LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE 16 JULY 2012

Present: Councillors Cartwright, Wilson (in the Chair), Sabetian

and Poole in Reserve

7. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

In accordance with the terms of reference of the Licensing Committee, the Chief Legal Officer invited nominations for the appointment of Chair for the duration of the meeting. Councillor Cartwright moved that Councillor Wilson should take the Chair. This was seconded by Councillor Sabetian.

<u>RESOLVED</u> (unanimously) that Councillor Wilson be appointed as Chair for the duration of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 18.05pm for a 15 minute break with the agreement of the Chair for discussion so that the parties could discuss the application and seek some agreement on amendments.

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors made no declarations of interest at this meeting.

9. APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE: ELECTRIC STAG, ROBERTSON STREET, HASTINGS

Councillor Wilson set out the procedure that the Sub-Committee would adopt (in accordance with Standard Practice), the applicant and all the interested parties confirmed they understood this.

The Director of Environmental Services, submitted a report on an application for a premises licence at The Electric Stag, Robertson Street, Hastings, as a result of representations received.

Mr Brown, Licensing Manager, presented the report to the committee. The report referred to an application which sought consent for a premises licence. He informed the committee that an amendment to the application had been agreed before commencement of the meeting.

Mr Langeveld, Licensing Consultant, for the applicant, was present and said that a meeting with the responsible authorities had taken place prior to and during the adjournment of the Committee meeting, and as a result this had led to a number of amendments to the application to reduce the scale of the proposal. Mr Langeveld circulated a list of amendments for the committee to consider.

Sergeant Maynard, Licensing Officer for Sussex Police was present and stated the police's representation related to the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and the prevention of public nuisance.

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Sergeant Maynard said that police resources in the town were already stretched and that another premises would have an affect on the cumulative impact zone given the times referred to in the application. He added that a temporary event notice had recently been submitted for licensing activities until 12.30hrs and closure of the premises at 01.00hrs. He asked that the application times be pulled back to accord with the times applied for in the temporary event notice.

Members asked for clarification on the amendments to the application times and were informed the terminal operating time originally applied for in the application was 04.00hrs, it was amended to 02.00hrs, and following further discussions amended to 01.00hrs for licensable activities with a closing time of 01:30.

Mr Bell, Principal Environmental Health Officer (Pollution) was present. His representation related to the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and the prevention of public nuisance. He said that he was worried that the premises would give rise to negative cumulative impact as he had concerns about the noise climate in the town centre at unsocial hours from noise from people in the street moving to and from licensed premises and from music breakout from premises.

He went on to say that he had received complaints regarding noise although not as many as he would expect due to the number of people in the vicinity who could be disturbed. He had been informed of video footage which illustrated the problems but this had not been made available to him

With the agreement of the Chair, Mr Bell circulated a map identifying the location of the Electric Stag Public House in proximity to residential premises. He said that approximately 16 residential premises within 50m of the site were likely to be effected by noise; and 20 residential premises at 75m, and 40 at 100m radius.

Mr Bell said he was in agreement to remove live music entirely from the application and to amend the application time for licensable activities to 01.00hrs and the terminal operating time to 01.30hrs. However, he still had concerns regarding the terminal operating time and the affect within the cumulative impact zone to which the special saturation policy applies. He confirmed that he had not received any complaints in regard to the temporary event notices.

Mr Bilalis, designated premises supervisor, was present. In his submission he said that he wished to provide an option for people who would like a quiet evening out, to be able to sit down and have a conversation and to be able to have a meal in the day time. He stated the bar would not sell cheap drinks or provide giveaways, this he said, is available elsewhere in Hastings.

He went on to say he had invested a considerable amount of money into the premises, and had accepted the police representation which led to the amended application.

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Mr Brown informed the committee that the application had been publicised for 45 days instead of 28 days due to an administrative error. During this period one letter of support for the application was received.

Mr Langeveld and Mr Bilalis confirmed the amended application times as 01;00 for licensable activities and 01;30 closure and acceptance of an amended inaudibility clause should the Sub-Committee be minded to grant the application. Mr Langeveld also commented that he had found the discussions with the responsible authorities constructive and helpful.

<u>RESOLVED</u> – (Unanimously) that the application be GRANTED as the amended operating schedule.

Reason for the decision - The Committee are satisfied that the amended operating schedule provided by the applicant can rebut the presumption that the granting of the licence would undermine the licensing objectives.

The Committee have had regard to the guidance issued by the Home Office in April 2012 and its own policy.

The Committee were pleased that all parties have worked together to reach agreement.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.03pm)