

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Thursday, 2 December 2021

Time: 10.30am

Place: Council Chamber

Present: Councillors: Maureen McKay (Chair), Doug Bainbridge, Rob Broom, Jody Hanafin, Margaret Notley and Claire Parris.

Start / End Time: Start Time: 10:30 am
End Time: 11:34 am

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Doug Bainbridge, Adrian Brown, Jody Hanafin, Liz Harrington, Lizzy Kelly, Graham Lawrence, Andy McGuinness, Lin Marin-Haugh and Loraine Rossati.

There were no declarations of interest.

2 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 16 August 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3 LICENSING APPLICATIONS - PROCEDURE

The Procedure for the hearing of Licensing Applications was noted.

4 APPLICATION FOR A VARIATION OF PREMISES LICENCE - THE CROOKED BILLET PUBLIC HOUSE - SYMONDS GREEN LANE, SYMONDS GREEN STEVENAGE, SG1 2HP.

The Chair welcomed all parties to the meeting and all those present introduced themselves.

The Licensing Officer presented a report outlining details of the application for a variation of premises licence for the Crooked Billet Public House – Symond Green Lane, Symonds Green Stevenage. The variation proposed extending the hours for the sale of alcohol from 23.00hrs to midnight on Sunday through to Thursday inclusive and extending the hours from midnight to 01.00hrs the following morning on Fridays and Saturdays. Late night refreshment would be extended from 23.30hrs to Midnight on Sundays through to Thursdays. On Friday and Saturday it will be extended from Midnight to 1.00hrs the following morning. Opening Hours would be extended from 23.30hrs to 00.30hrs Sundays through to Thursdays and from 00.30hrs to 01.30hrs the following morning on Fridays and Saturdays. Further

changes to the licensing conditions were detailed in the officer report.

The Committee noted the three representations made by the residents, and listened carefully to the representation made by the applicant's solicitor. The Responsible Authorities had not commented on the application.

The Committee considered the variation of hours applied and the licensable activities, noting that there was no evidence to demonstrate that issuing of a premises licence would give rise to noise nuisance.

The Committee considered the hours and licensable activities applied for were reasonable, and also noted that should any nuisance arise from the premises, there were mechanisms to resolve it.

The Committee considered the following key assurances:

1. The assurance given by the applicant as to the nature of the proposed business, and the relationship with Green King as freeholders.
2. That no representation had been received from the police or any other regulatory enforcement agencies.
3. That whilst representations have been received, those concerns did not demonstrate evidence of any public nuisance.
4. That the extension to the licensing hours would allow the business to support the dining experience of customers.
5. That the Committee was pleased to note that there would be a telephone number and email address published on the website for any local concerns to be raised.
6. That the Committee noted the updated conditions to the licence.

The Licensing Committee considered all of the information put before them in the Officer's report, the relevant representations and the information supplied by the applicant at the hearing. In reaching their decision the Licensing Committee had due regard for all that they had read and heard, along with the Licensing objectives, the Licensing Act 2003, and the S182 Guidance and the Council's Licensing Policy Statement.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee grant the application for a variation of the premises licence.

The Applicant was advised of their right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court against the above decision within 21 days of the date of the decision (02 December 2021).

5 URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS

None.

6 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Not required.

7 **URGENT PART II BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIR