant available was £6000 a year and that there were 38 sites that still needed to be tested which if not done could prove a risk to Public Health and delay House Sales going through. Councillor Smedley informed Members that he had written to both Members of Parliament for the District on this subject and gave details of a response that he had received from the Member of Parliament for Tamworth

RESOLVED: That the decision of Cabinet on 1 November 2011 be noted

183 RECENT OUTCOMES FROM ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Members were updated by the Environmental Health Manager of three successful prosecutions for noise nuisance, fly tipping and breach of the solvent requirement at a factory.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted

CHAIRMAN

(The meeting closed at 7.30 p.m)