Minutes of a meeting of the Worthing Licensing & Control Committee A' of Worthing Borough Council

Monday 27 June 2022

Councillor Sally Smith (Chair) *Councillor Rosey Whorlow (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Roy Barraclough Councillor Mike Barrett Councillor Russ Cochran *Councillor Cathy Glynn-Davies Councillor Lionel Harman Councillor Richard Mulholland Councillor Kevin Jenkins *Councillor Richard Nowak Councillor Jon Roser Councillor Dawn Smith Councillor Samuel Theodoridi Councillor Hazel Thorpe Councillor Andy Whight

*Absent

LCCA/1/22-23 Declarations of Interest / Substitute Members

Cllr Cochran declared that he was a member of UK Amateur Poker Players, a poker club.

There were no substitute members.

LCCA/2/22-23 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the Licensing and Control Committee 'A' meeting held on the 14 February 2022 be approved as the correct record.

LCCA/3/22-23 Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

LCCA/4/22-23 Constitutional Provisions relating to the Councils' Licensing Function

Before the committee was a report by the Interim Director of Communities. The Public Health and Regulations Manager delivered the report explaining the current committee and subcommittee member attendance arrangements. He advised the recommendation was to adopt an alternative arrangement consisting of a Licensing and Control Committee A (LCCA) and B (LCCB), both made up of 15 members that had the power to set up Sub-Committees of 3 Members of the main Committee for the purpose of hearing individual applications and reviews from gambling/premises and hackney carriage and private hire licence holders. LCCA dealt with Taxi regulation matters and all other non-2003/05 Act Licensing matters. LCCB dealt with all Licensing matters under 2003/2005 Acts.

The Officer also suggested that further streamlining could be achieved by having a single Licensing Committee that dealt with all Licensing matters and had the ability to appoint a sub-committee for all individual licensing matters.

The members posed questions to the officer regarding -

- Executive members sitting on the licensing Committee but not as Chair or Vice Chair.
- Substitutes available for committees.
- The proposed size of the sub committees.
- The possible arrangement of 'standby' Councillors for sub committees.
- The possibility of having day time meetings on occasion.

A proposal was made to adopt the single committee system but with a subcommittee of 5 members invited but only 3 members sitting to avoid not being quorate. This proposal was seconded, debated and voted on but was not carried.

A Proposal was made to adopt the recommendation at 3.5 in the report of a Single structure committee of 15 members and sub committees of 3 members.

This proposal was seconded, debated and voted on. The proposal was carried with a vote of 10 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

A proposal was made to accept the recommendation in 3.12 of the report to have flexibility to hold meetings both during the day and evenings increasing the total available time and to reduce the impact of a large volume of meetings in the evenings.

This proposal was seconded, debated, voted on and carried with a vote of 9 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

ACTION - it was suggested by members that Democratic Services were to collect a record of Councillors availability for meeting times.

A proposal was made to accept the remaining two recommendations of the Monitoring Officer being delegated to draft some revised Licensing Procedure Rules and that the quorum of Worthing Borough Council's Licensing and Control Committees be set at 5 Members to reflect a third of the Committee membership rather than a quarter, to ensure fairness of process.

This proposal was seconded, debated and carried unanimously.

The meeting ended at 7.25 pm

Chair