


## **Licensing Sub-Committee 4**

**Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 at 10.00am**  
**in the Council Chamber at the Council House, Priory Road, Dudley**

### **Agenda - Public Session** **(Meeting open to the public and press)**

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To report the appointment of any substitute Members for this meeting of the Sub-Committee.
3. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct.
4. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 as a correct record.
5. Application for a Review of Premises Licence – The Lake Discount Stores, 18 Lake Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley.
6. To consider any questions from Members to the Chair where two clear days notice has been given to the Director of Corporate Resources (Council Procedure Rule 11.8).



**Director of Corporate Resources**  
**Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2014**

**Distribution:**

Councillors Roberts (Chair), Hemingsley and H.Turner

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- The Democratic Services contact officer for this meeting is Karen Taylor, Telephone 01384 818116 or E-mail [karen.taylor@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:karen.taylor@dudley.gov.uk)

**Minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee 4**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 at 10.00 am**  
**in the Council Chamber, The Council House, Dudley**

**Present:-**

Councillor M Roberts (Chair)  
Councillors D Hemingsley and H Turner

**Officers:-**

R Clark (Legal Advisor), L Rouse (Licensing Clerk) and K Griffiths (Democratic Services Officer) – All Directorate of Corporate Resources.

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1      **Declarations of Interest**

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

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2      **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2014, be approved as a correct record and signed.

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3      **Application for a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit – The Cross, High Street, Kingswinford**

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on an application for the grant of a Licensed Premise Gaming Machine Permit for three, Category C machines, in respect of The Cross, High Street, Kingswinford.

Mr M Ford, Business Development Manager at Spirit Pub Company (Services) Limited and Ms K Hudson, General Manager at The Cross were in attendance at the meeting.

Following introductions by the Chair, the Licensing Clerk presented the report on behalf of the Council.

Mr Ford then explained the reason why a third Category C machine had been applied for and stated that the two machines currently in operation at the premises were very popular with customers. He referred to the poor history of the premises, however he stated that Spirit Pub Company (Services) Limited was a large and reputable company and were committed to introducing measures to improve the outlook of the premises. He referred, in particular, to the intention to offer a more varied range of food to encourage more customers to use the establishment.

Clarification was sought with regard to the siting and type of machines that would be available to customers at the premises.

The parties then withdrew from the meeting in order to enable the Sub-Committee to determine the application.

The Sub-Committee having made their decision invited the parties to return and the Chair then outlined the decision.

Resolved

That the application for a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit for three Category C Machines in respect of The Cross, High Street, Kingswinford be approved.

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4

**Application to Transfer a Premises Licence – Select Food and Beverages, 95 High Street, Dudley**

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on an application for transfer of the premises licence in respect of the premises known as Select Food and Beverages, High Street, Dudley.

Ms J Braham, applicant, was in attendance at the meeting.

Also in attendance were Ms K Turley, Planning and Licensing Officer and PC A Baldwin, West Midlands Police.

Following introductions by the Chair, the Licensing Clerk presented the report on behalf of the Council.

PC Baldwin made detailed representations in relation to the applicant's previous convictions and although no offences had been committed since 2003, she requested that the Sub-Committee consider refusing the application.

PC Baldwin then responded to a number of questions in relation to the applicant's previous convictions.

Ms Braham acknowledged that she had made mistakes in the past and stated that she had put the past behind her and that she wanted to represent her community by selling Caribbean foods, products which were not widely available in the local area.

In responding to questions, Ms Braham confirmed that she had been managing the premises on her own for twelve months, however, she indicated that she had recently got a new business partner, Mr Tony Hartley, who could not attend the hearing today due to other commitments. She stated that she had invested a vast amount of time and financial commitment into the premises and assured the Sub-Committee that she was committed to making the premises a success.

In responding to a question from a Member, Ms Braham confirmed that she had little experience in relation to selling age restricted products, however, assured the Sub-Committee that she and her new business partner would ensure that appropriate training was undertaken. The Legal Adviser responded stating that it was essential that adequate training be undertaken in relation to the sale of alcohol.

In responding to a further question, Ms Braham confirmed that the current Designated Premises Supervisor was Mr A Hines and had been since August 2013.

Further questions were responded to in relation to licensing hours and safety measures. Ms Braham confirmed that she was currently working from 8.00am to 8.00pm and that CCTV was in operation at all times which was accessible, should the Police or local authority request to view the footage.

The Legal Adviser clarified the hours currently worked by Ms Braham and enquired whether she would consider adopting those hours permanently. In responding, Ms Braham confirmed that she would adopt the hours of 8.00am to 8.00pm should the Sub-Committee be minded to impose them.

The parties then withdrew from the meeting in order to enable the Sub-Committee to determine the application.

The Sub-Committee having made their decision invited the parties to return and the Chair then outlined the decision.

Resolved

That the application for transfer of the premises licence in respect of the premises known as Select Food and Beverages, High Street, Dudley, be deferred.

### Reason for decision

Although the Sub-Committee was concerned in relation to the information reported on arising from Police intelligence, the Licensing Sub-Committee had serious reservations that the applicant and her new partner had received no training in relation to the sale of age restricted products and that the current Designated Premises Supervisor was only located at the premises part-time. Therefore, the Sub-Committee determined that no decision would be made until training had been undertaken and that any future decision would not exclude any Police representations in the future.

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The meeting ended at 10.55am.

CHAIR

**Licensing Sub-Committee 4 – 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2014**

**Report of the Director of Corporate Resources**

**Application for Review of a Premises Licence**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider the application for the review of a premises licence in respect of The Lake Discount Stores, 18 Lake Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley, West Midlands.

**Background**

2. The Lake Discount Stores, was first issued with a premises licence on the 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2005.
3. The current premises licence is issued for the following:-

Sale of Alcohol:	Monday to Saturday	08.00-23.00
	Sundays	10.00-22.30
	Good Friday	08.00-22.30
	Christmas Day	12.00-15.00
	Christmas Day	19.00-22.30
4. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2013, an application for the review of the premises licence was received from the Trading Regulation and Enforcement Manager. A copy of that application was circulated to Committee Members and interested parties in accordance with the Licensing Act, 2003.
5. The Council advertised the application for review of the premises licence in accordance with Licensing Regulations.
6. On the 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2013, the West Midlands Police made representations.
7. On the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2013 the Director of Public Health made representations.
8. The premises licence holders at that time were Mr. S.S. Bahia and Mrs. K.K. Bahia.
9. This matter was considered by the Licensing Sub-Committee on the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2013, the Sub-Committee resolved at the request of the applicant that the matter

be deferred. That matter was again considered, by the Sub-Committee on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2013, the Committee again resolved that the matter be deferred in order that both premises licence holders could be in attendance.

10. This matter was again considered by the Licensing and Safety Sub-Committee on the 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2013, the Committee resolved as follows:

That following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, and as reported at the meeting, the premises licence issued to Lake Discount Stores, 18 Lake Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley, be suspended for a period of fourteen days. This suspension of licence was specifically to allow the premises licence holders time to implement the below conditions.

Conditions attached to the premises licence:-

#### Conditions

- (1) A written Proof of Age Policy (Challenge 25) is to be put in force, which all staff authorised to sell alcohol will be trained in and adhere to. Valid proof of identification will only include passport, photographic driving licence or a Proof of Age Standards Scheme (PASS) proof of age card such as Citizen card. No other form of identification shall be accepted.
- (2) A4 notices to be displayed on the door to the premises and near the point of sale stating that it is an offence to buy alcohol for persons under the age of 18.
- (3) A Register of Refusals of Sale of Alcohol which indicates that date, time and reason for refusal will be operated and maintained at the premises. The Premises Licence Holder shall review the book once a week ensuring it is completed and up to date. The Premises Licence Holder will sign the book each time it is checked. This book shall be made available for inspection by an officer of any responsible authority.
- (4) CCTV to be in place at the premises and to be recording at all times when the premises are open for licensable activity, to the specifications of the West Midlands Police Crime Reduction Officer so that the alcohol display area and the point of sale area can be viewed. All images are to be recorded and kept for a minimum of 28 days and made available to any responsible authority upon request immediately, and all staff are to be trained and able to operate and download CCTV. The hard drive is to be locked but readily accessible to staff.
- (5) The Premises' CCTV shall be reviewed on a weekly basis in order to identify persons under the age of 18 who are attempting to buy alcohol or persons over the age of 18 buying on their behalf. A record of these checks shall be maintained and be available for inspection upon request by an officer of any responsible authority.
- (6) All persons engaged to sell alcohol must complete a training programme, which includes a written test, to verify the competency of that person prior to them being authorised to sell alcohol.



- (7) The premises licence holder shall ensure that monthly reviews are conducted with any persons authorised to sell alcohol in order to reinforce training, promote best practice and policy. The monthly reviews will be recorded in writing.
  - (8) A file shall be maintained at the premises for each person authorised to sell alcohol (with proof of identity which will be a copy of passport and/or driving licence). This file shall contain all training records for each person along with copies of monthly reviews as stated in point 7. This file shall be made available for inspection by any officer from a responsible authority upon request.
  - (9) Any person who is suspected of purchasing alcohol for any person under the age of 18, shall be refused service.
  - (10) That a till prompt system be installed.
11. The above decision was appealed to the Magistrates' Court within the 21 days allowed. That appeal was subsequently withdrawn on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2014, following the presentation to the appellant of compelling evidence from the responsible Authorities. The Authorities costs were met by the appellant. The licence was therefore suspended for fourteen days until the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014.
  12. On the 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2014, the Public Protection Manager (Food and Consumer Safety) made an application for a further review of the premises licence. A copy of that application has been circulated to Committee Members and interested parties in accordance with the Licensing Act, 2003.
  13. The Council has advertised the application for review of the premises licence in accordance with Licensing Regulation S1, 2004, No. 42, Section 38. A copy of that notice is attached to this report as Appendix 1.
  14. Confirmation that the application has been served on the premises licence holders and relevant authorities has been received.
  15. On the 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2014, the Assistant Director, Law and Governance, made representations.
  16. On the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014, the Office of Public Health made representations.
  17. On the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014, the West Midlands Police, made representations.
  18. Copies of all representations have been circulated to the Applicant, Committee Members, Interested Parties and the Premises Licence Holders.
  19. The current premises licence holders are Mr. S.S. Bahia and Mrs. K.K. Bahia.
  20. This application falls within the Council's recent responsibility for liquor licensing which has a direct link to the Council's key corporate priority that safety matters.

## **Finance**

21. There are no financial implications.

## **Law**

22. The law relating to the review of licences is governed by the Licensing Act 2003 Section 52(1).

Determination of application for review

52(1) This section applies where:-

- a) The relevant licensing authority receives an application made in accordance with section 51,
  - b) the applicant has complied with any requirement imposed on him under subsection (3)(a) or (d) of that section, and
  - c) the authority has complied with any requirement imposed on it under subsection (3)(b) or (d) of that section
- (2) Before determining the application, the authority must hold a hearing to consider it and any relevant representations.
- (3) The authority must, having regard to the application and any relevant representations, take such of the steps mentioned in subsection (4) (if any) as it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
- (4) The steps are -
- a) to modify the conditions of the licence;
  - b) to exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
  - c) to remove the designated premises supervisor;
  - d) to suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
  - e) to revoke the licence;
- and for this purpose the conditions of the licence are modified if any of them is altered or omitted or any new condition is added.
- (5) Subsection (3) is subject to sections 19,20 and 21 (requirement to include certain conditions in premises licences).
- (6) Where the authority takes a step mentioned in subsection (4) (a) or (b) it may provide that the modification or exclusion is to have effect for only such period (not exceeding three months) as it may specify,
- (7) In this section “relevant representations” means representations which -

- (a) are relevant to one or more of the licensing objectives, and
  - (b) meet the requirements of subsection (8).
- (8) The requirements are -
  - (a) that the representations are made –
    - (i) by the holder of the premises licence, a responsible authority or an interested party, and
    - (ii) within the period prescribed under section 51(3)(c)
  - (b) that they have not been withdrawn, and
  - (c) if they are made by an interested party (who is not also a responsible authority), that they are not, in the opinion of the relevant licensing authority, frivolous or vexatious.
- (9) Where the relevant licensing authority determines that any representations are frivolous or vexatious, it must notify the person who made them of the reasons for that determination.
- (10) Where a licensing authority determines an application for review under this section it must notify the determination and its reasons for making it to:-
  - (a) the holder of the licence
  - (b) the applicant
  - (c) any person who made relevant representations, and
  - (d) the chief officer of police for the police area (or each police area) in which the premises are situated.
- (11) A determination under this section does not have effect -
  - (a) until the end of the period given for appealing against the decision, or
  - (b) if the decision is appealed against, until the appeal is disposed of

Pursuant to schedule 5 part 1, section 8(2)

An appeal may be made against the decision of the committee by –

  - (a) the applicant for the review
  - (b) the holder of the premises licence or
  - (c) any other person who made relevant representations in relation to the application for review.

## **Equality Impact**

23. This report takes into account the Council's policy on equal opportunities.
24. The licensing of premises and individuals will impact on children and young people through their attendance at licensed premises.
25. There has been no consultation or involvement of children and young people in developing these proposals.

## **Recommendation**

26. That the Sub-Committee determine the review of the premises licence in respect of The Lake Discount Stores, 18 Lake Street, Dudley, West Midlands, DY3 2AU.



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DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

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## **List of Background Papers**

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

[www.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.dudley.gov.uk)

REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCE  
UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice of Review of the Premises Licence issued to  
Lake Discount Stores, 18 Lake Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley, DY3  
2AU.

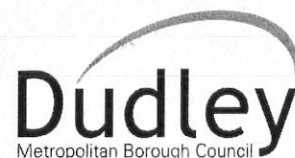
Interested parties and relevant authorities may make  
representations in writing to the Licensing Office, Law and  
Governance, 5 Ednam Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY1 1HL  
between 10<sup>th</sup> June 2014 and 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

The Review of Licence has been requested by a relevant authority  
on the grounds of

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Protection of children from harm

The details of the grounds for review may be inspected at the  
Licensing Offices (address as above) between the hours of 9.00  
am and 4.30pm (Monday to Friday except Public Holidays).

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement  
in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a  
person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5,000.



P J Tart  
Director of Corporate Resources