

**LICENSING COMMITTEE
4 JULY 2006**

Present: Councillors Armstrong, Bing (in the Chair), Cooke, Lambrechts, Poulter, Roberts, Scott, Soan and Tucker

Apologies were received from Councillors Charlesworth, Martin, Sabetian, Stevens, Vallery and Webb

1. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2005 be approved as a true record.

2. DECLARATIONS

Councillors made no declarations at this meeting.

3. GAMBLING ACT 2005

The Licensing Manager, Bob Brown, gave a verbal update on the implementation of the Gambling Act 2005. The Statement of Principles is now being consulted on, which will last until 31 August 2006. Full Council will then approve the amended document in December 2006 for implementation on 3 January 2007 and it will become fully operational in September 2007.

There are three types of gambling licence: Personal, Operational and Premises. Hastings Borough Council will only be dealing with Premises Licenses. Hastings Borough Council is also on the Government's list to be considered for a casino. Out of the 16 large or small casinos it is expected that we will get the small casino if successful in our bid against 31 other Councils.

Through the Gambling Act 2005 the Board will be expected to handle betting shops, bingo halls, amusement arcades, lotteries, Temporary Occurrence Notices (TONs) and permits for machines in pubs and clubs. The same format will be used for representations as with Licensing.

RESOLVED that: Members are updated on the Gambling Act 2005 and the Licensing Manager to sent out hard copies of the Council's Statement of Principles to Members detailing the Act.

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4. LICENSING ACT REVIEW

The Licensing Manager, Bob Brown, gave a verbal update regarding the Licensing Act 2003 and Review process. Just over 1000 licenses were issued from November 2005 until present day. There were 31 hearings where representations had been made and no appeals were made. Bob Brown congratulated the Members who served on these panels. Bob Brown also explained the Review process for Members and informed of upcoming reviews likely to come to the Board.

Councillors Lambrechts and Scott congratulated the Licensing Department and past Licensing Committee on their hard work during the Licensing Process.

Councillor Lambrechts requested some additional training for Licensing Committee Members, specifically some role playing and Committee Chair training. He also asked if the Committee seating plan could be rearranged to seat Members alphabetically rather than politically.

RESOLVED that:

- 1 Members are updated on the Licensing Review process;**
- 2 Bob Brown to discuss the possibility of Committee Chair training with the Member Development Officer and also circulate a Licensing Training DVD to Members; and**
- 3 The Chair and the Committee Administrator to discuss the Committee seating plan before the next Board.**

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.45pm)