

Licensing Committee

Wednesday, 19 July 2017

Attendees: Councillor Roger Buston, Councillor Nick Cope, Councillor Dave Harris, Councillor Mike Hogg, Councillor Darius Laws, Councillor Julie Young

Substitutes: No substitutes were recorded at the meeting

Also Present:

25 Appointment of Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor J Young be appointed as Chairman for the 2017-18 municipal year.

26 Appointment of Deputy Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor Cope be appointed as Deputy Chairman for the 2017-18 municipal year.

27 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2017 be approved as a correct record.

28 Police Licensing Officer visit

Councillor Hogg (in respect of the fact that he was the premises licence holder of the Oak Tree Centre) declared his non-pecuniary interest in the following item pursuant to the provisions of Meetings General Procedure 7(5).

Mr Alan Beckett, Licensing Officer at Essex Police, introduced himself to the Committee. He informed them of his role and how he works with the licensing team. Mr Beckett explained to the Committee the positive relationship between himself and the Licensing Officers which is strengthened by the fact that he works at Rowan House one day a week with the team.

The Committee asked Mr Beckett questions with regard to how they could help the Police. Mr Beckett said all he could ask of the Committee was that it continued to give due consideration to the evidence provided in relation to applications and made decisions accordingly.

The Committee also asked Mr Beckett questions with regard to the consumption and sale of very strong alcohol. Mrs Harrington informed the Committee that it was not possible to impose conditions on a licence unless problems were identified and in one of the difficulties in this area was that the Police were the only party able to legally say a person is drunk. Mr Beckett then went on to say that it was very difficult to persuade established premises not to sell strong alcohol but that this dialogue did take place with new premises licence holders.

29 Licensing Committee Work Plan 2017-2018

Mr Ruder gave a brief description of the Work Plan that has been arranged with regard to future Licensing Committee meetings. He informed the Committee that the work scheduled for 30 August had been postponed by Cassandra Clements. As the taxi policy was a large and complicated document it wasn't possible to bring this forward to the August meeting.

The Committee confirmed it was happy with the current work plan.