

Minutes of a meeting of the **COMMITTEE OF THE LICENSING AUTHORITY** held in the Meeting Room 1, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, on Thursday, 13 February 2020 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT

J Tyrrell (Chairman)

A C Beal
F Biggadike
H J W Bingham
M D Booth

T A Carter
A Casson
H Drury (Vice-Chairman)
J L King

P A Redgate
G T D Rudkin
M D Seymour
A R Woolf

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

7. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies were received from Councillor Cronin.

8. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were none.

9. **MINUTES**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Community of the Licensing Authority that was held on 7 November 2019.

AGREED:

That the minutes be signed as a correct record.

10. **GAMBLING UPDATE**

The Committee received an update on the new Gambling legislations.

The Licensing and Business Support Manager updated members on the new legislation banning credit card use for online and offline gambling which comes into effect on 14th April 2020.

Members debated the work that is being done to tackle the issue of gambling and the related problems that gambling addictions

Action By

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raise. Member asked what responsibilities bookmakers had toward the betting which takes place in shops and were informed that there were measures already in place to tackle this and that the SHDC gambling policy has some measures in it which were included last year.

It was noted that while betting shops could be seen as a safe place, there is a major issue with online gambling. It was also noted that more should be done with Communications regarding the new law coming into place and visits need to be made to betting shops to ensure that the credit card ban is in place once it is enforced. Members were concerned about the difficulty that betting shops may have in ensuring that visits are spoken to about their betting habits, but apart from banning them there is not much that could be done.

The Chairman left the meeting at 19.35. Vice-Chairman chaired the rest of the meeting.

Members asked if contact could be made with Bradford Council as they seemed to have made some significant roads in tackling the gambling issue. Members also enquired as to the knock on affect that gambling has on benefits and suggested some inter-departmental work with the Department for Work and Pensions and the Citizens Advice Bureau.

AGREED:

1. That this item be brought back to a future meeting of the Committee further to talks with Bradford Council and the information being fed back to the Portfolio Holder.
2. That the Citizens Advice Bureau be invited to the meeting to further discuss any advice and help to be given to those with gambling addictions and debt.

11. LICENSING ACT UPDATE

The Assistant Licensing Officer gave an update on the Licensing Act and the policy which is under review. The Policy has been looked at and redrafted and will come back to the Committee at the next meeting before being submitted to Full Council.

Members requested that a summary sheet be included with the Policy document so that the key changes to the policy could be clearly noted on the front page which will then able Members to delve into the policy in detail.

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Members were also informed that due to the celebration of VE day on Friday 8th May 2020 the government have announced a 2 hour extension for licenced premises to serve alcohol.

AGREED:

That the update be noted.

12. **ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT.**

Members discussed the roll of the Licensing department on working together with the Planning department in relation to the licensed premises in South Holland, specifically those on Winsover Road. There need to be some consultation on community impact assessments and the refusal of planning permission in relation to Licensing Policy and vice-versa to ensure that there is an effective impact in the community.

(The meeting ended at 7.50 pm)

(End of minutes)