

Licensing Sub- Committee Hearings

**Grand Jury Room, Town Hall
8 October 2008 at 10:00am**

The Licensing Sub-Committee hears and determines applications made under the Licensing Act 2003. This includes licensing the sale of alcohol and the provision of a variety of licensable activities such as recorded music, stage plays and the showing of films.

Information for Members of the Public

Access to information and meetings

You have the right to attend all meetings of the Council, its Committees and Cabinet. You also have the right to see the agenda, which is usually published 5 working days before the meeting, and minutes once they are published. Dates of the meetings are available at www.colchester.gov.uk or from Democratic Services.

Have Your Say!

The Council values contributions from members of the public. Under the Council's Have Your Say! policy you can ask questions or express a view to meetings with the exception of Standards Committee meetings.. If you wish to speak at a meeting or wish to find out more, please pick up the leaflet called "Have Your Say" at Council offices or at www.colchester.gov.uk .

Private Sessions

Occasionally meetings will need to discuss issues in private. This can only happen on a limited range of issues, which are set by law. When a committee does so, you will be asked to leave the meeting.

Mobile phones, pagers, cameras, audio recorders

Please ensure that all mobile phones and pagers are turned off before the meeting begins and note that photography or audio recording is not permitted.

Access

There is wheelchair access to the Town Hall from West Stockwell Street. There is an induction loop in all the meeting rooms. If you need help with reading or understanding this document please take it to Angel Court Council offices, High Street, Colchester or telephone (01206) 282222 or textphone (01206) 18001 followed by the full telephone number you wish to call, and we will try to provide a reading service, translation or other formats you may need.

Facilities

Toilets are located on the second floor of the Town Hall, access via the lift. A vending machine selling hot and cold drinks is located on the ground floor.

Evacuation Procedures

Evacuate the building using the nearest available exit. Make your way to the assembly area in the car park in St Runwald Street behind the Town Hall. Do not re-enter the building until the Town Hall staff advise you that it is safe to do so.

Colchester Borough Council, Angel Court, High Street, Colchester
Telephone (01206) 282222 or textphone (01206) 18001 followed by the full telephone number
you wish to call
e-mail: democratic.services@colchester.gov.uk
www.colchester.gov.uk

Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing Procedure for Hearings under the Licensing Act 2003

- (1) All questions and statements will be directed through the Chairman.
- (2) The Chairman will at the beginning of the Hearing explain to the parties the procedure to be followed and shall consider any request made by a party for permission for another person to appear at the Hearing.
- (3) The Hearing shall take the form of a discussion led by the Council's representative.
- (4) Cross examination shall not be permitted unless the Sub-Committee considers that cross-examination is required for it to consider the representations, application or notice as the case may be.
- (5) The Chairman of the Sub-Committee may require any person attending the Hearing who in his opinion is behaving in a disruptive manner to leave the Hearing and may:
 - (a) refuse to permit that person to return, or
 - (b) permit him to return only on such conditions as the Sub-Committee may specify.

Provided that any such person may before the end of Hearing submit to the Council in writing any information which they would have been entitled to give orally had they not been required to leave.

- (6) A party who wishes to withdraw any representations they have made may do so:
 - (a) by giving notice to the Council no later than 24 hours before the day or first day on which the Hearing is to be held, or
 - (b) orally at the Hearing.
- (7) The Sub-Committee in considering any representations or notice made by a party may take into account documentary or other information produced by a party in support of their application, representations or notice (as applicable) either before the Hearing, or with the consent of all other parties, at the Hearing.
- (8) The Sub-Committee shall disregard any information given by a party or any person to whom permission to appear at the Hearing had been given which is not relevant to:
 - (a) their application, representations or notice(as applicable) or in the case of another person, the application representations or notice of the party representing their appearance, and
 - (b) the promotion of the licensing objectives or, in relation to a Hearing to consider a notice given by a chief officer of police, the crime prevention objective.
- (9) If a party has informed the Council that he does not intend to attend or be represented at a Hearing, the Sub-Committee may decide to proceed with the Hearing in his absence.
- (10) If a party has not informed the Council that he does not intend or be represented at a Hearing and fails to attend or be represented at a Hearing, the Sub-Committee may:
 - (a) where it considers it to be necessary in the public interest adjourn the Hearing to a specified date (notice being given forthwith to the parties concerned of the date, time and place to which the Hearing has been adjourned), or

(b) hold the Hearing in the party's absence

Where the Sub-Committee agrees to hold the Hearing in the absence of a party, the Sub-Committee shall consider at the Hearing the application, representations or notice made by that party.

The Council's case:-

(11) The Chairman will invite the Council's representative to summarise the report relating to the application under consideration.

The Applicant's case:-

(12) The Applicant and/or representative will begin with their opening remarks and present their case.

(13) The Applicant's witnesses (if any) will give evidence in support of the Applicant's case.

(14) The Applicant and/or representative may question the Applicant's witness again to clarify any points which may have arisen.

Submissions from other parties (these will include Interested Parties, Ward Councillors (who are an interested party themselves or are acting in the capacity as a representative of an Interested Party) and representatives from Responsible Authorities:-

(15) Each party will present their case.

(16) Each party's witnesses (if any) will give evidence in support of the party's case.

(17) Each party and their witnesses may be questioned by the Chairman and members of the Sub-Committee.

(18) Each party may question their witness again to clarify any points which may have arisen.

(19) If the Applicant or the interested parties wish to question each other, questions may be directed through the Chairman.

(20) Closing Statements may be made by the Applicant and/or representative.

(21) The Chairman will ask the Legal Advisor whether there is anything else to be raised or settled before the proceedings are closed.

Determination of the application by the Sub- Committee

(22) The Applicant and/or representative, Interested Parties, Ward Councillors, Responsible Authorities and the members of the public and the press will leave the room to allow the Sub-Committee to determine the application. During this process the Sub-Committee members may ask for legal advice from the Legal Advisor.

(23) The Applicant and/or representative, Interested Parties and Ward Councillors, Responsible Authorities and the members of the public and the press will be invited to return to the room when the Sub-Committee's determination will be announced. Written details of the determination and the grounds upon which it is based will be sent to all parties concerned in accordance with the Hearings Regulations.

The Licensing Sub-Committee Hearings Process

OUTLINE OF APPLICATION
Made by the Licensing Manager

APPLICATION
To be presented by the applicant or their representative.
Witnesses for the applicant (if any) to give evidence.

QUESTIONS TO THE APPLICANT

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES
Each Responsible Authority and its witnesses (if any) to present its case.

QUESTIONS TO THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

OBJECTORS
Each objector to present their case to the Sub-Committee.

QUESTIONS TO THE OBJECTORS

CLOSING STATEMENT
Made by each party - objectors, responsible authorities, applicant

DECISION
All parties will be asked to leave while the Sub-Committee considers the application and reaches its decision

All parties will then be asked to return and the decision of the Sub-Committee will be read out

All questions must be directed through the Chairman

Only those people who have submitted a written objection in the 28 day objection period may speak at the Sub -Committee

In addressing the Sub-Committee interested parties can only raise matters that were contained within their letter of representation

The decision of the Sub-Committee will be sent in writing to all those who made a representation

There is a right of appeal to the Magistrates Court and details of this are included in the decision letter

**COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL
LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HEARINGS
8 October 2008 at 10:00am**

Members

Chairman : Councillor Barrie Cook.
Councillors Elizabeth Blundell and Laura Sykes.

Agenda - Part A

(open to the public including the media)

Pages

1. Appointment of Chairman

To appoint a Chairman for the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman to invite Councillors to declare individually any personal interests they may have in the items on the agenda.

If the personal interest arises because of a Councillor's membership of or position of control or management on:

- any body to which the Councillor has been appointed or nominated by the Council; or
- another public body

then the interest need only be declared if the Councillor intends to speak on that item.

If a Councillor declares a personal interest they must also consider whether they have a prejudicial interest. If they have a prejudicial interest they must leave the room for that item.

If a Councillor wishes to make representations on an item on which they have a prejudicial interest they may do so if members of the public are allowed to make representations. In such circumstances a Councillor must leave the room immediately once they have finished speaking.

An interest is considered to be prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillor's judgement of the public interest.

Councillors should consult paragraph 7 of the Meetings General Procedure Rules for further guidance.

3. Licensing Act 2003

The public will be excluded from the hearing for the Personal Licence Application in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 14(2) of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

- i. Personal Licence Application

e-mail: licensing.committee@colchester.gov.uk
website: www.colchester.gov.uk