

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Friday, 9th September 2005 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Miss D. H. Campbell, A. J. Dent (substituting for Mrs. R. L. Dent) and G. H. R. Hulett

Also in attendance were Mr. M. Houle (Area Manager, Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries plc); Mr. and Mrs. C. Bull (Licensees of Hopwood House), Mr. D. Morrison and Mrs. E. Childs (local residents).

34/05 **APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs. R. L. Dent.

35/05 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED: that Councillor G. H. R. Hulett be elected as Chairman for the Meeting.

36/05 **PROCEDURE**

The Chairman opened the hearing and introduced Members of the Sub-Committee and Officers present to the applicant and other parties present.

The Chairman invited the other parties present to identify themselves, so that all parties were able to satisfy themselves that no person who may be in a position to influence the Sub-Committee, remained in the room when the Sub-Committee deliberated their decision at the conclusion of the hearing.

The Chairman reminded all parties of the procedure to be adhered to during the hearing and that those parties present could be represented by a legal representative at their own expense or by a Ward Councillor.

37/05 **REPORT OF THE HEAD OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES RELATING TO NON-CONFIDENTIAL AND NON-EXEMPT ITEMS**

The Report of the Head of Administrative Services relating to non-confidential and non-exempt items was submitted.

Arising therefrom:

(1) **APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE – HOPWOOD HOUSE, REDDITCH ROAD, HOPWOOD**

The Sub-Committee considered an application for the variation of a Premises Licence in respect of Hopwood House, Redditch Road, Hopwood. The application was subject to a hearing in light of a number of letters of objection received from local residents expressing their concerns in relation to the proposed extension of hours during which the premises would be able to retail alcohol, late night refreshment and the provision of regulated entertainment as set out in the variation application as follows:

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE
9th September 2005
10.00 am

- 10.00 a.m. – 12 midnight on every Monday to Thursday (inclusive);
- 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 a.m. into the morning following every Friday and Saturday;
- 11.00 a.m. – 12 midnight on every Sunday;
- 11.00 a.m. – 11.30 p.m. on Christmas Day;
- New Years Eve from 10.00 a.m. until the start of the permitted hours on New Years Day.

Mr. Houle, the Area Manager, put forward the case on behalf of the applicant. He stated that the day-to-day running of the public house would not change significantly and the extension in hours would only be used to give greater flexibility.

Representations were also received from Mr. Morrison and Mrs. Childs, local residents, who were given an opportunity to voice their concerns.

Following consideration of the representations put forward by all parties, it was

RESOLVED: that the application for the granting of the variation of a Premises Licence in respect of the Hopwood House, Redditch Road, Hopwood be granted subject to the following conditions:

- (i) that signs be placed at the exit of the premises and in the car park advising patrons to leave in a quiet and orderly manner;
- (ii) that the Licensee write to local taxi firms to request they ask their drivers not to sound their horns when collecting passengers from the premises; and
- (iii) that the gate to the entrance of the car park remains shut during the closing hours of the premises.

The Sub-Committee advised Mr. Bull, Licensee, to continue to monitor the car park, as well as explore the possibility of installing CCTV in the future.

Communication between local residents and the licensee was also encouraged by the Sub-Committee.

The decision taken by the Sub-Committee was based on the fact that they listened very carefully to the representations made by the applicant and local residents. Furthermore, it was considered that granting the application with the above conditions was consistent with the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the four licensing objectives.

The Meeting closed at 12.00 p.m.

Chairman