

## SPECIAL MEETING OF LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at 6 pm  
in Committee Room 2, The Council House, Dudley

### PRESENT: -

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

### Officers: -

Director of Corporate Resources and Licensing Officer and Mr J Jablonski  
(Directorate of Law, Property and Human Resources)

### Also in Attendance:-

Inspector R. Jones and P.C. Johal, West Midlands Police

### 18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors  
Mrs Ameson and Vickers.

---

### 19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

---

### 20 MINUTES

#### RESOLVED

That, subject to the inclusion of an apology for absence from the  
meeting in respect of Councillor A.Finch, the minutes of the Meeting of  
the Committee held on 25th October 2010, be approved as a correct  
record and signed.

---

### 21 LOWER GORNAL (ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IN DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACE) ORDER 2010

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on a proposal that an Order be made making the Lower Gornal Area a designated public place where the consumption of alcohol would be prohibited other than within the curtilage of licensed premises.

Attached at Appendix 1 to the report submitted was a report from West Midlands Police summarising the problems with the excess consumption of alcohol and associated problems in and around the Lower Gornal Area. Attached at Appendix 2 to the report submitted was a copy of a plan showing the proposed area to be designated. Circulated at the meeting was a further document giving details of Police incidents that provide evidence of the issues.

The Director of Corporate Resources in his presentation of the report referred in particular to the Appendices indicated above, the additional information circulated at the meeting, and to the Police incident logs referred to in paragraph 5 of the report which the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Committee had agreed to inspect prior to this meeting. He also indicated that a report on this matter would be submitted to the meeting of North Dudley Area Committee to be held on 1st December, 2010.

Arising from the presentation given the Chairman indicated that the Vice-Chairman and himself had inspected the Police incident logs prior to the meeting and both had been satisfied as to the evidence contained therein.

Inspector Jones was then invited to speak and confirmed the content of the information submitted in that the proposed Order would enable the Police to more effectively control the alcohol fuelled anti-social behaviour in the proposed area and greatly improve the quality of life for residents and visitors alike to the area. He also indicated that when resources were deployed steps would be taken to enforce any Order made.

Arising from the comments made Members commented in particular on the issue of enforcement, the role of Police Community Support Officers, the displacement effect of Orders and the coverage of Orders in the Borough. In relation to the issue regarding the role of Police Community Support Officers Inspector Jones undertook to raise this matter with the Chief Constable. It was considered that, dependant on the response, the Council may have to contact the four Borough Members of Parliament to seek a change in the law.

Arising from the consideration given to this matter it was

**RESOLVED**

That approval be given to the introduction, in principle, of a Designation Order for the Lower Gornal Area, as shown on the plan attached at Appendix 2 to the report submitted, the effect of which if introduced, will prohibit the consumption of alcohol within the designated area other than within the curtilage of licensed premises, and that the Director of Corporate Resources be authorised to undertake the necessary consultations and publish a notice in a local newspaper in accordance with the procedure for the making of an Order, as outlined in the report submitted.

The meeting ended at 6.30 pm

CHAIRMAN