

## LICENSING COMMITTEE

### Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on Tuesday 20th November 2012 at 6.00 pm in the Reception Suite, Civic Offices, Telford

#### PRESENT

Councillors: C Mason (Chair), R Picken, A Mackenzie, L Murray, R Scammell, J Seymour and J Thompson.

Officers in attendance: Ian Mercer – Public Protection Service Delivery Manager, Suzanne Fisher – Public Protection Team Leader, Tina Street – Solicitor and Wendy Buckley - Democratic Services Support Officer.

#### **LC- 15      MINUTES**

In relation to minute LC – 14, some Members considered that the minute did not fully reflect the debate and divergent views that were expressed at the meeting. It was therefore:

**RESOLVED** – that minute LC - 14 of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on the 2nd October 2012 be amended to include a sentence stating that:

**“Members debated the matter and arguments were put for and against which resulted in a 5 to 4 majority decision in favour of the motion”. The amended minutes be brought back for approval at the next meeting.**

#### **LC– 16      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors B Duce and T Hope.

#### **LC- 17      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **LC- 18      GAMBLING ACT 2005 – REPORT ON THE STATUTORY REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL’S STATEMENT OF LICENSING PRINCIPLES**

The Public Protection Team Leader presented a summary of the report of the Service Delivery Manager - Public Protection advising Members that following a consultation, a revised Statement of Principles along with supporting appendices had been prepared to be presented to Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> November and effective from 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013. The Statement of Licensing Policy for the Gambling Act 2005 has to be reviewed every three years as a statutory requirement and the policy was last reviewed in 2009.

The Solicitor for the Council advised Members that Telford has a ‘no casino policy’. This can only be changed with agreement from Central Government for the location of casinos countrywide.

Only minor amendments were made to the previous Statement of Principles following revised guidance from the Gambling Commission. Some changes to the wording of the introduction of the Statement of Principles were suggested by a Member and agreed by Members.

Members also stated that in view of the large consultation exercise where only 5 responses had been received, this was very disappointing and the instructions to the Parish Councils should be reworded in the hope that more responses to consultations would be forthcoming.

**RESOLVED** - that the Statement of Licensing Principles for the Gambling Act 2005 for the Borough of Telford & Wrekin be recommended to Full Council for approval with an effective date of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013.

**LC – 19      GAMBLING ACT 2005 – REPORT ON THE DELEGATION OF STATUTORY FUNCTION TO OFFICERS**

The Service Delivery Manager Public Protection advised Members that the purpose of the report was to delegate functions of the Licensing Committee under the Gambling Act 2005 to the Service Delivery Manager in respect of the revocation of premises licences due to non-payment of annual fees. It was hoped that the process would be streamlined in that the Service Delivery Manager could then delegate to the Principal Licensing Officer, in writing, to revoke a premises licence on non-payment of fees.

**RESOLVED** - that Members delegate the functions set out in the report to the Service Delivery Manager Public Protection.

Meeting closed at 6.25 pm.

Chairman:

Date:

