

CITY OF DURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on Friday 14th August at 14:00 via Zoom.

Present: Councillors L Brown, E Ashby, R Cornwell, A Doig and D Freeman.
Also present: A Shanley (Clerk) and Inspector Siobhan Jones (Durham Police).

Cllr L Brown in the Chair

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr C Reeves.

2. To receive any declarations of interest from members

None received.

3. To receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting on 3 July 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2020 were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

4. To receive any public participation comments on the following agenda items.

None received.

5. Discussion with Durham Police Harm Reduction Unit on licensing matters in Durham City

The Chair welcomed Inspector Siobhan Jones from Durham Police Constabulary's Harm Reduction Unit to the meeting.

Siobhan began her remarks by stating that overall across the City, there has been a very good level of compliance to Covid-19 and the Police are not seeing as high a level of anti-social behaviour as they usually do in the City.

Siobhan advised that her team at Durham Police had worked very closely with DCC and a number of the licensed premises in the City to ensure that they all have a Covid-19 plan in the run up to the 4th July reopening from lockdown. Siobhan advised that there was some concern in the run up to "Super Saturday" about drunken behaviour, breaches of social distancing and anti-social behaviour, however Siobhan advised that not a great deal of this sort of behaviour had been witnessed to date and members of the public were being sensible.

Siobhan advised that it was not the role of the Police to ensure that licensed premises were adhering to Government guidelines, e.g. on social distancing; that role was for Environmental Health to carry out.

Siobhan advised that the Police had done some targeted work particularly with the night club owners to ensure compliance; night clubs are currently not able to open as night clubs but are permitted to put tables and chairs on dance floors and operate as a pub.

Siobhan also advised that the Police were working closely with Durham University to try and prevent any large-scale events from taking place.

Siobhan also advised that the Government's new Business and Planning Bill has now come into law which allowed premises with on sales the ability to also do off sales up until 11pm.

The Chair asked what this Bill's impact would be for the PSPO which currently exists in Durham City which allows authorities to seize alcohol when being consumed by a member of the public in the street.

Siobhan advised that the PSPO is still in place and is another tool for the police to be able to use to prevent ASB in the city. Siobhan also advised that alcohol could only be sold off premises if it were in a sealed container.

Cllr R Cornwell expressed a concern that the restrictions on numbers etc at licensed premises may lead to people attending house parties within the city; something which has a detrimental impact on neighbouring residential properties. Siobhan asked if the Clerk could contact Jason Mole at Durham Police about this as he is leading on this work and this does not sit within the remit of Siobhan's team.

Cllr E Ashby thanked Siobhan for her excellent report to the Parish Council ahead of the meeting regarding an operation with a police sniffer dog in a number of licensed premises. Cllr E Ashby asked if this is something which the Parish Council could fund on an enhanced basis. Siobhan advised that this would be very welcome and she was actually intending to contact the Parish Council about this in any case. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should contact Siobhan and seek information on costs for this so that a proposal for funding could be put to Full Council.

The Chair asked if Durham Police would also be making a representation on the recent application by the Champagne Bar to have an outdoor seating area in Millennium Place. Siobhan advised that she would look into this.

The Chair thanked Siobhan for her time and for attending the meeting. At this point in the meeting, Siobhan left the meeting.

6. Update on recent licensing applications

The Clerk advised that the Minor variation application for Jimmy Allens had been refused.

The Clerk also advised that the new premises license application for OiSaki Kitchen had been granted.

The Clerk also advised that he had received notification of a new tables and chairs licensing application from DCC relating to the Champagne Bar and, as per the new rules set out in the Business and Planning Bill, the Parish Council now has only 5 days in which to make a representation on this application.

Cllr R Cornwell highlighted that planning applications to permit the use of this area had all been refused and that a current planning application for this use is pending consideration but the Parish Council Planning Committee had objected.

It was **agreed** to object to this application on the grounds of public safety.

It was also **agreed** that new tables and chairs licensing applications should be considered in writing if a meeting were not possible to be called within the 5 day

consultation period and then any decision on new applications be ratified at the next available meeting.

7. To consider the following licensing applications:

Coviello Limited - Coviello Coffee and Barber, 24 Silver Street. Durham. DH1 3RD

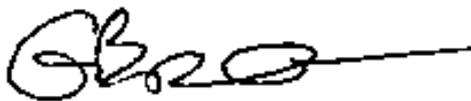
It was **agreed** to seek further clarity on a number of aspects of the application; notably the proposed starting time for licensable activities, what age verification policy is being applied and what the maximum capacity is going to be for the premises. The Committee agreed that it was minded to object to the application depending on the outcome of these enquiries with the licensing authority.

Northern Dishes Limited - Flip and Stack Co, Unit 23. Riverwalk. Durham. DH1 4SL

It was **agreed** to object to this application on the grounds of public nuisance and crime and disorder.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked all for their attendance and contribution and closed the meeting.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Bro', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Chair of the City of Durham Parish Council Licensing Committee