

Body: Licensing Sub Committee
Date: 8th June 2010
Subject: Application For a Premises Licence - A One Stores, 106 Firle Road, Eastbourne
Report Of: Karen Plympton, Licensing Manager
Ward(s) Devonshire
Purpose To determine an application for a new premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003.
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1.0 Introduction & Background

- 1.1 An application has been received by Eastbourne Borough Council's, Licensing Team, for the premises to be known as A One Stores, 106 Firle Road, Eastbourne.
- 1.2 The premises was formerly a Nail Bar on the corner of Firle Road and Cavendish Avenue and has recently been converted into a convenience store selling newspapers and sundries.
- 1.3 Alcohol will be supplied for consumption off the premises if the premises licence is granted.

2.0 The Application

- 2.1 An application for grant of a new premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 has been sought for the following activities:

Section M – Supply of Alcohol (Off the premises)

06:00 – 23:00 hours Monday – Saturday
10:00 – 22:00 hours Sunday

Section O – Open to the Public

06:00 – 23.00 hours Monday – Saturday
10:00 – 22:00 hours Sunday

- 2.2 Further to the application, the applicant has subsequently written a letter for the attention of the residents making representations, to apologise for the conduct of their contractors; this letter can be seen at Appendix 4.

3.0 Licensing Objectives

- 3.1 When submitting an application for a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003, the applicant is required to describe any steps; they intend to take to promote the four Licensing Objectives as defined by the Licensing Act 2003. The applicants' declaration can be seen within Section P of the application form,

the proposed operating schedule. The full application form is included at Appendix 1.

- 3.2 A layout plan of the premises and map indicating the location of "interested parties" is included at Appendix 2.

4.0 Consultation Process

- 4.1 The Licensing Act 2003 requires applicants to advertise both on the premises and in a local newspaper in order to inform the public of the application. A number of "Responsible Authorities" are also consulted as part of the process, allowing a consultation period of 28 days for representations to be made. In this instance, as a result of the consultation process, representations have been received.

5.0 The Decision Making Process - The Licensing Objectives

- 5.1 In their decision making, the Licensing Sub Committee must act to promote the four Licensing Objectives. All carry equal weight as part of the process. The licensing objectives are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

6.0 Eastbourne Borough Council's Statement of Licensing Policy

Copies previously circulated as reference material to committees. Can also be located at www.eastbourne.gov.uk/licensing

- 6.1 Whilst each application will be considered on its merits, the Licensing Committee will have due regard for the Eastbourne Borough Council Licensing Statement, Section 182 Guidance issued in respect of the Licensing Act 2003, as revised, and the promotion of the 4 Licensing Objectives.

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Eastbourne Borough Council's Statement of Licensing Policy states that the Operating Schedule should include steps to ensure the deterrence and prevention of crime and disorder on and in the vicinity of premises. The restriction of types of licensable activity, hours and imposition of conditions may be considered and applied as appropriate.

Public Safety

The Statement of Licensing Policy states that the Operating Schedule should include steps to ensure the physical safety of patrons. This might include the imposition of conditions regarding capacity and mechanisms to promote responsible drinking. The restriction of types of licensable activity, hours and imposition of conditions may be considered and applied as appropriate.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

The Statement of Licensing Policy states that within the Operating Schedule, applicants will be required to demonstrate how they intend to prevent nuisance

arising, disturbance occurring and mechanisms to protect amenities. The restriction of types of licensable activity, hours and imposition of conditions may be considered and applied as appropriate.

Protection of children from harm

The Statement of Licensing Policy requires that operating plans must specify the measures and management controls in place to protect children from harm. Conditions can be placed to restrict access to children from accessing the premises during certain times or when certain licensable activities are taking place. The restriction of types of licensable activity, hours and imposition of conditions may be considered and applied as appropriate.

7.0 Representations

7.1 A full copy of all representations is included at Appendix 3, however a summary appears below. All those making representations are entitled to attend the hearing in support of their case.

Interested Parties

- Eastbourne Working Men's Club – a Members Club in the vicinity, made a representation under the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and public nuisance Licensing Objectives.
- Councillor Wallis – As a Councillor in his own right and Ward Councillor representing residents living in the vicinity, has made representations under the prevention of crime and disorder and prevention of public nuisance Licensing Objectives.
- A covering letter from Councillor Wallis, and petition signed by 184 residents claiming to reside in the vicinity of the premises has been submitted. In some instances, it has not been possible to identify whether signatories live in the vicinity, due to the absence of an address or information being illegible. The Licensing Team have determined that 67 signatories met the general test of "living in the vicinity of the premises" since they reside within a 100 metre radius of the premises, and are therefore considered valid representations.

Letters have been sent out to the 117 residents who reside outside of the 100 metre radius zone surrounding the premises explaining that since they do not fall within the direct vicinity of the premises, their representations are excluded.

- Mr and Mrs Haffenden as residents living in the vicinity have made a separate representation under the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and public nuisance licensing objectives.

They also signed the petition and are part of the 67 valid signatories, but should be considered as one single representation as opposed to two opportunities to object.

- A resident living in the vicinity of the premises has made a separate representation under all of the Licensing Objectives. She also signed the petition and is part of the 67 valid signatories, but should be considered as one single representation as opposed to two opportunities.

- Mr P Cullen as a resident living in the vicinity of the premises has made a separate representation under all four of the Licensing Objectives. He also signed the petition and is part of the 67 valid signatories but it should be considered as one single representation as opposed to two opportunities to object.

Representations from Responsible Authorities

- **Sussex Police** – No representations
- **Planning Department, Eastbourne Borough Council** – No representations
- **Health and Environment Noise Team, Eastbourne Borough Council** – No representations
- **East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service** – No representations
- **Council Health and Safety Department** – No representations
- **Area Child Protection Team, East Sussex** – No representations
- **Trading Standards, East Sussex County Council** – No representations

- 7.2 Regard will be had to any likelihood of noise, nuisance, crime and disorder at the site or in the vicinity of the site. In addition, issues impacting upon public safety and strategies to protect children from harm need to be considered
- 7.3 The Sub Committee may consider other matters that may negatively impact upon the Licensing Objectives. The Committee may exercise their powers to impose conditions, or take the appropriate action as they see fit in order to promote the Licensing Objectives.
- 7.4 In determining what, if any, conditions should be attached to a licence, these should only be attached where it is considered appropriate, to support and promote the licensing objectives. Only necessary, proportionate and reasonable conditions should be imposed on a case by case basis.
- 7.5 The Licensing Committee has previously been provided with a "Pool of Licensing Conditions," which can be attached accordingly. The Applicant, Responsible Authorities and Licensing Manager may also suggest conditions to address concern and promote the Licensing Objectives.

8.0 Options open to the Sub Committee

- 8.1 The Sub Committee must have regard to the following:
- The proposed Operating Schedule, forming part of the application process.
 - Statutory Guidance as amended under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.
 - Eastbourne Borough Councils Licensing Statement previously provided to the Licensing Committee as reference material.
 - Representations from the Premises Licence Holder and/or the Designated Premises Supervisor
 - Representations from any "Responsible Authority"
 - Representations from "Interested Parties."

- 8.2 The Licensing Sub Committee must take the steps it considers necessary for the promotion of the Licensing Objectives and may:
- Grant the application in full as requested
 - Grant the application but modify it:
 - by altering hours or activities
 - Adding conditions, or
 - Omit parts as necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
 - Reject the whole or part of the application

9.0 Legal Considerations

- 9.1 The framework for the issue, variation and/or modification to applications made under the Licensing Act 2003. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport has issued Guidance under Section 182 of the Act 2003, as revised. This guidance is provided to assist the Authority in carrying out their functions. Furthermore, the Licensing Sub Committee must have due regard for the Eastbourne Licensing Policy Statement.
- 9.2 An applicant, Responsibility Authority, or "interested party," as defined by the Licensing Act 2003 has a 21 day right of appeal to the Magistrates Court against the decision of a Sub Committee.

10.0 Human Rights

- 10.1 The provisions of the Human Rights Act, 1998, must be borne in mind by the Committee when taking licensing decisions under the Licensing Act, 2003. Particular regard should be had to Article 1 of the First Protocol, which relates to the protection of property and the peaceful enjoyment of possessions and property. Article 8 - which relates to the right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence - should also be borne in mind. While the Human Rights Act makes it unlawful for a local authority to act or to fail to act in a way that is incompatible with a Convention right, Article 1 of the First Protocol and Article 8 are both qualified rights which means that interference - to a justifiable extent - may be permitted as long as what is done:
- Has a basis in law;
 - Is intended to pursue a legitimate purpose
 - Is necessary and proportionate; and
 - Is not discriminatory.

Background Material

- Licensing Act 2003
- LACORS Guidance – Committee Hearings
- As revised, Section 182 Statutory Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003
- Licensing Act 2003 Hearing and Regulations
- Eastbourne Borough Council Licensing Statement 2009 - ` 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998