

LICENSING COMMITTEE
3 NOVEMBER 2008

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee of Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Monday, 3 November 2008.

PRESENT:

Councillor: J.B. Attridge (Chairman)

Councillors: L. A. Aldridge, S.R. Baker, E. Cook, A.G. Diskin, B. Dunn, J. E. Falshaw, G. James, E. O. Owen, M. A. Reece and H. G. Roberts.

IN ATTENDANCE

Heath, Safety and Licensing Manager, Solicitor and Principal Committee Services Officer.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of meeting of the Committee held on 30 June be approved as a correct record.

7. LICENSING MATTERS

The Health, Safety and Licensing Manager introduced a report, the purpose of which was to request that Members endorse a Licensing Enforcement Policy and to consider extending the remit of the Licensing Committee.

As part of the improvement agenda, it was necessary to have an up to date Licensing Enforcement Policy that had been approved by the relevant Member forums. The Licensing Committee was responsible for the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005 however there were a number of other areas of Licensing which could come under the jurisdiction of the Licensing Committee.

At the meeting of the Constitution Committee on 15 October 2008, the principle of extending the remit of the Licensing Committee to cover additional areas was agreed. The most significant area not included was the Private Hire/Hackney

carriage licensing function. Currently if a license was refused, the applicant was offered a hearing before a Flintshire County Council Appeals Committee. It was felt that if the Licensing Committee had Private Hire/Hackney Licensing within its remit then it could be the forum for dealing with any contentious applications. There were a number of other areas which could come under the same remit e.g. commercial animal premises; motor salvage operators; scrap metal dealers and sex establishments.

Councillor L. A. Aldridge supported the recommendations and supported the transparency of the process. The Chairman concurred with this view and said by extending the remit of the Licensing Committee, more Members could become involved in the process which was important.

Councillor L. A. Aldridge said it could prove useful if Members were invited to visit premises which would provide them with a benchmark of good examples.

The Chairman thanked the officers for their hard work.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Licensing Enforcement Policy be endorsed; and
- (b) That the remit of the Licensing Committee be extended to include Private Hire/Hackney Carriage licensing and any others areas under the same remit

8. DURATION OF THE MEETING

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and ended at 9.55 am.