

MINUTES OF LICENSING PANEL MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2017

Present:

Councillors

Hunter

Hutton

Scott

In Attendance:

Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Support Manager

Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Service

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

The Licensing Panel considered the appointment of a Chairman for the meeting.

Resolved:

That Councillor Hutton be appointed Chairman for the meeting.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST - LICENSING

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

3 PROCEDURE FOR THE MEETING

The Chairman explained the procedure for the meeting including that an equal time limit of thirty minutes had been allocated for all parties.

4 APPLICATION FOR THE REVIEW OF A PREMISES LICENCE- AL AMIR

The Licensing Panel considered an application for the review of the Premises Licence in respect Al Amir, Talbot Road. The application had been submitted by the Health and Safety, and supported by Lancashire Constabulary.

Mr Mark Marshall presented the application for the review on behalf of Health and Safety. He confirmed that the health and safety issues identified had now been addressed by the Licence Holder. The issue that remained was the incident during the inspection on the 24 November 2016 when a possibly illegal worker had been left in control of the premises and then fled the premises during the inspection. Mr Marshall raised concerns regarding this incident especially given the enforcement authorities had subsequently been left in control of the premises and the disregard for the Licensing Objectives. In response to questions Mr Marshall outlined that before the incident the enforcement authorities had not previously had concerns regarding the premises.

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Sgt Helen Parkinson from Lancashire Constabulary and confirmed the Police had the same concerns as the Health and Safety authority.

Mr Rashid (Designated Premises Supervisor), Mrs Rashid (Licence Holder) were in attendance accompanied by their solicitor Mr Michael Woosnam. Mr Woosnam highlighted the Licence Holder's previous good conduct and explained that the incident had been an error of judgement on the night. In response to questions Mr Rashid confirmed that the member of staff had been paid £5 an hour cash in hand and admitted he knew that to be below the minimum wage.

The Panel expressed serious concerns as to the operation given Mr Rashid's admission that the member of staff had been employed illegally. It considered a range of alternative options but considered the only way to promote the licensing objectives in the future was to revoke the licence.

Resolved:

That the Premises Licence in respect of Al Amir, Talbot Road be revoked.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 11.15 am)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
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