

SPECIAL MEETING OF LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday, 21st August, 2006 at 6.00 p.m.
in Committee Room 2, The Council House, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Councillor Ryder (Chairman)
Councillor Taylor (Vice Chairman)
Councillors Mrs Ameson, Mrs Aston, Blood, Mrs Coulter, Ms Craigie,
Donegan, Mrs Dunn, Finch, Tomkinson and Woodall.

Officers

Assistant Director (Legal and Democratic Services), Licensing Officer
and Mr. J.Jablonski (all Directorate of Law and Property).

Also in attendance

Councillors Mrs. Martin and Tyler – by invitation

9. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of
Councillors Bradney, Mottram and Rogers.

10. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Member made a declaration of interest in accordance with the
Members' Code of Conduct.

11. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 29th
June, 2006, be approved as a correct record and signed.

12.

**SPECIAL POLICY REGARDING CUMULATIVE IMPACT IN
STOURBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE**

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted arising from the decision of the Committee at its last meeting to approve in principle the introduction of a Special Liquor Licensing Policy regarding the Cumulative Impact of licensed premises in Stourbridge Town Centre and on the outcome of consultations held and representations received arising from that decision. Attached as Appendix 1 to the report was a list of the consultees whilst Appendices 2 and 3 set out views arising from consultation with young people and three letters of support respectively. Comments from West Midlands Fire Service were attached as Appendix 4 and a copy of the draft Special Liquor Licensing Policy regarding Cumulative Impact for Stourbridge Town Centre was attached as Appendix 5.

The Assistant Director (Legal and Democratic Services), commented on the content of the report, and Appendices to the report, submitted and mentioned in particular the suggested revision to the area to be subject to the Policy. A copy of a plan indicating the suggested revised area, arising from the consideration given to this matter at a Special Meeting of Stourbridge Area Committee held on 3rd July, 2006, was circulated at the meeting.

In commenting on the suggested revised area the Assistant Director (Legal and Democratic Services) stated that the Police considered that they did not have clear evidence of crime and disorder and public nuisance to support the extension of the area to be subject to the Policy beyond that agreed at the last meeting of the Committee. This area comprised the area of Stourbridge Town Centre within the ring road together with that corner of the ring road from the Picture House to the ring road and Foster Street East.

Arising from consideration of the consultations held, and of the content of the Appendices attached to the report submitted, Members indicated their support for the adoption of the Policy and to its application to that area of Stourbridge Town Centre agreed at the last meeting of the Committee.

The Assistant Director (Legal and Democratic Services) also informed Members of the work being undertaken with the taxi trade and other relevant bodies and directorates to address related issues in respect of private hire and hackney carriage vehicles using High Street and Lower High Street which, once proposals in respect of those issues had been formulated and adopted, would, hopefully, be implemented by Christmas. The introduction of these measures in conjunction with the Policy, would, it was considered, go a long way to resolving current problems in Stourbridge Town Centre.

RESOLVED

That, arising from consideration of the consultations held and the content of Appendices 1 to 4 of the report submitted, the Council be recommended to approve the adoption of a Special Liquor Licensing Policy regarding Cumulative Impact of licensed premises in Stourbridge Town Centre, as set out in Appendix 5 to the report submitted, and that such area comprise that area of Stourbridge Town Centre within the ring road together with that corner of the ring road from the Picture House to the ring road and Foster Street East ,for inclusion within the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

13. GAMBLING POLICY STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted updating the Committee in respect of the Draft Gaming Policy Statement of Principles. A copy of the Draft Statement of Principles was attached as Appendix 2 to the report submitted and it was reported that the draft was currently out for consultation to the list of consultees shown at Appendix 1 to the report submitted. The consultation period would last until the end of September, 2006, with further consideration being given to this matter at a Special Meeting of this Committee to be held on 19th October, 2006. Arising from the Special Meeting of the Committee it was proposed that a recommendation be made to the meeting of the Council to be held on 4th December, 2006 with a view to the Policy being published on 3rd January, 2007.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report, and Appendices to the report, submitted on the Draft Gambling Policy Statement of Principles, and the proposed timetable for consideration of this matter, be noted and endorsed.

The meeting ended at 6.40 pm.

CHAIRMAN