

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY, 5TH JANUARY 2012 AT 6.00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. R. L. Dent (Chairman), Mrs. C. J. Spencer (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. J. M. Boswell, J. R. Boulter, Ms. M. T. Buxton, S. J. Dudley, K. A. Grant-Pearce, Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths (substituting for P. J. Whittaker), Mrs. H. J. Jones, R. J. Shannon, S. P. Shannon and L. J. Turner

Invitees: Councillor C. B. Taylor, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Core Strategy, Regulatory Services and Strategic Housing

Officers: Mrs. C. Felton, Mrs. A. Heighway, Mrs. S. Sellers, Mr. C. Santoriello-Smith and Mrs. P. Ross

16/11 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Miss P. Harrison and P. J. Whittaker.

17/11 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

18/11 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 12th December 2011 were submitted.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

19/11 **UPDATE REPORT RE: REVIEW OF DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACE ORDERS**

The Committee considered a report that provided Members with an updated position following the Licensing Committee meeting held on 12th December 2011.

The Senior Community Safety Project Officer introduced the report and in doing so informed the Committee that during the Licensing Committee meeting held on 12th December 2011 it had become clear from the representations made at this meeting there was a need to engage with the community further in respect of their understanding of the purpose of a Designated Public Place Order (DPPO). Further representations received

from the Hagley and Rubery DPPO consultation exercise facilitated by Bromsgrove District Council's Community Safety Team had highlighted that there was a misunderstanding as to the exact purpose of a DPPO. Community members had wrongly referred to the DPPO as an alcohol free zone. It was also clear that members of the public believed that where DPPOs existed there was a blanket ban on the consumption of alcohol.

Members were therefore asked to consider a revised programme for the review of the District DPPOs in order for time to be built into the process to enable officers to undertake a more detailed and widespread public awareness raising campaign. The Senior Community Safety Project Officer informed the Committee that, where consultation had already taken place or was currently underway, all responses received would be used to assist officers in detailing the appropriate methods for conducting their programme of community awareness raising.

Members were asked to note that officers would be undertaking a programme to replace the current signage displayed within the existing areas covered by DPPOs throughout the District. The replacement of the existing signage with updated signage would enable the DPPO powers to be exercised in the proper manner should circumstances arise that would require the police to deal with adults who were drinking in areas affected by the order in an anti social manner.

Following further discussion it was:

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) that the current review programme of Designated Public Place Orders be suspended:
- (b) that officers be tasked to undertake a comprehensive programme of raising public awareness as detailed in the report; and
- (c) that officers be tasked to report back to the Licensing Committee in 3 months' time detailing how this would be achieved and the impact this would have on the overall DPPO review.

The meeting closed at 6.20 p.m.

Chairman