

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

LICENSING ACT SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2016
2.00 - 3.28 pm in the Ludlow Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury,
Shropshire, SY2 6ND

Responsible Officer: Shelley Davies
Email: shelley.davies@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257718

Present

Councillors Peter Adams, Joyce Barrow and Keith Roberts

19 Election of Chairman

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Keith Roberts be elected Chairman of the Licensing Act Sub-Committee for the duration of the meeting.

20 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

21 Application for a Premises Licence - The Huntsman and Whipper Inn, 15 High Street, Much Wenlock, Shropshire TF13 6AA.

Consideration was given to an application for a Premises Licence in respect The Huntsman and Whipper Inn, 15 High Street, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, TF13 6AA.

Mr Richard Beaman (Applicant); Ms Annabel Beaman (Applicant's daughter); Ms Josephine Wylde (Interested Party); Ms Melanie Revolta (Interested Party); Ms Faith Smith (Interested Party); Mrs Marjorie Lee (Interested Party); Ms Louise Prince (Solicitor – Shropshire Council) and Mr Simon Ditton (Public Protection Officer - Specialist- Shropshire Council) were present.

Mr Beaman addressed the Sub-Committee stating that the premises was previously a coaching inn and he intended to revert the property back to this original use. Mr Beaman went on to outline his future plans for the business and noted he operated a bar and restaurant in Bridgnorth.

In response to questions from the Public Protection Officer (Specialist), Interested Parties and Members of the Sub-Committee Mr Beaman confirmed that:

- The planning department had not raised any objection verbally to reverting the property back to a coaching inn;
- He was advised to apply for a premises licence before planning approval due to the cost implications;

- He had included the outside space within the licensable area as it would enable the area to be properly monitored;
- The outside area would only be used occasionally to the times specified but was included in the application to allow flexibility and avoid the need to apply for Temporary Event Notices (TEN) for each event;
- He knew Much Wenlock well and would not introduce a business that was out of keeping with the area;
- The music inside the premises would be background in nature and any music outside would be kept to a reasonable level and time;
- The application included food to be served until 11.30pm to allow for an event such as evening wedding reception with a hog roast;
- He would book a suitable time slot for deliveries/bottle collection during the day and request a smaller vehicle;
- He was unsure at present in relation to the number of events but envisaged less than 20 in a year but more than the 12 entitled to through TEN;
- There was a large car park adjacent to the premises with around 40 parking spaces available; and
- He intended to hold wedding receptions inside but would imagine that on a summer day guests would probably want to sit outside afterwards.

The Public Protection Officer (Specialist) addressed the Sub-Committee, confirming that 16 representations had been received in relation the application and added that the Town Council had also raised concerns but were unable to attend the hearing.

In response to questions from the Interested Parties and Members of the Sub-Committee the Public Protection Officer (Specialist) confirmed that:

- Any conditions added to the licence in relation to live/recorded music would only apply from 11pm;
- If the applicant had stated that the music inside the premises was background in nature it should not be heard from nearby properties;
- Should any problems occur any Licence issued was subject to review; and
- The Council tried to resolve issues of this nature as informally as possible and were usually resolved before they got to the review stage.

Ms Wylde addressed the Sub-Committee explaining that her main concern with the application was the hours requested and stated that they were in conflict with the rural characteristics of the area.

Ms Revolta addressed the Sub-Committee explaining that due to the closeness of the premises to residential properties the application would have an adverse effect on residents. She added that she was unsure about what type of business was being proposed by the applicant.

Ms Smith addressed the Sub-Committee explaining that the premises was surrounded by residential properties and there was already disruption to residents from the other pubs and takeaways in the area. She noted that she was also concerned about any lighting that would be used in the outside area and car parking issues.

The Chairman invited all parties to sum up and make any final comments prior to the Sub-Committee making a decision on the application.

Members of the Sub-Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 3:11 p.m. and reconvened at 3:23 p.m. to announce their decision.

RESOLVED:

That the application for a Premises Licence for The Huntsman and the Whipper Inn, 15 High Street, Much Wenlock, Shropshire TF13 6AA be granted for the following days, hours and licensable activity:

Films - indoors

Monday to Sunday – 09:00 to 23:00

Live Music – indoors and outdoors

Monday to Sunday – 08:00 to 23:00

Recorded Music, Performance of Dance – indoors and outdoors

Monday to Sunday – 08:00 to 00:00

Provision of Late Night Refreshment - on and off the premises

Monday to Sunday 23:00 to 01:00

Supply of Alcohol - on and off the premises

Monday to Sunday – 08:00 to 01:00

Opening Hours

Monday to Sunday – 08:00 to 01:30

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

1. Colour digital CCTV system (covering both externally and internally) operating at all times licensable activities are taking place, the recordings are kept for a minimum of 31 days. Recordings will be made available in a viewable format to Shropshire Council or the police on request.
2. Security/burglar alarm operating at all times when premises are closed.
3. Staff training in licensing law, Challenge 25, conflict management to be received prior to effecting any alcohol sales. Training records retained. Annual refresher training for all staff responsible for alcohol sales to be undertaken.

Public Safety

1. Good quality lighting both outdoors and indoors, using sodium lights (reduce shadowing).
2. Emergency exits to be alarmed when premises open to public.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

1. Use of the outside patio/deck area facing High Street shall cease at 23:00.

2. Use of the outside courtyard area to the rear of the property, except for smoking in a designated smoking area, shall cease at 23:00 Sunday to Thursday and 23:30 on Friday and Saturday.
3. Recorded music to be background only.

Protection of Children from Harm

1. A Challenge 25 policy will be operated at the premises with notices informing of the policy being displayed within the premises. Those responsible for alcohol sale(s) must be trained on this policy. Regular refresher training to enforce this policy.
2. All alcohol sale refusals will be noted in a refusals register which will be available for inspection by an officer of a responsible authority on request.
3. Acceptable proof of identification will be a passport, photocard driving licence or recognised proof of age card.
4. Till prompts to remind staff to request proof of age.
5. A documented policy setting out measures to protect children from harm.

Reasons:

The Sub-Committee had considered all of the representations that had been made by all parties prior to the hearing and at the hearing. The Sub-Committee also took into account the Guidance issued under S182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and Shropshire Council's Licensing Policy.

The Sub-Committee had noted the concerns of Local Residents and understood their position. However, having considered the application in detail and the answers given by the applicant the Sub-Committee were satisfied that the applicant had taken appropriate steps to promote the licensing objectives and therefore granted the application as detailed above.

The parties were advised that the decision would be confirmed in writing within 7 days of the date of the hearing and that every party had the right of appeal against this decision to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of being notified of the decision.

Signed (Chairman)

Date: