

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in the Civic Centre (Committee Room No. 6) on Monday, 4th September, 2006 at 2.15 p.m.

Part I

ITEM	PAGE
1. Receipt of Declarations of Interest (if any)	
2. Apologies for Absence	
3. Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3rd July, 2006 – Part I	1
(Copy herewith).	
4. Minutes of the meeting of the Sunderland Stadium of Light Safety Advisory Group held on 4th July, 2006	4
(copy herewith).	
5. Sunderland Stadium of Light – Restriction on General Safety Certificate	11
Report of the Director of Development and Regeneration (copy herewith).	
6. Gaming Act 1968 – Application for Grant of Section 34(1) Permit – SACCO's, 9 Front Street, Concord, Washington	14
Report of the Director of Community and Cultural Services (copy herewith).	

**This information can be made available on request in other languages.
If you require this, please telephone 553 1008**

7. **Gaming Act 1968 – Section 34(5c) – Application for Grant of a Permit for All Cash Amusements with Prizes Machines – The Pizza Place, 3-4 Stockton Road** 16

Report of the Director of Community and Cultural Services (copy herewith).

Local Government (Access To Information) (Variation) Order 2006

The reports contained in Part II of the Agenda are not for publication as the Committee is considered likely to exclude the public during consideration thereof as they contain information relating to any individual and the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the authority holding that information) (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1 and 3).

Part II

8. **Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3rd July, 2006, Part II** 19

(Copy herewith).

9. **Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 – Section 51 – Consideration of an Application for a Licence to Drive Private Hire Vehicles – Mr.J.R.** 22

Report of the Director of Community and Cultural Services (copy herewith).

R.C. RAYNER,
City Solicitor.

Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

23rd August, 2006.

At a meeting of the REGULATORY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on MONDAY, 3RD JULY, 2006 at 2.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Mrs. Higgins in the Chair

Councillors Bohill, P. Gibson, Gofton, Grey, J. Heron, T. Martin, Richardson, J.B. Scott, Trueman, J. Walton, Whalen and Wilson

Declarations of Interest

Item 4 - Sunderland Stadium of Light – Renewal of Safety Certificate for Season 2006/2007

Councillor J. Heron declared a personal interest as a Sunderland AFC season ticket holder.

Councillor J. Walton declared a personal interest as a Sunderland AFC shareholder and season ticket holder.

Councillor Richardson declared a personal and prejudicial interest as an employee of a security firm providing services for Sunderland AFC.

Item 5 - Street Collection Permits within the Vicinity of the Sunderland Stadium of Light

Councillor Higgins declared a personal and prejudicial interest as her husband undertook fundraising work for the Samaritans.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Peter Maddison and M. Smith.

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 5th June, 2006 – Part I

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 5th June, 2006 – Part I (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Sunderland Stadium of Light – Renewal of Safety Certificate for Season 2006/2007

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought approval of the application by Sunderland Association Football Club for the renewal of the General Safety Certificate for season 2006/2007.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

2. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) approval be given to the grant of a General Safety Certificate for the Sunderland Stadium of Light for the season 2006/2007 for capacities of 48,900 (non segregated match) and 48,656 (segregated match) on the same terms as in the current Safety Certificate, and
- (ii) no increase be made in the fee payable for the Certificate.

Street Collection Permits within the Vicinity of the Sunderland Stadium of Light

The Director of Community and Cultural Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which requested the Chairman of the Regulatory Committee to undertake a draw to allocate each fixture date at the Stadium of Light to an organisation for the purpose of street collections and that permits be issued accordingly.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter, the draw was undertaken by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Juliana Heron and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that approval be given to the following allocation of street collection permits in the vicinity of the Stadium of Light for the season 2006/2007:-

08/08/2006	Birmingham City	Houghton and Peterlee Athletics Club
12/08/2006	Plymouth Argyle	7 th Gateshead Scout Group
26/08/2006	West Bromwich Albion	Chester Athletic Football Club
16/09/2006	Leicester City	Sunderland Town End Farm Castle Rovers
30/09/2006	Sheffield Wednesday	Washington United Football Club
21/10/2006	Barnsley	Thorney Close Under 17's Football Club
31/10/2006	Cardiff City	Humbledon & Plains Farm Youth Football Club
11/11/2006	Southampton	Sunderland and District SCOPE
18/11/2006	Colchester Utd.	Get Epilepsy Moving (G.E.M.)
02/12/2006	Norwich City	Whitley Bay Boys Club Sproggs
09/12/2006	Luton Town	Houghton Boys Football Club
26/12/2006	Leeds Utd.	Breast Cancer Campaign
30/12/2006	Preston North End	Hetton Juniors Football Club
13/01/2007	Ipswich Town	Ford and Hylton Football Club
30/01/2007	Crystal Palace	Royal National Lifeboat Institution

03/02/2007	Coventry City	Lambton Street Football Club
17/02/2007	Southend Utd.	Elemore Football Club
24/02/2007	Derby County	Fulwell Football Club
13/03/2007	Stoke City	City of Durham Youth Football
17/03/2007	Hull City	SAFC Foundation
07/04/2007	Wolverhampton Wanderers	Morpeth Town Junior Football Club
14/04/2007	Queens Park Rangers	The Samaritans
28/04/2007	Burnley	Sunderland 2
	1 st Reserve	Children North East
	2 nd Reserve	Grindon Rangers Under 14's Football Club
	3 rd Reserve	Redhill Junior Football Club
	4 th Reserve	Ryhope CW Football Club
	5 th Reserve	Grindon Boys Football Club
	6 th Reserve	St. Joseph's Football Club
	7 th Reserve	Multiple Sclerosis Society
	8 th Reserve	Whiteleas Junior Football Club
	9 th Reserve	Cancer Research UK
	10 th Reserve	Ferryhill Falcons JJB

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

At the instance of the Chairman, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it was considered likely to include the disclosure of exempt information relating to an individual and the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the authority holding that information). (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1 and 3).

(Signed) M. HIGGINS,
Chairman.

J. HERON,
Chairman.

Note:-

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items during which the meeting was open to members of the public.

Additional minutes in respect of further items are included in Part II.

**At a meeting of the SUNDERLAND STADIUM OF LIGHT SAFETY
ADVISORY GROUP held in the STADIUM OF LIGHT on WEDNESDAY, 4TH
JULY, 2006 at 10.00 a.m.**

Present:-

Sunderland City Council

K. Scott - Development Manager (Chairman)
P. Baxter - Divisional Building Control Officer
A. Hindhaugh - Emergency Planning and Response Co-ordinator
D. Noon - Senior Democratic Services Officer

Northumbria Ambulance Service:

D. Langley

Supporters Association:

S. Simpson

Sunderland AFC:

J. Davidson - Safety Officer
P. Weymes - Facilities Manager

Northumbria Police:

P. Woods - Superintendent
D. Sweeney - Sergeant

British Transport Police:

B. Moody - Sergeant

F.L.A.:

G. Wilson

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

D. Orr

Nexus:

L. Jewitt

St. John Ambulance Service:

J. Purvis

1. Andrew Hindhaugh

The Chairman welcomed Andrew who was attending his first meeting as a Member of the Safety Advisory Group.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted from G. Fisher, B. Wilson and R. Ardley.

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 29th March, 2006

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 29th March, 2006 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising

(i) Standing in Seated Areas

The Chairman advised that a further stock-taking meeting was to be held in September. Mr. Wilson informed the Group that Richard Caborn, Minister for Sport had firmly placed the issue back with the Football Authorities.

(ii) Powers of Arrest

Mr. Davidson expressed his concern that the powers of arrest had been removed from football club stewards for no other reason than as an apparent consequence of badly drafted legislation. He had voiced his concerns at the national meeting

of Safety Officers however there had been no indication from the Home Office that the powers would be restored.

- (iii) In response to an enquiry from the Chairman, Mr. Weymes confirmed that the signage in respect of pitch incursions had been located as requested.
- (iv) Mr. Davidson referred to minute 12 (viii) 'Game versus Blackburn Rovers – Post Match Protest' and confirmed that the meeting requested by the Chairman had taken place on 31st March. A press release had been issued the following day which confirmed the Club's involvement in the joint decision to close the gates in front of the West Stand.

5. Table Top Exercise

It was confirmed that the Exercise would be held on Wednesday, 19th July, 2006 at 10.00 a.m. Development of the exercise was virtually complete and a final planning meeting was to be held with the E.P.U. on 6th July. Sgt. Sweeney would meet Mr. Davidson at the Stadium on Monday, 17th July for a final check of the venue. Organisations had been requested to submit the names of their players. Observers would be welcome.

6. Update on Stadium Park Development

It was noted that as yet the Stadium Park Development had had little or no impact on the operation of the Stadium. Mr. Weymes informed the Group that he was to attend a further meeting with the Council and Contractor on Wednesday. The Contractor had originally requested an over sailing licence, however would now be operating mobile cranes to the north and south of the site. The operation of the southern crane would necessitate road closures and it was hoped that these could be programmed in to minimise disruption to the Stadium although this would depend on the delivery of materials.

The Chairman highlighted the importance of maintaining the good liaison between the Club, Contractor and City Council. As work was now progressing on site, the Chairman would invite a representative of the Contractor to attend future meetings of the Group.

7. Wearmouth Bridge – Post Match Pedestrian Movement

Mr. Jewitt advised that having monitored the pedestrian flows it appeared that a major obstacle was one of the large black litter bins which had the effect of reducing clearance levels and exacerbated the pinch points next to the lifts at St. Peter's Station.

The Chairman stated he would endeavour to have the bin moved before the start of the new season.

8. Fixture List for Season 2006/2007

Mr. Davidson circulated an updated fixture list for 2006/07 including revisions made since its first publication and advised that he would be arranging to meet with Sgt. Sweeney and Superintendent Woods regarding the classification of matches.

Mr. Wilson advised that any decision to reduce visitor capacities on the basis of previous poor behaviour would need to provide an audit trail based on experience and evidence gathered.

Mr. Davidson informed the Group that the Club would now be playing its reserve matches at the Old Eppleton Colliery Welfare Ground at Hetton. The Club would be arranging friendlies for its reserve side as it was no longer eligible for the Premier League competition following the relegation of the senior side.

The Chairman advised that the Council's Building Control Section would need to arrange an inspection of the ground given the greater status of the games to be played and the likely increase in attendances.

With regard to the Boxing Day fixture at the Stadium of Light. Mr. Jewitt informed the Group that Nexus would be operating a limited bank holiday Metro services between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m.

9. Renewal of General Safety Certificate for Season 2006/2007

The Chairman advised that the renewal of the Certificate had been approved by the Council's Regulatory Committee at its meeting held on 3rd July, 2006 and he formally handed over a copy of the document to Mr. Davidson.

Mr. Davidson stated that the inspection of the radio system would be carried out on 13th July and he would forward copies of the test certificates to the Chairman as soon as possible thereafter.

10. Parking Restrictions Around the Stadium

The Chairman advised that the item had been placed on the agenda at the request of the Council's Traffic Section following complaints received from businesses located behind the South Stand. The

complainants were of the opinion that the double yellow lines outside their premises were a deterrent to their customers and they were losing trade as a result. All parties re-affirmed their support of the parking restrictions in that they were there to protect emergency access and egress to the Stadium. The Chairman advised that he would respond to the traffic section re-affirming the views of the Safety Advisory Group and the reasons for the parking restrictions.

Mr. Davidson informed the Group of the growing problem caused by vehicles ignoring the double yellow lines between the Mill Garage and the North Stand. The problem was at its greatest in the last twenty minutes before the end of the match and was predominantly caused by vehicles arriving to pick up spectators leaving the game. Mr. Davidson suggested that the solution would be found in the issuing of fixed penalty notices however, the area did not appear to be patrolled by parking enforcement officers on match days. The Chairman advised that he would investigate the matter.

11. CEMS Update

The Group discussed the constant state of flux and lack of progress regarding the statutory Level 2 qualification. In particular Mr. Davidson referred to a meeting he had attended in Stoke on 26th April where the FA had announced its intention to introduce a national database on to which all stewards would need to register. There would be three levels of registration with stewards receiving Bronze, Silver or Gold badges. The establishment of the national database had come as a complete surprise to all attending the meeting.

At the Regional Safety Officer's meeting held in Sheffield on 24th May, Members had agreed that the FA's proposals were unsuitable and too bureaucratic. Nevertheless Mr. Davidson had complied with the FA's requirements and registered 160 stewards on the database at the Silver Level.

With regard to the most appropriate qualification, Mr. Davidson stated he was not impressed with CEMS and while a lot of clubs had opted for the NVQ route, Sunderland were looking at the NCFE Level 2 qualification. Mr. Davidson stated that 166 stewards would receive this training.

Mr. Wilson stated that what was required was an accountable system, the FSQ had been a good qualification but had failed because it was not policed. Current uncertainty was complicated by the SIA involvement. Mr. Wilson advised that a number of MPs had tabled a motion to exclude all sport from SIA. The group re-iterated its long held view that SIA was concerned with security rather than safety and that its implementation would be prejudicial to crowd safety.

Given the ongoing nature of the issue, the Chairman advised that he would place it as a standing item on the agenda for the Group's meetings until the situation was clarified.

12. Any Other Business

(i) Injury Statistics

In response to an enquiry from Mr. Wilson, the Chairman confirmed that he had received the letter from the FLA, dated 29th June, 2006, concerning the above matter. Mr. Wilson informed the Group that the letter was requesting all Safety Advisory Groups to place injury statistics as a standing item on its agenda. The statistics were to include the nature of the injury, cause and location within the Stadium. Mr. Purvis advised that he did not currently report the location of the incident. Mr. Davidson replied that he would amend the report forms accordingly.

(ii) Digital Recording

Mr. Davidson reported that trials were underway with a view to installing full digital recording in respect of the stadium CCTV system. Quotes would also be sought with regard to the replacement of the current emergency telephone system.

(iii) PA System

In response to an enquiry from the Chairman, Mr. Weymes advised that the Club were halfway through the refurbishment of the P.A. System and this would continue throughout the season. The Chairman suggested it may be useful to repeat the exercise carried out at Roker Park of playing a scripted message to identify any problems regarding audibility.

(iv) Letter from HSE regarding Metro Service to South Hylton

Mr. Jewitt reported the receipt of a letter from the Health and Safety Executive regarding a complaint received from a member of the public concerning the reduction in the number of Northern trains between Sunderland and Newcastle and in the number of Metro trains serving South Hylton as from December, 2005. Mr. Jewitt advised that he would copy his reply to the Chairman.

(v) Paramedic Equipment

Mr. Purvis advised that during the next month he would be checking stock and that the carrying chairs would be tested.

(vi) Stokoe Statue

Mr. Weymes informed the Group that the plinth for the Bob Stokoe Statue had been erected outside the south east corner of the Stadium. The statue would not impede the exit gates or the pedestrian flow.

(vii) Bob Murray, John Fickling

The Chairman referred to the recent take over of the Football Club by Niall Quinn's Consortium, and paid tribute to the support given to the Safety Advisory Group by Mr. Murray and Mr. Fickling. He stated that safety was a matter that neither was prepared to compromise. It was laudable that funding in this regard had not been an issue given the pressures in the modern game to direct resources elsewhere. The Group recorded their thanks to Mr. Murray and Mr. Fickling and wished them well for the future.

13. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Stadium of Light Safety Advisory Group be held at the Stadium on Wednesday, 4th October, 2006 at 10.00 a.m.

(Signed) KEN SCOTT,
Chairman.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

4 SEPTEMBER 2006

**SUNDERLAND STADIUM OF LIGHT – RESTRICTION ON GENERAL
SAFETY CERTIFICATE**

Report of the Director of Development and Regeneration

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend to Committee that a limit be imposed upon the number of tickets made available by Sunderland Association Football Club to the visiting fans of Sheffield Wednesday on 30 September and Cardiff City on 31 October 2006.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 requires that the General Safety Certificate contains a safe capacity relating to the maximum number of spectators permitted to enter the stadium for the specified activity.
- 2.2 The setting of that capacity involves assessment both of the design and physical conditions of the stadium together with the Clubs ground safety management structure.
- 2.3 Since the advent of the “all seated” stadia which came about as a direct result of the recommendations made by Lord Justice Taylor into the Hillsborough Disaster, an emerging trend for fans, particularly those of visiting teams, to stand in seated areas has been noted.
- 2.4 This action of fans standing in seated areas is recognised as a major safety concern as it introduces the risk of injury to spectators and others from falls, surging and crushing.
- 2.5 The ability of the Club to manage the crowd, and access into the crowd by Police, Ambulance Service or St Johns is severely affected due to the blocking of stairways, gangways and vomitories.
- 2.6 The action also impacts upon customer care issues as spectators behind standing fans have no alternative but to do likewise whether they wish to stand or not.
- 2.7 The Football Licensing Authority recognises the problem and in August 2002 together with other representative bodies within Association Football produced a document “Standing in Seated Areas at Football Grounds” outlining the problems associated with such action.

- 2.8 The General Safety Certificate issued to the Club under the safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 states in Condition 4 "The Holder (Club) shall retain control over the whole or each part of the sports ground and shall take all necessary precautions for the reasonable safety of spectators admitted to the sports ground. The responsibility for the safety of the spectators at the sports ground lies at all times with the Holder, who shall produce a written statement of Safety Policy".
- 2.9 The Club`s own Ground Regulation 9 states that "Nobody may stand in any seating area whilst play is in progress. Persistent standing in seated areas whilst play is in progress is strictly forbidden and may result in ejection from the ground."
- 2.10 At the beginning of season 2003/2004 the Football Licensing Authority introduced a proforma to be completed by football club safety officers throughout the Premier and Football Leagues recording the behaviour of both home and visiting fans.
- 2.11 The data built up from that reporting procedure has identified standing in seated areas particularly by the visiting fans of 3 clubs in the Championship, Sheffield Wednesday, Cardiff City and Leeds United.
- 2.12 The monitoring process has continued into the start of season 2006/2007 and from information received from the Football Licensing Authority the behaviour of those fans in respect of standing in seated areas has shown no signs of improvement.
- 2.13 Committee will recall that at its meetings on 1 November 2004, 10 January, 5 September and 3 October 2005 approval was given to set limits for the same reasons on visiting fans for the fixtures against West Ham United, Leeds United, Cardiff City, Aston Villa and Manchester United.

3.0 PROPOSALS

- 3.1 Following a meeting between Northumbria Police, Sunderland Association Football Club and the City Council during which safety management plans prepared by the Club for the Sheffield Wednesday and Cardiff City fixtures were discussed, it has been determined that the maximum number of visiting fans should be set at 2700 in the case of Sheffield Wednesday and 1500 for Cardiff City.
- 3.2 This reduced number of visiting fans is set at a level which the Club through their safety management plan feel confident in being able to observe safety concerns and to carry out enforcement of Ground Regulation 9.
- 3.3 Details of the proposal will be reported to the Safety Advisory Group at its next meeting on 4 October 2006.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Committee is recommended:

- 1) To approve the setting of a limit of 2700 visiting fans for the Sheffield Wednesday fixture on 30 September 2006 and 1500 visiting fans for the Cardiff City fixture on 31 October 2006 on the grounds of authorising the Club to take all necessary precautions for the reasonable safety of spectators at these games as per Condition 4.
- 2) To authorise the Director of Development and Regeneration to follow such procedure and issue such notice needed to obtain compliance with the proposed restriction.

Background Papers

There were no background papers

Item No.6

4 SEPTEMBER 2006

GAMING ACT 1968
APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF SECTION 34(1) PERMIT
SACCO'S, 9 FRONT STREET, CONCORD, WASHINGTON

Report by the Director of Community and Cultural Services

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An application has been received from Northumbria Leisure Ltd., for the grant of a Section 34(1) permit in respect of 9 Front Street, Concord, Washington.

2. CONSULTATION REPLIES

2.1 Northumbria Police have no objections to the application.

2.2 The Director of Community and Cultural Services has been consulted with regard to Health and Safety matters and has no objections to the application.

2.3 The Director of Development and Regeneration has been consulted with regard to planning matters and has no objections to the application.

3. STATUTORY PROVISION

3.1 Under Schedule 9 to the Gaming Act 1968, the Council is the Licensing Authority for permits for amusements with prizes machines under the Act.

3.2 Where a permit is granted in respect of premises, which are to be used wholly, or mainly, for the provision of amusements by means of machines (i.e. amusement centre or arcades) the local authority may not impose any conditions on the grant of the permit. For other types of premises, the authority may impose a condition limiting the number of machines which may be provided.

3.3 The maximum payout for Section 34(1) machines is a money prize not exceeding £5.00 and a non-money prize not exceeding £8.00. There is no restriction on the age limit and access of persons to use Section 34(1) machines.

3.4 The local authority has a discretion as to whether or not a permit should be granted but consideration of an application for the grant of a permit should be restricted to such matters as the suitability of the applicant and the premises, the social effects of the proposal, the number of amusement centres in the area and matters of public order. Questions relating to planning issues, for example traffic and amenity questions, should not be taken into account.

3.5 An application for a permit under Section 34(1) of the Gaming Act 1968 may not be refused unless the applicant has been given the opportunity to attend before the Committee to make representations

4. RECOMMENDATION

Members are requested to consider the above application.

Background Papers

1. Application for Section 34(1) permit received 7.6.2006
2. Facsimile from Northumbria Police received 19.6.2006
3. Memorandum from Director of Development and Regeneration's Development Control Section received 11.7.2006
4. Memorandum from Director of Community and Cultural Services Department, Health and Safety Section received 20.7.2006

Item No.7

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

4 SEPTEMBER 2006

GAMING ACT 1968 – SECTION 34(5e) APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF A PERMIT FOR ALL CASH AMUSEMENTS WITH PRIZES MACHINES
THE PIZZA PLACE, 3-4 STOCKTON ROAD, SUNDERLAND, SR1 3NR

Report by the Director of Community and Cultural Services

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An application has been received from Mr Mohammad Teramizadeh and Mrs Selina Teramizadeh of 61a Hylton Road, Sunderland for the grant of a Section 34(5e) gaming permit for the above-mentioned premises. The application is for the grant of a permit for all cash amusements with prizes machines.

2. CONSULTATION REPLIES

2.1 Northumbria Police have been consulted with regard to the application and have no objection to the application.

2.2 The Director of Community and Cultural Services has been consulted with regard to Health and Safety matters and any comments received will be reported at the meeting.

3. RELEVANT STATUTORY PROVISIONS

3.1 Section 34(5e) of the Gaming Act 1968 allows applications to be made to the local authority for permits for the use of all cash amusements with prizes. The maximum payout permitted for these machines is £25.00 and they can only be installed either in premises where access is restricted to persons aged 18 years or over, or, in premises which admit under 18's, in "age controlled designated areas" within the premises.

3.2 The local authority has a discretion as to whether or not a permit should be granted but consideration of an application for the grant of a permit should be restricted to such matters as the suitability of the applicant and the premises, the social effects of the proposal, the number of amusement centres in the area and matters of public order. Questions relating to planning issues, for example traffic and amenity questions, should not be taken into account.

3.3 Applicants for the above type of permit may not be refused unless the applicant has been given the opportunity to attend before the Committee to make representations.

4. CONCLUSION

Members are requested to consider the above application.

Background Papers

1. Application dated 31.07.06
2. Letter to the applicant dated 08.08.06
3. E-mail from Northumbria Police dated 08.08.06