

LICENSING COMMITTEE
30th NOVEMBER 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee of Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Monday 30th November 2015.

PRESENT: Councillor Tony Sharps (Chairman)

Councillors: Glyn Banks, David Cox, Rosetta Dolphin, Ian Dunbar, Jim Falshaw, Brian Lloyd, Hilary McGuill, Mike Reece

SUBSTITUTE:

Councillor Sharon Williams for Glyn Banks

APOLOGIES:

Councillor Brian Dunn

IN ATTENDANCE:

Solicitor, Team Leader, Licensing and Team Manager - Committee Services

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

9. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2015 had been circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

10. CHANGES TO DOG BREEDING LEGISLATION

The Team Manager, Licensing, explained that the Breeding of Dogs Act 1973 had been replaced within Wales by the (Breeding of Dogs) (Wales) Regulations 2014 which came into force on 30 April 2015. Any person wishing to breed dogs in Wales must obtain a licence from their local authority in compliance with the new regulations and relevant licence conditions which were outlined in the report.

The report had been submitted to Cabinet on 17 November 2015 where the following was agreed:

- Delegation of powers under the Animal Welfare (Breeding of Dogs) Regulations 2014 be given to the Community Protection Team Leader – Licensing, and to the licensing team
- Adoption of a suite of conditions approved by the All Wales Technical Panel for Animal Health and Welfare

- Delegation of further decisions in relation to conditions to the Chief Officer (Planning and Environment) with approval by the Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Leisure Services and Waste Strategy; and
- Delegation of the adoption of the fee level be given to the Chief Officer (Planning and Environment) with approval by the Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Leisure Services and Waste Strategy

The proposed licence fee would reflect appropriately any additional anticipated and actual costs and would enable the function to be fully cost neutral.

Councillor Cox asked if inspections of premises took place before a licence was issued. The Team Leader, Licensing, explained that this did take place and the first inspection of a premises was undertaken by the licensing team and a vet. The Team Leader also clarified that the applicant paid for the presence of the vet.

In responding to a question from Councillor Curtis, the Team Leader explained that the licence covered a 12 month period.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

11. LICENSING ACT 2003 REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

The Team Leader, Licensing, introduced the report which was to review the Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003, and to provide a copy of the Draft Policy for 2016 – 2020 for consideration prior to the commencement of consultation.

This was the fourth Statement of Licensing Policy to be issued and outlined the expectation of the Licensing Authority in relation to applicants. Details were also provided on what applicants and service users could expect from the Licensing Authority.

A thorough review of the current policy had been undertaken, taking into account a number of changes to the Act and the latest revised Guidance from the Home Office issued under section 182 of the Act. The draft Policy was shown as Appendix A to the report.

In response to a question from Councillor Dolphin, the Team Leader explained that the Policy was promoted through Community Safety, Trading Standards and the licensed trade. It would also be possible to promote it at the Flintshire Connects venues.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

12. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press or public present.

(The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and ended at 10.20am)

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Chairman