

Addenbrooke House Ironmasters Way Telford TF3 4NT

## LICENSING COMMITTEE

Date	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2015 Tin			ne	6.00pm
Venue	-	Room G3 & G4, Ground Floor Addenbrooke House, ters Way, Telford, TF3 4NT			
Enquiries	Regarding	this	Agenda:		
Democratic Services		Phil Smith			01952 383211
Media Enquiries		Corporate Communications			01952 382408
Lead Officer		Liz Noakes Assistant Director: Health, Well-Being & Public Protection			01952 383246
Committee Membership:		<u>hip</u> :	Councillors <b>H Rhodes (Chair), M J Smith (Vice Chair)</b> , M Boylan, G H Cook, I T W Fletcher, J A Francis, M B Hosken, C N Mason, S J Reynolds, J M Seymour		
<u>Substitutes</u> :			Councillors J Jones, J C Minor, J A Pinter, C F Smith, C R Turley, S P Burrell, R T Kiernan		

# <u>AGENDA</u>

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

## 2. **Declarations of Interest**

Minutes
 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

 Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 and Fire Safety and Places of Sport Act 1987 - Regulated Stands Certificates for AFC Telford Utd Football Stadium - Update
 The report of the Building Control Team Leader and Development Management Service Delivery Manager

## LICENSING COMMITTEE

## Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 6.00 pm at Addenbrooke House, Ironmasters Way,Telford

#### PRESENT

Councillors H Rhodes (Chair), M Boylan, G Cook, I Fletcher, J Francis, M Hosken, C Mason, S J Reynolds and J Seymour

Officers in attendance: L Noakes (Assistant Director: Health, Wellbeing and Public Protection), N Minshall (Service Delivery Manager: Public Protection), S Fisher (Principal Licensing Officer), A Reah (Building Control Team Leader), E. Griffin (Solicitor), T Street (Solicitor) and P Smith (Democratic Services Team Leader)

#### LC-15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor M Smith

#### LC-16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

#### LC-17 <u>MINUTES</u>

<u>**RESOLVED</u></u> – that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2015 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.</u>** 

#### LC-18 REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

The Principal Licensing Officer presented the report of the Service Delivery Manager: Public Protection which sought endorsement for the revised Statement of Licensing Policy following a twelve week consultation with affected persons and bodies.

The current Statement of Licensing Policy had been in place since January 2011, and there was a statutory requirement that it must be reviewed every five years. Officers had reviewed the Policy in line with Best Practice guidance, and the revised document was approved, subject to a few minor amendments, by the Committee on 9 June 2015 for consultation. The majority of the revisions within the Statement were due to changes in the law.

The approved consultation period ran from 22 June to 14 September 2015, and a full list of those persons and bodies who were invited to submit comments was appended to the report. No responses were received. Therefore, apart from the incorporation of the minor amendments requested at the last meeting, the Statement of Licensing Policy appended to the report was the same as that put before the Committee at the last meeting. If agreed by the Committee, the Statement then

needed to be approved by Full Council on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 prior to implementation with effect from 7 January 2016.

During the ensuing discussion, further concern was expressed about the issuing of personal licences which would have no expiry date, and whether routine checks on licence-holders could be carried out to ensure that they still met the necessary criteria. The Principal Licensing Officer advised that there was no statutory basis to be able to carry out such checks. However, the Licensing Authority was notified by the courts of any convictions of licence-holders for relevant offences, and could take action against a licence-holder if he/she failed to notify the Licensing Authority of such a conviction.

A minor typographical error in the impact assessment section was highlighted, and there was also a request for the document to be page numbered.

<u>RESOLVED</u> - TO RECOMMEND to COUNCIL that the revised Statement of Licensing Policy be approved.

#### LC-19 REVIEW OF GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING PRINCIPLES

The Principal Licensing Officer presented the report of the Service Delivery Manager: Public Protection, which sought endorsement for the revised Statement of Licensing Principles following a twelve week consultation with all relevant organisations.

The current Statement of Licensing Principles came into effect in January 2013, and there was a statutory requirement that it must be reviewed every three years. Officers had reviewed the Statement in line with experience of implementing the current document and with Best Practice guidance, and the revised document was approved by the Committee on 9 June 2015 for consultation. The key changes related to a requirement for a local risk assessment to be submitted with any new or variation application, the introduction of 'Bet Watch' schemes and a requirement for gambling premises to notify the licensing authority of any test purchases conducted by the Gambling Commission or their own organisation. Since the last meeting, the Gambling Commission had updated its Guidance to Local Authorities, and this was now reflected within the revised Statement of Licensing Principles. The Commission had also produced a 'Local Gambling Risk Assessment' template, which had been added as an appendix to the Statement.

The approved consultation period ran from 22 June to 14 September 2015, and a full list of those persons and bodies who were invited to submit comments was appended to the report. No responses were received, apart from Newport Town Council who confirmed that they had no comments to make. The Statement of Licensing Principles appended to the report had highlighted changes to reflect the inclusion of the latest Guidance. If agreed by the Committee, the Statement then needed to be approved by Full Council on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 prior to implementation with effect from 31 January 2016.

A question was asked regarding the new requirement for a local risk assessment, and whether this could be extended to existing licensees. The Principal Licensing Officer advised that the new requirement only applied to new applications. All premises licence holders had to update their risk assessments when applying for a variation of a premises licence, to take account of significant changes in local circumstances including those identified in a licensing authority's statement of policy and when there were significant changes at a licensee's premises that might affect their mitigation of local risks. If something went wrong with an existing premises licence, there was a mechanism for interested parties and/or Responsible Authorities to request the Council to review the licence. In response to a question about test purchases and other monitoring, the Principal Licensing Officer reported that there was an information sharing protocol with the Gambling Commission, who notified the Council of any problems they had uncovered regarding licence-holders in the Borough. The Council would also work with the Commission on any exercise to make test purchases.

<u>RESOLVED</u> - TO RECOMMEND to COUNCIL that the amendments made to the Statement of Licensing Principles, following a consultation exercise which ended on 14 September 2015, be approved.

#### LC-20 SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUNDS ACT 1975 AND FIRE SAFETY & PLACES OF SPORT ACT 1987 – REGULATED STAND CERTIFICATES FOR AFC TELFORD UTD FOOTBALL STADIUM

Mr J Bradbury (Safety Officer - AFC Telford Utd FC) was present for this item.

The Building Control Team Leader presented a report which informed Members about the position of the AFC Telford Utd Football Stadium with regard to the Safety of Sports Grounds Designation Order 2015, and for the Committee to consider an application for Regulated Stand Certificates for the David Hutchinson (north), University of Wolverhampton (west) and Frank Nagington (south) stands.

Until 1 October 2015, the ground had operated under a General Safety Certificate (GSC). However, because it had a capacity of less than 10,000 it had been removed from the designation order under legislation and a GSC was no longer required. Instead, the Club needed to apply for and obtain Regulated Stand Certificates for any covered stands capable of accommodating at least 500 people, of which it had three. Whilst the decision to issue the Certificates rested with the Council, there was a Sports Safety Group (consisting of representatives from a number of agencies including the fire and police services) which could advise the Council and develop a co-ordinated approach to spectator safety. The Council and Safety Group had been working closely together to progress the applications and get the necessary information.

The Safety Group had provided its view on the applications and the supporting information received to date from the Club. It was apparent from the information received that the fire alarm system at the ground needed an overhaul, but that it would take time for a replacement system to be ordered and installed. The Safety Group had therefore recommended that a temporary Certificate be granted for 56 days. This would allow the ground to remain open for matches, subject to additional

safety measure such as loud hailers and extra stewards, and for the new system to be installed. To address other outstanding issues, three proposed conditions of any grant of a temporary Certificate were tabled. These related to a risk assessment on the barriers, the desks on Row K, and the vomitory walls.

Members asked a number of questions to the Officer and to the representative from AFC Telford Utd. Members wanted to know:

- what had happened in the past fortnight since the expiry of the General Safety Certificate?

The Building Control Team Leader and the Solicitor stated that there had been no home matches since 1 October, and that the intention was to bring the application back before Committee prior to the end of the 56 day period.

- what supporting information had still not been received and had a fire alarm certificate been issued?

The Building Control Team Leader stated that as the ground previously had a General Safety Certificate, most of the information was already in existence. All the information requested had now been received. It was believed that the proposed condition regarding the removal of seating to the front of the desks on Row K had been implemented today, although it would need to be checked. The fire alarm certificate had not been issued for the reasons previously outlined, but temporary additional fire safety measures were in place to mitigate that.

- was the ground still insured if it had no fire alarm certificate and who would be liable if something went wrong?

Mr Bradbury advised that as far as he was aware, the ground remained fully insured for public liability. The Solicitor stated that the remedial measures in place were considered to be sufficient by the Fire Safety Officer to facilitate the granting of a 56 day temporary Certificate. New fire assessors had been appointed by the Club, and a letter from them dated 2 October 2015 was read out. This included their recommendations for fire safety based on the 'Green Guide'.

- was the fire alarm still being tested?

Mr Bradbury advised that the current fire alarm system was working and was tested before every game, and this was all logged. He also explained the procedures that were followed in the event of the alarm being activated.

- why were the loudhailers needed, and how many would be in use?

Mr Bradbury stated that while the PA system was working, it did not currently have a battery back-up in the event of a power failure. The loudhailers were a back-up for the PA system. They had two at the moment and would be getting more.

- if a temporary Certificate was granted, what would be the process over the next few weeks to address the safety issues identified?

The Solicitor advised that the Safety Group would be attending a match at the ground on 31 October to check that the temporary measures and conditions had been implemented. The Group would meet again on 3 November, by which time they would expect to see significant progress being made on a permanent solution.

A number of Members expressed significant concerns regarding safety at the AFC Telford Utd stadium and that this situation had been allowed to happen by the Club. They felt that the Committee had not received assurances that the Club had the funding in place to order and install a new fire alarm system, and there were concerns about whether some of the additional safety measures proposed were adequate. Other Members were reassured that the proposal for a temporary Certificate had the support of the Sports Safety Group and that the Fire Safety Officer was satisfied with the additional safety measures that would be in place. However, they would wish to see the application back before the Committee within the 56 days and the expectation would be that the necessary actions had been taken by the Club.

<u>RESOLVED</u> – (4 for, 3 against, 2 abstentions) that authority be delegated to the Building Control Team Leader to issue Regulated Stand Certificates for the David Hutchinson (north), University of Wolverhampton (west) and Frank Nagington (south) stands for a period of 56 days, subject to the following conditions:

1. A risk assessment on the barriers be carried out within 28 days of the issue of the certificate and carry out any work required by the risk assessment;

2. To remove the seating and access to the front of the desks on Row K or modify the desks so that they are retractable and only over hang the seats that use them;

3. Vomitory walls to be assessed within 28 days of the issue of the certificate and any work to be carried out in accordance with the assessment

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 9 December at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 6.49pm.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....

## Telford & Wrekin Council

Licensing Committee - 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015

The Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 and Fire and Places of Sport Act 1987 - Regulated Stands Certificates for AFC Telford Utd Football Stadium

Report of Building Control Team Leader and Development Manager

## 1. Purpose

For Members to consider further applications for Regulated Stand Certificates for the David Hutchinson (north), University of Wolverhampton(west) and Frank Nagington(south) stands at AFC Telford following this Committee's decision on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 to grant a certificate for 56 days subject to the conditions set out in the minutes of the last Licensing Committee held on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 ("the Minutes")

## 2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Safety Certificate applications for the Regulated Stands be granted for a further period of 70 days from the 9<sup>th</sup> of December to enable the fire alarm system that has been ordered to be installed and for the barrier testing to be carried out, and rectification of any issues that arise from that testing.

## 3 Summary

The Report to Licensing Committee on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 is attached at Appendix A and sets out the nature of the application before Committee. Members will recall and note from the Minutes that the Committee was only prepared to grant a certificate for 56 days in view of the fire alarm issue. In addition, three conditions were imposed as detailed in the Minutes. Prior to the expiry of the 56 day grant, this application is now before Members for further consideration and decision .

## 4 Previous Minutes

14<sup>th</sup> October 2015

## 5. Update of Events since 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Whilst the decision to issue the certificates rests with the licensing authority, there is a Sports Safety Group which provides a forum within which the Council and other agencies ensure a co-ordinated approach to spectator safety. These expert agencies advise and support the Council in the exercise of its powers under the relevant legislation. The principle agencies are the Shropshire Combined Fire Authority and West Mercia Police.

The Safety Group can advise the Club management of how to discharge the responsibility for the safety of spectators and may undertake inspections and require measures to be taken in order to achieve reasonable safety standards. This does not however exonerate the ground management from its responsibility for the safety of spectators.

A meeting of the Sports Safety Group was held on the 2nd November where the club updated the Group on their plans to meet the conditions identified as required by this Committee. At that stage their plans were to place an order for the new fire alarm system by 6th November 2015, have an assessment of the barriers on the 4th November and provide to the licensing authority details of the assessment of the vomitory walls as soon as possible.

The club also confirmed that hand held megaphones were available to all lead stewards in each stand.

At the time of writing this report, the positon with regard to the three conditions is as follows:

- The seating and access in front of the desks on Row K had been removed and temporary netting barrier installed so this condition has been complied with;:
- An assessment of the barriers has been completed which has recommended the testing of a number of barriers. The Club has indicated that a test date for the barriers will be provided before the Committee meeting.
- Work has been done to the vomitory walls and information has now been received as to the nature of the work and that this is satisfactory to address the original concerns, so this condition has been complied with.

The Council has received confirmation that the fire alarm has been ordered, and the likely completion date is late January /early February .

A pre-arranged match day inspection was carried out by the Sports Safety Group on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The ground is assessed in accordance with the Green Guide. The Green Guide (Guide to safety at sports Grounds) is an advisory document for use by competent persons and has no statutory force but many of its recommendations will be made statutory at individual grounds by their inclusion in safety certificates issued under the relevant legislation

The information in the Guide is intended to provide useful guidance but it is not a definitive statement applicable in all circumstances. The Guide states that a flexible approach should be maintained to take account of the individual type, function and layout of the grounds .

Various safety issues were highlighted including the fact that the number of loud hailers required by the independent Fire risk assessment were not available – these were required to compensate for the intermittent failure of the PA system, issues around access and egress and evacuation routes and crowd management and safety. A further match day inspection was arranged for the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015 and on that occasion a number of issues raised had been addressed. The Club has indicated

that a further response to address all of the outstanding issues will be available to Members before the start of the meeting.

The Club has indicated that steps have been taken to remedy outstanding issues such as providing extra keys to ensure that doors are locked, liaising with the hotel where issues arise where the hotel links to the Club and further work will be commissioned to deal with an issue at the snack bar. Evidence of staff training will be provided.

The fire alarm has been ordered and a proposed date for completion provided. The three specific conditions have been addressed apart from the confirmation of the barrier testing and rectification of any issues that testing might identify.

A further meeting of the Safety Group will be scheduled to take place in January/February when the alarm system work should be complete. Regular meetings of the Group will then provide necessary advice and support in complying with the terms of the Regulated Stand Certificate .

The recommendation is therefore for a further extension to allow alarm work to be complete, barrier testing and rectification of any issues that might arise to be completed.

## 8. Legal Comment

Following the deregulation of the sports ground as a whole from the 1st of October 2015 the Club has to ensure that the appropriate Regulated Stand Certificates are in place prior to any sporting activity taking place .The Council has a duty to consider and, if appropriate, issue Certificates with appropriate conditions having regard to the relevant legislation contained in the Act

#### Rights of Appeal

Section 30 of the Act provides rights of appeal to the magistrate's court including

An appeal by a person against a determination by the local authority that he /she is not qualified to hold a safety certificate for a regulated stand

An appeal by any interested party against the inclusion of anything in or omission of anything from a safety certificate for a regulated stand or the refusal of the local authority to amend or replace it.

#### **Transparency**

The decision that the Licensing Committee are being asked to make must include the following in order to ensure fair, transparent decision making :-

- All members of the Licensing Committee taking part in this decision must read this report in its entirety including the recommendations and the appendices.
- If any member of the Committee believes that any aspect of the report or document is ambiguous or requires further explanation then questions should be raised with those officers presenting the report before any decision is made.

## 9. Financial Comment

Since the October meeting of the Licensing Committee, Telford and Wrekin Council have signed an Agreement with AFC Telford for the provision of capital Gap Funding, which has allowed AFC Telford to commission the necessary upgrades to the alarm systems. The assessment of Certificate applications will be carried out by building control officers within existing resources. JAC 091215

## **10. Links with Corporate Priorities**

This report has links to the following:

Corporate Priorities Protect and Create Jobs as a "Business Supporting Winning Council"

Officers have been advising the club for a long time supporting them and advising them on what they need to do to meet the standards required for the certificates to be approved.

It is important for members to note that the Lead Officer at AFC Telford in respect of this matter is currently Lee Carter. Given his role as a senior councillor, portfolio holder for Council Finance and Service Delivery, there are established systems agreed with Councillor Carter for demonstrating good governance and separating him from involvement in decisions in respect of matters relating to the football club. Principally, this means that the Monitoring Officer liaises with the Councillor and officers are encouraged to speak to the Monitoring Officer if they have any concerns about the Councillor using his position to influence the consideration of the application.

In view of the seriousness of this application, normal rules have been waived as the Councillor is the person with overall responsibility for the club and the stands.

## 11. Risks and Opportunities

The following key risk and opportunity associated with this action has been identified and assessed and arrangements put in place to manage them

(1) The financial risks to the Council in the event of a legal challenge to any decision

## 12. Equal Opportunities

There are no equal opportunity implications arising from this report

## 13. Environmental Impact

There is no environmental impact arising from this report

## 14. Ward Implications

There are Borough wide implications

## 15. Background Papers

Safety at Sports Grounds Act 1975 Fire Safety and Places of Sport Act 1987 Safety at Sport Grounds Designation Order 2015 Guide to Safety as Sports Grounds (Green Guide)

Current General Safety Certificate Letter received regarding Deregulation

## Report prepared by

Tony Reah Building Control Team Leader and David Fletcher Development Manager

For further information please telephone 01952- 384500 or email tony.reah@telford.gov.uk

## Telford & Wrekin Council

Licensing Committee - 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015

The Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 and Fire Safety and Places of Sport Act 1987 - Regulated Stands Certificates for AFC Telford Football Stadium

Report of Building Control Team Leader

## 1. Purpose

To inform Members of the position with regard to the Safety of Sports Grounds Designation Order 2015 as it applies to the Football Stadium at AFC Telford and to consider the application for Regulated Stand Certificates for the David Hutchinson (north), University of Wolverhampton(west) and Frank Nagington(south) stands at AFC Telford

## 2. Recommendation

2.1 To delegate authority to the Building Control Team Leader to issue Regulated Stand Certificates for the David Hutchinson (north), University of Wolverhampton (west), and Frank Nagington (south) stands for a period of 56 days, subject to relevant conditions.

## 3 Summary

As from the 1st October 2015, Regulated Stand Certificates are required pursuant to Part III of the Fire Safety and Places of Sport Act 1987( the Act ) for the David Hutchinson (north) University of Wolverhampton ( west ) and Frank Nagington (south) stands at AFC Telford in order for spectators to be admitted for sporting or other spectator events within those grounds .

Telford and Wrekin Council is this issuing authority for sports grounds within the Borough of Telford and Wrekin. Any stand at a sports ground or stadium which provides covered accommodation in stands for 500 spectators or more is a Regulated Stand and requires a Regulated Stand Certificate

#### 4 **Previous Minutes**

None

## 5 Information

## Contents of a Certificate

In accordance with section 27 of the 1987 Act the Council is required to include in the safety certificate such terms and conditions it considers necessary or expedient to

secure the reasonable safety of spectators. Safety certificates issued by the Council will include the capacity of the regulated stand. The Certificate will also include the terms and conditions with which the holder must comply to maintain that capacity. In determining the contents of any certificate the Council will take into account the advice of the safety advisory group and the guidance contained in the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds (the Green Guide) and that published by the Sports Grounds Safety Authority in its " Guide to the safety certification of sports grounds". The latter guidance document recommends a new style of safety certificate with the onus placed upon the ground management to carry out risk assessments and develop an operations manual.

## 6. Background

The Local Authority was informed in April of this year that it was the intention of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport to de designate The New Bucks Head Stadium from the 1st October 2015 under the Safety of Sports Grounds (Designation) Order 2015. A General Safety Certificate is required for each ground with a capacity of 10,000 or more (5000 if the club is in a football league).

Until the 1<sup>ST</sup> October 2015, the club operated under a General Safety Certificate for the ground, but does not have a capacity of 10000. The Club therefore needed to apply for and obtain Regulated Stand Certificates for the David Hutchinson(north), University of Wolverhampton(west) and Frank Nagington (south) stands as they are Regulated Stands i.e stands which are capable of accommodating at least 500 people under cover.

In order for the appropriate certificates to be issued, applications with supporting information are made by the person responsible for the management of the football ground. Information that should be included:

Capacity calculations Statement of intent Safety audit reports and P and S assessments Spectator safety policy Safety officer appointment (the recommendation is that the safety officer should have a level 4 safety qualification in spectator safety and their deputy should be working towards this.) Emergency plan Up to date plans and specifications Fire risk assessments Escape lighting battery test certificates Escape lighting generator test certificates Structural safety certificates for all parts the structures Load testing certificates Fire alarm test certificates Public address system certificates Fire fighting equipment certificates **Electrical installation certificates CCTV** certificates Lightening conductor certificates

Whilst the decision to issue the certificates rests with the Council, there is a Sports Safety Group which provides a forum within which the Council and other agencies may develop a coordinated approach to spectator safety. They can advise the Council in the exercise of its powers under the relevant legislation and includes for example representatives from the fire and police services.

A meeting of the Sports Safety Group was held on the 29th September and the views of the Sports Safety Group were obtained on the applications that had been received and information received to date. The Group is being kept informed where appropriate when information is being received.

As the Club previously had a General Safety Certificate, most of the information is already in existence but some information needs to be updated. As a small club with an older ground and a small spectator capacity, the club has limited resources but at the same time has to maintain the ground to a sufficient level to ensure that safety is not compromised.

An application for certificates of this nature would normally result in the grant of a 12 month certificate with a review thereafter. However, the Club is aware that the fire alarm system at the Club is in need of an overhaul and the long term plan is to replace the current alarm system. It will take time to order and install a system and the proposed recommendation will allow the Club to remain open and have home matches by requiring additional safety measures such as a loud hailers and additional stewards until the new system is installed and operational.

There are currently other additional outstanding issues but as information is being received and being processed on a daily basis, a verbal update will be provided to Committee if there are any outstanding issues to resolve. A list of proposed conditions will be provided for Committee. The intention would be to bring the application back before Committee prior to the end of the 56 day period for further consideration

## 7. Legal Comment

Following the deregulation of the sports ground as a whole from the 1st of October 2015 the Club has to ensure that the appropriate Regulated Stand Certificates are in place prior to any sporting activity taking place .The Council has a duty to consider and if appropriate issue Certificates with appropriate conditions having regard to the relevant legislation contained in the Act

#### **Rights of Appeal**

Section 30 of the Act provides rights of appeal to the magistrate's court including

An appeal by a person against a determination by the local authority that he /she is not qualified to hold a safety certificate for a regulated stand

An appeal by any interested party against the inclusion of anything in or omission of anything from a safety certificate for a regulated stand or the refusal of the local authority to amend or replace it

#### Transparency

The decision that the Licensing Committee are being asked to make must include the following in order to ensure fair, transparent decision making :-

- All members of the Licensing Committee taking part in this decision must read this report in its entirety including the recommendations and the appendices.
- If any member of the Licensing Committee believes that any aspect of the report or document is ambiguous or requires further explanation then questions should be raised with those officers presenting the report before any decision is made.

## 8 Financial Comment

The assessment of Certificate applications will be carried out by building control officers within existing resources

## 9 Links with Corporate Priorities

This report has links to the following

Corporate Priorities

Protect and Create Jobs as a "Business Supporting Winning Council"

It is important for members to note that the Lead Officer at AFC Telford in respect of this matter is currently Lee Carter. Given his role as a senior councillor, portfolio holder for Council Finance and Service Delivery, existing systems agreed with Councillor Carter for demonstrating good governance are being used .Principally, this means that the Monitoring Officer has discussed this matter with the Councillor and officers are encouraged to speak to the Monitoring Officer if they have any concerns about the Councillor using his position to influence the consideration of the application .

#### 10 Risks and Opportunities

The following key risk and opportunity associated with this action has been identified and assessed and arrangements put in place to manage them

(1) The financial risks to the Council in the event of a legal challenge to any decision

## 11 Equal Opportunities

There are no equal opportunity implications arising from this report

#### 12 Environmental Impact

There is no environmental impact arising from this report

#### 13 Ward Implications

There are Borough wide implications

## 14 Background Papers

Safety at Sports Grounds Act 1975 Fire Safety and Places of Sport Act 1987 Safety at Sport Grounds Designation Order 2015 Guide to Safety as Sports Grounds (Green Guide)

Current General Safety Certificate Letter received regarding Deregulation

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Tony Reah Building Control Team Leader

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