

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5 JUNE 2024

Present: Cllrs Derek Beer, Emma Parker and Craig Monks

Officers present (for all or part of the meeting):

Elaine Tibble (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Philip Crowther (Legal Business Partner - Regulatory), Aileen Powell (Licencing Team Leader), John Miles (Democratic Services Officer), Vanessa Gibbard (Environmental Health Officer) and Darren Naraine (Environmental Protection Team Leader)

Sgt Gareth Gosling (Dorset Police)
Wendy Jane Morrow and Steve Norris (Applicants)

Officers present remotely (for all or part of the meeting):

John Newcombe (Service Manager for Licencing & Community Safety)

8. Election of Chair and Statement for the Procedure of the Meeting

Proposed by Cllr Monks, seconded by Cllr Parker.

Decision: that Cllr Derek Beer be elected as Chair for the duration of the meeting.

9. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Shortell and Wheller, substituted by Cllrs Monks and Parker,

10. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made at the meeting.

11. Urgent items

There were no urgent items.

12. Sounds Beautiful Event, Gaunts House, Wimborne

The Licencing Team Leader presented the report for an application for a new premises licence for a festival to be known as Sounds Beautiful at Gaunts House in Wimborne.

The application was to cover one event a year with the first one starting on 27 June 2024. The Licencing Team Leader clarified the timings of the alcohol sales that had been requested.

The application had been out to public consultation and attracted three relevant representations from Responsible Authorities stating that more information was required, the Responsible Authorities considered both the Event Management Plan (EMP) and the Noise Management Plan (NMP) inadequate.

The applicant advised the sub-committee that they had submitted an EMP on 31 October 2023 and had worked hard to get the information required.

The Service Manager for Licencing and Community Safety outlined the involvement of the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) and advised that he was satisfied that they had fulfilled their duty in giving advice to the applicants. He confirmed that the documents had been received and circulated resulting in the representations received from the Environmental Health Team, Police and Fire Services.

The applicants were invited to put their case forward. The capacity for the event had been capped at 1500, although they were not expecting any more than 1000 people at the event due to the number of tickets that had been sold to date. They outlined their preparations with regard to the attendance of paramedics, professional 24-hour security, Public Liability Insurance, safe routes for emergency services and noise monitoring. The applicants were open to discussion of timings for the Saturday night and would be happy to finish live music at midnight.

The sub-committee members and the Responsible Authorities were given the opportunity to ask questions of the applicants.

The applicants had not employed a designated manager to help with the event, but they had taken a lot of advice in relation to the operational requirements. They responded to questions around SIA security numbers and what areas they would be responsible for at the event. The issue of unaccompanied under 16 year olds was clarified, it had been an error on the application form and should have read 18 year olds.

The Chair offered the opportunity of a half hour adjournment for the applicant and Responsible Authorities to sit and discuss a way forward with conditions to suit all parties. It was determined by the Responsible Authorities that it would not have been enough time to achieve confidence that the licensing objectives would be met and therefore it was not deemed helpful to adjourn.

The Environmental Protection Team Leader put forward the case for Environmental Health. He referred to a number of events in the same location when he had been out on site to monitor noise which had led to complaints. He clarified some of the timelines of the application and the correspondence requested by the Environmental Protection Team. In conclusion the details missing in the plan did not give the officers confidence that the application would not cause a noise public nuisance.

The sub-committee were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Environmental Protection Officers.

The Applicants were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Environmental Protection Officers

Dorset Police were given the opportunity to put their case forward. Sgt Gosling explained how his Licensing team worked and their objective to make sure the licensing objectives were consistently promoted. Whilst happy to support licensees the role of the police was not to coach, manage events and suggest conditions. In summary, the application was not sufficiently complete for him say it would meet the licensing objectives particularly relating to the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety.

All parties were given the opportunity to sum up their cases before the sub-committee retired to make their decision.

In summing up the Responsible Authorities were of the belief that the applicants were well intentioned, but the paperwork was the only thing they had to base their assumptions on, timescales to get the application right had run out and what had been presented fell short of requirements.

The sub-committee retired to make their decision.

Decision: that a Premises Licence be REFUSED.

13. **Exempt Business**

There was no exempt business.

Duration of meeting: 2.00 - 3.45 pm

Chairman

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