

LICENSING COMMITTEE

21 JUNE 2013

Present :- Councillor Nick Cope (Chairman)
Councillors Julia Havis and Michael Lilley

3. Transfer of Sexual Entertainment Licence // Climax 27-30 St Botolph's Street, Colchester

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Professional Services on an application to transfer the sexual entertainment licence in respect of the sexual entertainment venue at 27-30 St Botolph's Street, Colchester now known as Climax. The application had been submitted by Top Drawer Entertainments Ltd to transfer the sex establishment licence held by Exquisite Entertainments Ltd.

In presenting the application Mrs Adams outlined her previous experience of operating a Club in Watford, which had been considerably larger than the premises in Colchester. She stated that it was her intention to operate the premises in the same way as the previous owners. Mr D'Angelis, from Regency Security, addressed the Sub-Committee and informed it that he had worked under the previous owners and perceived no difference in the management of the premises and he intended to carry out the security in the same way. Mrs Adams in response to questioning stated that they would operate the same staffing levels as previously with one manager, 2 door staff and 2 bar staff. The manager would either be Mrs Adams; her husband, Dean Adams; or Ian Aguilar, a member of staff with whom they had worked for 15 years. It was acknowledged that they lived some distance from the premises but that the premises would be managed by staff she had worked with for a number of years and trusted. Mrs Adams explained that she would prefer to operate this way than employ local staff that she didn't know. The procedure for employing the girls who danced at the premises was set out and a letter was submitted from the Promises Agency who supplied professional artistes for the adult entertainment industry.

Two representations had been received from local Ward Councillors opposing the transfer of the licence on the grounds that the applicant was unsuitable to hold a licence. The letters of representation considered that there was insufficient information in the application with which to determine the application. Councillors Frame and Hayes attended the Sub-Committee and addressed the Hearing on their representations. They considered that as details were not given of the applicants' previous experience; the names and addresses of all those who would be responsible for managing the premises; and their intentions in relation to the management of the premises the Hearing should be adjourned in order to allow further information to be obtained.

The meeting was adjourned to enable the Sub-Committee to consider this request and take advice from its legal advisor, Mr Samuel. The Sub-Committee, having considered all the matters before it, determined that the meeting should proceed and application determined.

RESOLVED that-

(i) Having given full consideration to the application and the evidence presented to it, the transfer of the licence be approved. It also bore in mind the assurances given by the applicant that it would abide by the existing licence conditions including the management Plan and that there would always be one of the named managers on the premises during operating hours.

(ii) The licence be granted subject to the following condition –

That prior to any change of manager, the name and address of any new manager be provided to the Licensing Authority.