

REGULATORY AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

16 JUNE 2022

PRESENT:

Councillors B Yeates (Chair), Checkland (Vice-Chair), Cross, Evans, A Little, Salter and Warfield

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Barnett, Cllr Eagland, Cllr L Ennis, Cllr Ray and Cllr Tranter.

2 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: "That as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, which would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972"

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4 PAVEMENT LICENCE APPLICATION UNDER THE BUSINESS & PLANNING ACT 2020

The Partnership, Community Safety & Licensing Manager presented the report to the committee. It was confirmed that the pavement licence previously granted to the premises was not approved renewal last year. There have since been another two applications, this being the third. Members were made aware that the absence of a fee for pavement licence applications may potentially generate repeat applications. Whilst the Head of Service has authority to make a determination, the contentious nature of this application meant officers saw benefit in bringing it to the full committee.

Members were reminded that this matter relates to having confidence in management of the pavement licence going forward. If the licence was granted, it was estimated that significant enforcement would be required based on previous experience.

Members expressed clear opposition to granting the licence, citing lack of confidence in management, as the applicant has clearly failed to observe the regulations previously. Members noted objections from a wide range of individuals and organisations, relating to the applicant's behaviour towards members of the public and particularly those in close proximity to premises.

Members asked what kind of support had previously been expressed for prior applications. They also questioned what material differences were involved in this application, if previous applications had been refused.

Members did ask if the decision could be deferred to a later meeting. However, it was confirmed that due to the timeframes set out in the Business & Planning Act 2020, the time period for a determination was almost over.

RESOLVED: The committee unanimously agreed to refuse the pavement licence, citing lack of confidence in management and failure to observe the necessary regulations previously.

(The Meeting closed at 11.12 am)

CHAIR