

At a meeting of the LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER on MONDAY, 6th SEPTEMBER, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Present:-

Councillor Fletcher in the Chair

Councillors Ali, Crosby, Dodds, P. Gibson, Hartnack, Heron, S. Johnston, D. MacKnight, D. Snowdon, M. Walker, Wilson and A. Wood

Declarations of Interest

Item 4 – Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Principles

Councillor M. Walker declared that he was employed by a bingo operator and held a gambling commission licence; he withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor Leadbitter.

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 2nd August, 2021 Part I

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 2nd August, 2021, Part I (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Principles

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods submitted a report (copy circulated) which reported to the Committee the outcome of the consultation exercise concerning the Council's Draft Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005.

(For copy report see original minutes)

Mr Steve Wearing, Principal Licensing Officer, presented the report and drew Members attention to the response received from Gosschalks Solicitors and the Officer responses to the comments.

Councillor P. Gibson referred to the Casino on High Street East. He stated that when it had first opened a site visit had been undertaken and that the casino had a joint

entrance with the cinema which allowed children to see into the casino which was against the principles of the Act. He had previously raised this issue and asked for assurance that changes had been made to ensure that children could not see into the casino. Mr Wearing advised that it had not been looked into but would be as a matter of urgency and that he was not aware of any problems; he would report back his findings.

Councillor A. Wood advised that the cinema was now on the other side of the road to the cinema; the entrance was next to the car park entrance so would be passed when accessing the car park but was no longer within the cinema.

2. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted and approval be given to the submission of the draft Statement of Principles to Council for approval under the relevant provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 at its meeting on 15th November, 2021.

Licensing Act 2003 – Outcome of Consultation on Review of Cumulative Impact Assessment

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods submitted a report (copy circulated) which informed the Committee of the outcome of the consultation exercise undertaken in relation to a review of the Council's Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) under the Licensing Act 2003.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Mr Steve Wearing, Principal Licensing Officer, presented the report and advised that following the consultation exercise it was proposed that the Cumulative Impact Assessment should cease from 19th September 2021 and that it be further considered in 6 to 12 months time subject to availability of all relevant information at that time.

3. RESOLVED that:-
 - a. The outcome of the consultation on the proposal that the Cumulative Impact Assessment should cease as from 19th September 2021 be noted; and
 - b. It be recommended to Council that the existing CIA should cease as from 19th September 2021 and that a CIA be further considered in the next 6 to 12 months subject to the availability of all relevant data at that time.

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

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) J. Fletcher,
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.

