

## **MINUTES OF A LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD AT NEUADD MALDWYN, WELSHPOOL ON 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2014**

**PRESENT:** County Councillor J.M. Williams [Chair]  
County Councillors P.J. Medicott and K.F Tampin

### **Officers**

Nigel Williams, Senior Licensing Officer  
Colin Edwards, Solicitor, Clerk to the Licensing Sub-Committee  
Carwyn Jones, Environmental Health

### **1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **2. PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES**

The Chair introduced the Sub-Committee and its Clerk and requested all those present to introduce themselves.

The Clerk to the Sub-Committee explained the procedures to be followed by the Sub-committee.

### **3. APPLICATION FOR A VARIATION OF THE PREMISES LICENCE – SCOUT HUT HEADQUARTERS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE, OLDFORD LANE, WELSHPOOL**

**The Applicant:** Kylie Alder - Centre Manager  
Farell McManus – Group Scout Leader

**Responsible Authorities:** Carwyn Jones, Environmental Health Officer

**Interested parties:** 11 Objectors represented by Cllr Phil Pritchard

The Licensing Officer presented the Licensing Authority's position as outlined in his report [copy filed with the signed minutes]. He drew the attention of the Sub-Committee to the conditions offered by the Applicant and agreed with the Environmental Health Officer. He advised that the Licensing section was content with the consultation undertaken by the applicant.

The Environmental Health Officer confirmed that he had agreed with the Applicant there would no longer be any outdoor entertainment and therefore had withdrawn his objection to the Application. He confirmed and clarified the various measures which, in his opinion will keep any noise at an acceptable level.

The Applicant explained the background to the new building and explained that it was always intended to be a community facility. It was not the intention of management that the building would become a pub or club but rather it would be available to hire for social functions, funerals and weddings etc. The designated premises supervisor or other employed staff would be present whenever alcohol was sold on the premises.

Any hirer of the building would have to use the installed in-house sound equipment which had a pre-set noise limiter at a setting agreed by the Environmental Health Officer. £18,000 had been spent on sound proofing alone. During a function all windows and doors had to remain closed and it would be possible to keep the building cool by putting the air source heating into reverse.

On behalf of the objectors it was stated that all the residential properties in the vicinity were sheltered housing - there is approximately 150 residents within a radius of 600 yards of the premises. Residents were concerned because in the planning stages reference was made to the new building only being open for the same hours as the existing building. It was also said that there would be no alcohol or music provided. On this basis Oldford residents were prepared to support the provision of the new premises but they are opposed to what is requested in this application. Banging of car doors at functions was anticipated and the fear was that this would not be policed. Although the scout authority had promised a consultation meeting, this had not taken place. The objectors questioned how the premises management would ensure that all windows and doors remain shut as e.g. people would be coming and going, including smokers going outside. There may also be a problem of noise with people congregating outside, especially after a function. The objectors wanted all activity to cease by 10pm. In response the Environmental Health Officer confirmed that during the noise testing exercise the volume of music was raised and lowered in order to ascertain a reasonable setting. In addition, people entering and exiting the building would have to go through 3 separate doors and this would limit the escape of noise.

All parties confirmed that they had been able to make their representations. 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 Chair announced the decision of the Sub-Committee. In reaching the decision members took into account the relevant written and verbal representations. The Objectors were advised that the Sub-Committee could only take into account issues which went to the four Licensing Objectives and they were also advised about the “review” mechanism in the Licensing Act.

<b>RESOLVED:</b>	<b>Reason for decision:</b>
<b>That the application be granted as applied for subject to the mandatory conditions, the conditions offered by the applicant in the application and the conditions offered and agreed by the Environmental Health Officer.</b>	<b>Other than the conditions offered, no further steps were considered necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.</b>

The Clerk to the Sub-Committee advised the applicant and the Objectors that he would confirm the decision in writing and reminded them of their right to appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of the confirmation of the

decision.

The Chair thanked all for attending.

County Councillor J.M. Williams  
Chair