

Meeting: Licensing Committee

Date: Thursday 19th July 2007 10.00am

APPLICATION TO VARY PREMISES LICENCE: LIQUID AND ENVY

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1 PURPOSE

To determine the application to vary the premises licence for Liquid and Envy, Stevenage Leisure Park.

2 SUMMARY OF APPLICATION

2.1 Type of Licence applied for

An application was received from Luminar Liquid Ltd to vary the existing premises licence for Liquid and Envy under section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003 (see appendix 1). The Licensing Authority accepted the application on 25th May 2007.

2.2 Summary of application

Liquid and Envy is a Club located on Stevenage Leisure Park.

The application is to extend by one hour the sale by retail of alcohol, regulated entertainment and late night refreshment on Sundays as follows:

Day of the Week	Regulated Entertainment ends/Last sale of alcohol		Closing Time	
	Current	Requested	Current	Requested
Sunday	01:30hrs	02:30hrs	02:00hrs*	03:00hrs

*Last entry time 00:30hrs currently, extension requested until 01.30hrs.

3 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The following background information is known about these premises:

Current Convictions: None

Details of licence reviews: None

Complaints received by Licensing since November 2005: None

4 PROMOTION OF LICENSING OBJECTIVES

The representation received relates to the objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and the prevention of public nuisance.

The operating schedule submitted by the applicant states that the licensing objectives will be met during the additional one hour by continuing to observe the existing conditions on the premises licence.

5 RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

Representations to the variation application have been received from the Police in relation to the licensing objective the Prevention of Crime and Disorder (appendix 2).

In summary, the representation states that Liquid and Envy is the number one hotspot premises for crime and disorder in Stevenage. The Police are concerned that incidents will become more frequent if this variation is granted.

Discussions have taken place between all parties following the representation but no agreements have been reached.

Licensing Officer's Comments: the Committee is advised that this Licensing Authority does not currently have a special policy regarding licensing hours on Stevenage Leisure Park. Each application must be judged on its individual merits, taking into consideration the evidence from the responsible authority and the applicant.

The Committee is advised that the 3 premises referred to in the Police representation currently have the following closing times and maximum occupancies on Sunday

Jumpin' Jak's (3D Entertainment Group): 02:30hrs (last entry 01:00hrs)
(capacity = 746)

Chicago Rock Café (3D Entertainment Group): 01.30hrs (last entry midnight)
(capacity = 785)

Liquid & Envy (Luminar Liquid Ltd): 02:00hrs (last entry 00:30hrs)
(capacity = 1990)

After consideration of the Police objection, the Licensing Authority must either:

Reject the variation application if it considers it necessary for the promotion of the crime prevention objective; or

Grant the variation as applied for; or

Grant the variation with such alterations as the Committee believe necessary in order to promote the prevention of crime and disorder objective. This could include changes to hours and/or additional conditions.

6 INTERESTED PARTIES

No representations were received from interested parties.

7 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The following sections of the licensing authority's statement of licensing policy apply to this application:

- a) 10. Licensing Hours
- b) 13. License Conditions
- c) 14. Licensing Objectives

The Committee is reminded of their duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the crime and disorder implications of their decisions and the authority's responsibility to co-operate in the reduction of crime and disorder in the Borough.

The Committee is reminded that the Human Rights Act 1998 guarantees the right to a fair hearing for all parties in the determination of their civil rights. The Act also provides for the protection of property, which may include licences in existence, and the protection of private and family life.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Licensing Act 2003

Stevenage Borough Council, Statement of Licensing Policy

National Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 - Copy of application
- Appendix 2 - Police Representation