LICENSING COMMITTEE 10 NOVEMBER 2010

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee of Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Wednesday, 10 November 2010.

PRESENT: Councillor J B Attridge (Chairman)

Councillors: L A Aldridge, Eng. K Armstrong-Braun, S R Baker, E G Cooke, B Dunn and M Reece

APOLOGIES:

Councillor E W Owen and LA Sharps

IN ATTENDANCE:

Community Protection Manager, Solicitor (Litigation) and Committee Officer

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chairman welcomed Councillor Armstrong-Braun to his first meeting as member of the Licensing Committee and introduced the officers who were present.

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

9. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 15 June 2010 were submitted.

In the final paragraph under Minute 3, Councillor Dunn pointed out that reference to 'she' should be corrected to 'he'.

RESOLVED

That subject to the foregoing amendment, the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

10. <u>LICENSING ACT 2003 - STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY</u>

The Community Protection Manager presented the report for Members to consider and approve the next Flintshire County Council Statement of Licensing Policy.

It was explained that the Statement needed to be published prior to the next three year period commencing January 2011, in accordance with Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003. The Community Protection Manager highlighted consultation undertaken with the necessary bodies and resultant observations shown in the appendix to the report.

In response to a query from Councillor Dunn about evidence of violent conduct of private hire taxi driver applicants, it was confirmed that this was covered under a separate policy. The Solicitor advised that he was currently in discussion with the Head of Legal & Democratic Services regarding this issue.

Under discussion on the consultation responses included in the appendix to the report, Councillor Armstrong-Braun echoed concerns over private sector Building Control approvals. The Community Protection Manager explained that the introduction of new laws meant that private companies were now able to carry out Building Control approvals, in addition to that already done by Local Authorities. Due to capability concerns surrounding some private companies undertaking this type of work, a recommendation had been included in the policy to point out that if people chose to use private sector companies for Building Control approvals rather than Local Authorities, then steps should be taken to ensure that the company was adequately approved.

Councillor Armstrong-Braun referred to a response provided on 'concerns over Police reluctance to respond to issues relating to disorder'. He suggested that this be changed to read 'concerns over <u>some</u> Police...' as it would not be applicable in every case.

Councillor Aldridge commended the document which he felt was relevant and needed to be shared. He therefore suggested that copies could be distributed to public libraries and sent to Town and Community Councils. Councillor Armstrong-Braun agreed with this suggestion, adding that Clerks of Town and Community Councils should have the opportunity to refer to the document.

RESOLVED

- (a) That subject to the aforementioned amendment, Members agree to adopt the Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy to take effect from 1 January 2011 for a three year period.
- (b) That the Community Protection Manager arrange for copies of the document to be distributed to public libraries and Town and Community Councils in Flintshire.

11. **DURATION OF MEETING**

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and ended at 10.15 a.m.

12. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press or public present.

Chairman

SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

LICENSING COMMITTEE		DATE: 10 NOVEMBER 2010
MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
NO DECLARATIONS WERE MADE		