

ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

28 MAY 2020

Present: Councillors Bishop (Chair), Cox (Vice-Chair), Bacon, Marlow-Eastwood and Roberts

123. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

124. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

125. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2020 be approved as a true record.

126. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ADDITIONAL URGENT ITEMS

None

127. RENEWAL OF SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUE WITH OBJECTIONS

The Assistant Director, Environment and Place submitted a report to consider the objections received for the renewal of an existing licenced Sexual Entertainment Venue.

In line with Hastings Borough Council's Sex Establishment Policy, this meeting of the Environment and Safety Committee has been called to determine if the existing licence should be renewed in light of the objections raised.

The Licensing Manager gave a brief overview of the application and the objections received.

The applicant made a submission to the committee regarding the application. Committee members asked questions of the applicant.

RESOLVED (4 vote for and 1 abstention)

The Environment and Safety Committee for and on behalf of Hastings Borough Council has considered the application for a Licensed Sexual Entertainment Venue renewal and has decided to instruct the Council's Licensing Manager to issue for a further year after considering the objections received and our policy.

The reasons for this decision

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Three objections had been received. Two were formatted in the same way and concerned character of the locality and the use to which the premises are used in the vicinity. It listed types of premises whose character would render an area unsuitable for a Sex Establishment Licence. The other objection was not relevant in that the relevant planning requirements had been met some years ago for this particular premise

Guidance suggests that “vicinity” means within a 250 yards radius.

The Committee heard that the license holder had held the licence for 11 years. There had never been any complaints about the premises either to the Council or from the police.

The character of the area had not really changed over time albeit that Rock House and the ‘old’ Observer building were continuing to develop with a view to regeneration of the area. Neither venue had any concerns about Club XS. The Committee could see no reason why the licensee should not retain the licence.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 6.35 pm)