

Minutes of a meeting of the **COMMITTEE OF THE LICENSING AUTHORITY** held in the Meeting Room 1, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, on Thursday, 7 November 2019 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT

J Tyrrell (Chairman)
H Drury (Vice-Chairman)

A C Beal
F Biggadike
H J W Bingham

T A Carter
A Casson
A C Cronin

P A Redgate
G T D Rudkin
M D Seymour

In Attendance: Licensing and Business Support Manager, Licensing Team Leader and Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from or on behalf of Councillors M D Booth, J L King and A R Woolf.

1. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were none.

2. **MINUTES**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Community of the Licensing Authority that was held on 8 November 2018.

The Chairman stated that on item 8 in the minutes it should read:

*That the review had to take place every **5 years** instead of 6 years.*

AGREED:

That subject to the amendment the minutes be signed as a correct record.

3. **UPDATE ON WORK OF COMMUNITY ALCOHOL PARTNERSHIP**

The Portfolio Holder for Public Protection updated the Committee in respect of the work being carried out by the Community Alcohol Partnership. The Portfolio Holder informed Members of a visit that was carried out by himself and Councillor Drury on 27 September 2019, along with teachers from Spalding Academy and 2 officers from Lincolnshire Police to deliver leaflets to Off Licences in the District informing them of a training session being run regarding the unlawful sale of alcohol to underage children. In total the team visited around 15 different premises. The training session took place at Sainsbury's Store, Holland Market.

Members were informed that on the day of the training session which was attended by the Chairman of the committee and the Portfolio Holder only 3 premises licence

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holder attended. PC Rick Malsley from Lincolnshire police gave the talk. Members were informed that all Sainsbury's staff members have received this training.

Members agreed that going out into the community was a good exercise to explain what needs to be done to stop underage drinking. It was noted that young people were acquiring alcohol by taxi drivers who were coming into shops to purchase alcohol for underage passengers. Officers advised that this was being followed up in terms of intelligence (child exploitation).

Members were informed that there was press interest in the work of the Community Alcohol Partnership and they would be briefed after the meeting.

It was noted that a future meeting could be arranged for a formal briefing so that the police could be involved. The Communications Manager had been informed.

AGREED

That the update be noted.

4. UPDATE ON COMMITTEE TRAINING

The Licensing and Business Support Manager provided an update on training to Members advising that training is being looked at in respect of Panel hearings. A one day training course will be held in January 2020 by Craig Fowler from EHC UK who is accredited to deliver the Award for Personal Licence Holders (APLH) course. There will be the opportunity to sit the exam at the end of the session which will allow Members to gain a certificate.

Members were informed that the course content is a good introduction into the Licensing Act and would be helpful to Members should they be a part of a Panel hearing. The proposed date for the course is 20th January 2020.

The Vice Chairman noted that the idea of the course had been raised before and that he had completed the course and gained a Personal Licence. The Vice Chairman stated that the course gave good knowledge as it is the course that all Premise Licence Holders have to sit.

Members were also informed about a Members briefing due to be held before Full Council on 27th November 2019 at 5pm in the Council Chamber. The presentation is being hosted by EHC and will give Members an overview of the departments products and services and their commercial offer.

AGREED:

That the update be noted.

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5. DISCUSSION ON PANEL HEARINGS

Members discussed whether they wanted to have pre-determined dates for Panel hearings as the feedback from some Members is that this can be quite confusing. There are currently more meetings being cancelled than the ones being used. Members are concerned that they were all being added to their diaries when only 3 people are needed for a Panel hearing.

Members were advised that there is a problem with meeting room bookings at present due to the election being called. It was noted that predetermination was an issue for Members attending the meeting to view how the process is run and this may mean that some Members would not be able to sit on the Panel.

AGREED:

That no pre-arranged meetings in the Members diary. Rooms to be booked, but only the Members who would sit on the Panel would be sent a diary request. Any members who want to attend a Panel would be free to do so. Democratic Services are to inform Members that a meeting was being convened by email.

6. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT.

There were none.

(The meeting ended at 7.05 pm)

(End of minutes)