

SPECIAL MEETING OF LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 23rd February, 2011 at 5.30 pm
in Committee Room 3, The Council House, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Councillor Ryder (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs Dunn (Vice-Chairman)
Councillors Mrs Ameson, Mrs Aston, Evans, A Finch, K Finch, Mottram,
Taylor, Vickers and J Woodall.

Officers

Mr T Holder – Senior Solicitor, Licensing Officer and Mr J Jablonski (all
Directorate of Corporate Resources)

Also In Attendance:-

Sergeant Gordon and PC Johal, West Midlands Police

22 **APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of
Councillor Mrs Roberts.

23 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor K Finch declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect
of Agenda Item 5 – Alcohol Consumption in Public Places – Lower
Gornal Area – in that he is a local resident and left the meeting for the
consideration of this item.

24 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Committee held on
8th November 2010, be approved as a correct record and signed.

25 **REVISION OF LICENCE FEES**

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on the proposed revision of fees for licences and consents, other than those where the fees are imposed by statute in respect of liquor licensing, gambling machine permits and lotteries and amusements. An updated copy of the report was circulated at the meeting indicating that a 1.5% increase of the fees would be sufficient to meet the Council's budget for 2011/12.

Arising from the presentation of the content of the report by the Licensing Officer, consideration was given to the percentage increase in fees that should be charged, and arising from this it was

RESOLVED

That approval be given to an increase in respect of the fees for licences and consents, other than those where the fees are imposed by statute in respect of liquor licensing, gambling machine permits and lotteries and amusements, as set out in Table A of the updated report submitted, of 2%.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IN PUBLIC PLACES – LOWER GORNAL AREA

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on the consultation undertaken and the publishing of a notice in a local newspaper arising from the decision of this Committee at its meeting held on 8th November 2010, to approve, in principle, the introduction of a Designation Order for the Lower Gornal area where the consumption of alcohol would be prohibited other than within the curtilage of licensed premises.

Appendix 1 to the report submitted was a copy of a plan indicating the original proposed designated area, as previously reported to the Committee. A further plan more clearly delineating the area was also circulated at the meeting.

Attached as Appendix 2 to the report was a copy of the draft Designation Order, which, if approved by the Committee, and following the carrying out of all necessary action connected with the making of the Order would then come into force with effect from 9th May 2011.

Paragraphs 6 to 8 of the report submitted detailed the action taken arising from the decision made at the last meeting of the Committee and in particular referred to the 150 responses that had been received arising from the publication of the notice and other steps taken to publicise this matter. Of the 150 responses received 149 supported the proposal.

Paragraph 8 of the report also set out representations made to extend the proposed designated area, however, no action was proposed on this as under legislation the Council could only include an area if there was sufficient evidence from the Police to link the consumption of alcohol with anti-social behaviour or disorder.

It was noted that the cost of supplying and installing the necessary signage would be met from the capital allocations fund of North Dudley Area Committee subject to part funding by West Midlands Police.

Arising from the consideration given to this matter it was

RESOLVED

That the Lower Gornal Area (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Place) Order 2011 be approved for the area indicated on the plan and in the draft Designation Order attached as Appendices 1 and 2 to the report submitted and as further delineated on the plan circulated at the meeting, and that the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to take all necessary action connected with the making of the Order as indicated in paragraphs 15 to 20 of the report submitted.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IN PUBLIC PLACES – STOURBRIDGE BUS STATION AND THE OLD QUARTER OF STOURBRIDGE

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on the consultation undertaken and the publishing of a notice in a local newspaper arising from the decision of this Committee at its meeting held on 25th October 2010, to approve, in principle, the introduction of a Designation Order for Stourbridge Bus Station and the Old Quarter of Stourbridge where the consumption of alcohol would be prohibited other than within the curtilage of licensed premises.

Appendix 1 to the report submitted was a copy of a plan indicating the original proposed designated area, as previously reported to the Committee. A further plan boldly delineating the area was also circulated at the meeting.

Attached as Appendix 2 to the report was a copy of the draft Designation Order, which, if approved by the Committee, and following the carrying out of all the necessary action connected with the making of the Order would then come into force with effect from 9th May 2011.

Paragraphs 6 to 8 of the report submitted detailed the action taken arising from the decision made at the meeting of the Committee held on 25th October 2010, and in particular referred to the 66 responses that had been received arising from the publishing of the notice, and other steps taken to publicise this matter. Of the 66 responses received 64 supported the proposal.

Paragraph 8 of the report also set out representations made to extend the proposed designated area however, no action was proposed on this as under legislation the Council could only include an area if there was sufficient evidence from the Police to link the consumption of alcohol with anti-social behaviour or disorder.

It was noted that the cost of supplying and installing the necessary signage would be met from the capital allocations fund of Stourbridge Area Committee subject to part funding by West Midlands Police.

Arising from the consideration given to this matter, it was

RESOLVED

That the Stourbridge Bus Station and the Old Quarter Stourbridge (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Place) Order 2011 be approved for the area indicated on the plan and in the draft Designation Order attached as Appendices 1 and 2 to the report submitted and as further delineated on the plan circulated at the meeting, and that the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to take all necessary action connected with the making of the Order as indicated in paragraphs 15 to 20 of the report submitted.

THE POLICE AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY BILL

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on various proposals in the Police and Social Responsibility Bill which, if enacted, would have the effect of amending certain provisions of the Licensing Act, 2003.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report submitted, on various proposals contained in the Police and Social Responsibility Bill which, if enacted, would have the effect of amending certain provisions of the Licensing Act, 2003, currently receiving consideration in the House of Commons, be noted.

The meeting ended at 5.53 pm

CHAIRMAN