

Licensing Hearing

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2024 commencing at 10.00 am

Present: Cllrs. Edwards-Winsor, Esler, and Haslam

Also Former Premises Licence Holder
Present: Current Premises Licence Holder
Senior Licensing Officer
Head of Licensing Partnership
Legal Officer
Democratic Services Officer
Kent Police Representatives

1. Appointment of Chairman

Resolved: That Councillor Esler be appointed as Chairman of the meeting.

(Cllr. Esler in the Chair)

2. Declarations of interest

There were none.

3. APPLICATION FOR THE EXPEDITED REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCE

The Hearing gave consideration to the report of the Senior Licensing Officer, which detailed an application for an expedited review of the premises licence under Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 (premises associated with serious crime and disorder). The panel were asked to consider whether interim steps were necessary, pending a full review hearing, taking into consideration the Senior Officer's Certificate, The Police Officers' representations, and the representations of the former and current Premises Licence Holder.

Resolved: That, under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that likely disclosure of exempt information is involved as defined by Schedule 12A, paragraph 7 (Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.)

The Panel heard from a representative of Kent Police, and the former and present licence holders, and asked questions of clarification, as contained within the confidential appendix to these minutes.

At 10:38 a.m., the Hearing Members withdrew to consider the issues raised, accompanied by the Council's Legal Advisor and the Clerk to the Hearing for the purposes of providing advice only.

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At 11:32 a.m. The Hearing Members, Council's Legal Advisor and the Clerk to the Hearing returned to the Council Chamber.

Members asked further questions of clarification, as detailed within the confidential appendix to these minutes.

The Chairman moved that the Premises Licence be suspended in full until the final disposal of the full review, and outlined the reasons for this, as contained within the confidential appendix to these minutes. She clarified that the "final disposal of the full review" meant until the decision of the full review had not been appealed, or until the disposal of such an appeal.

It was

Resolved: that the Premises Licence be suspended until the final disposal of the full review of the Licence.

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 11:37AM

CHAIRMAN

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Notice of determination of interim steps following an application for a summary review of a premises licence

To:

Of: Ephesus Restaurant, 57-59 High Street, Sevenoaks TN13 1JF

Ref: 24/00552/REVIEW

Sevenoaks District Council being the licensing authority, on 13 February 2024 received an application for the expedited review of a premises licence in respect of premises known as Ephesus Restaurant, 57-59 High Street, Sevenoaks TN13 1JF.

On, 15 February 2024 within 48 hours of receipt of the Chief Officer of Kent Police's application, a hearing was held to consider whether it was necessary to take interim steps, and having considered it the Council have determined as follows:

To suspend the Premises Licence, in full until the final disposal of the full review of the Licence (to be held within 28 days of the application being received):

For the following reasons: for the protection of the public pending the full review.

Dated: 16/02/2024

Please address any communications to:

The Licensing Partnership
Council Offices
PO Box 182
Argyle Road
Sevenoaks
Kent TN13 1GP

Note: Representations against the interim steps may be made to the above address and a further hearing held within a further 48 hours pursuant to Section 53B(6).

