

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD AT COUNTY HALL ON 16TH OCTOBER, 2014

PRESENT: County Councillors D.R. Jones [Chair]
County Councillor V. Evans and A.G. Thomas

Officers

Martin Phillips, Licensing Officer
Susan Jones, Senior Licensing Officer
Colin Edwards, Solicitor, Clerk to the Sub-Committee

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

2. PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

The Chair introduced the Sub-Committee and its Clerk.

The Clerk to the Sub-Committee on behalf of the Head of Legal, Scrutiny and Democratic Services explained the procedures to be followed by the Sub-committee.

3. APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE – The Tabernacle Baptist Chapel, Regent Street, Talgarth

The Applicant:

Martin Phipps, Solicitor
Katherine Holmes, applicant
Katherine Lewis, Events Manager

Interested parties - supporters: Bryan Craven, Edward Leir and Peter Weavers

Responsible Authorities:

Dan Thomas, Environmental Health Officer
Rebecca Jones, Health and Safety Officer

Interested parties - objectors:

Cynthia Bradshaw, Kirsten McVey, Frances Morris and Richard Ray

The Licensing Officer presented the licensing authority's position as outlined in the report [copy filed with the signed minutes]. He advised that the applicant had agreed to the conditions as detailed in Annex C, suggested by the Health and Safety Officer.

Martin Phipps presented the application and advised that the applicant had operated various events in 2014 using Temporary Events Notices [TENS]. The venue was an arts based community facility and alcohol was part of the application but ancillary to the primary activity. He noted that objections were not in respect of the redevelopment of the facility but to the application in respect of music, alcohol and opening times.

He advised that in response to concerns raised regarding possible anti-social behaviour the applicant had offered a dispersal policy and conditions, which she was happy to be added to any approval. In addition the applicant was willing to add some form of sound barriers on the windows to the side of the stage and a heavy duty curtain to the main door. Martin Phipps called on the applicant and

supporters to speak about the venue and its programme to date. Martin Phipps responded to questions from the Sub-Committee and the objectors.

In response to questions the Environmental Health Officer advised that in his professional opinion the venue, in its current state, was not suitable for amplified or unamplified music. He however, welcomed the applicant's offer to install acoustic glazing but considered that the heavy duty curtain would have little impact. He considered that a full assessment of noise levels was required and was disappointed that the application did not include a noise management plan.

Kirsten McVey spoke on behalf of the objectors raising concerns about a range of issues and responding to what Martin Phipps had stated. They noted the dispersal policy and conditions offered by the applicant but were concerned as to how these would be managed as experience had shown that the applicant would not do anything to manage this or respond to concerns.

The applicant's solicitor and the objector made closing remarks.

The Sub-Committee withdrew to consider, in private, the application and the evidence they had heard, with the support of the Clerk.

On their return the Clerk to the Sub-Committee announced the Sub-Committee's decision. In reaching the decision members took into account the relevant written and verbal representations.

RESOLVED:	Reason for decision:
<p>to grant the licence subject to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 13 conditions offered by the applicant, with the following amendment to Condition 8 • A dispersal policy will be drawn up and implemented to minimize disturbance from customers leaving the premises. This policy will be revised periodically and updated as required to ensure best practice and that further copies be supplied to the authorities immediately. <p>and the dispersal policy offered by the applicant and the following conditions as added by the Sub-Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A contact number for the manager of the premises to be made available on signs on the building • Heavy duty curtains to create a lobby at the main door • The two windows above the stage [on the Regents Street side] to have some acoustic treatment. 	<p>To promote the licensing objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The prevention of crime and disorder ii. Public safety iii. The prevention of public nuisance iv. The protection of children from harm

The Clerk to the Sub-Committee advised the applicant and the local residents that he would confirm the decision in writing and reminded them of their right to appeal and their right to call for a review if they subsequently experienced problems concerning licensed activities at the premises.

The Chair thanked all for attending

County Councillor D.R. Jones
Chair