

Meeting:	Regulatory sub-committee
Meeting date:	7 February 2017
Title of report:	Application for a new premises licence in respect of 'Europe Quality Food, 29 Brookend Street, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 7EE' – Licensing Act 2003
Report by:	Licensing officer

Classification

Open

Key Decision

This is not an executive decision.

Wards Affected

Ross East

Purpose

To consider an application for a new premises licence in respect of 'Europe Quality Food, 29 Brookend Street, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 7EE'.

Recommendation

THAT:

The sub-committee determine the application with a view to promoting the licensing objectives in the overall interests of the local community. They should give appropriate weight to:

- The steps that are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives,
- The representations (including supporting information) presented by all parties,
- The guidance issued to local authorities under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, and
- The Herefordshire Council statement of licensing policy 2015 - 2020.

Options

1. There are a number of options open to the sub-committee:
 - a) Grant the licence subject to conditions that are consistent with the operating schedule accompanying the application and the mandatory conditions set out in the Licensing Act 2003,
 - b) Grant the licence subject to modified conditions to that of the operating schedule where the committee considers it appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and add mandatory conditions set out in the Licensing Act 2003,
 - c) To exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates,
 - d) To refuse to specify a person in the licence as the premise supervisor, or
 - e) To reject the application.

Reasons for Recommendations

2. Ensures compliance with the Licensing Act 2003.

Key Considerations

Licence Application

3. The application (appendix a) for a new premises licence has received representation and is brought before the sub-committee for determination.

Summary of Application

4. The details of the application are:

Applicant	Monika Plevyte 6 Maverdine Court, Gloucester, GL1 2PW	
Solicitor	N/K	
Type of application: New	Date received: 14th December 2016	28 Days consultation ended 10th January 2017

5. The application requests that:

Supply of Alcohol (Off premises)
1000 – 2100 All days

Non Standard Timings: None

Summary of Representations

6. Two (2) representations has been received from the Responsible Authorities (trading standards [appendix b] and the police [appendix c]). Both the police and trading standards object to these premises being granted a licence.
7. The matter is brought before sub-committee for determination.

Community Impact

8. Any decision is unlikely to have any impact on the local community.

Equality duty and Human Rights

9. There are no equality issues in relation to the content of this report.
10. This report has human rights implications for both the premises licence holder and the residents from the local neighbourhood. Any of the steps outlined in section 1 of this report may have financial implications for a licensee's business and livelihood and/or may have impact upon the day to day lives of residents living in close proximity to the premises.
11. Article 8(i) of the European Convention of Human Rights provides that everyone has the right to respect for his/her private and family life and his/her home (which includes business premises). This right may be interfered with by the council on a number of grounds including the protection of rights and freedoms of others. The First Protocol – Article 1 – also provides that every person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions and shall not be deprived of his possessions except in the public interest and conditions provided for by law. Members must accordingly make a decision which is proportionate to the hearing and endeavour to find a balance between the rights of the applicant, residents and the community as a whole.

Financial implications

12. There are unlikely to be any financial implications for the authority at this time.

Legal Implications

13. Section 4(1) of the Licensing Act 2003 states that a Licensing Authority must carry out its function under the Act with a view to promoting the licensing objectives, namely:-
 - (a) the prevention of crime and disorder;
 - (b) public safety;
 - (c) the prevention of public nuisance;
 - (d) the protection of children from harm.
14. Section 18 of the Licensing Act 2003 provides that where a relevant licensing authority receives an application for a premises licence properly made in accordance with section 17 of the Act it must grant the licence, subject to any relevant conditions. However, where relevant representations are made the authority must hold a hearing (unless all parties agree this is unnecessary) and having regard to the representations,

take such of the following steps as it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

15. The steps are:
 1. to grant the licence subject to conditions
 2. to exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates
 3. to refuse to specify a person as a premises supervisor
 4. to reject the application
16. The general duties imposed on Licensing Authorities means proper consideration must be given to the Licensing Objectives when determining a premises licence application.
17. Regard shall be had to guidance issued by the Secretary of State under Section 182 and Herefordshire Council's Licensing Policy.
18. The Committee should also be aware of a number of stated cases which have appeared before the Administrative Court and are binding on the Licensing Authority.
19. The case of Daniel Thwaites Plc v Wirral Borough Magistrates' Court (Case No: CO/5533/2006) at the High Court of Justice Queen's Bench Division Administrative Court on 6 May 2008, [2008] EWHC 838 (Admin), 2008 WL 1968943, Before the Honourable Mrs Justice Black.
19. In this case it was summed up that:-

A licensing authority must have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182. Licensing authorities may depart from it if they have reason to do so but will need to give full reasons for their actions.
20. Furthermore the Thwaites case established that only conditions should be attached to a licence with a view to promoting the Licensing objectives and that 'real evidence' must be presented to support the reason for imposing these conditions.
21. This judgement is further supported in the case of The Queen on the Application of Bristol Council v Bristol Magistrates' Court, CO/6920/2008 High Court of Justice Queen's Bench Division The Administrative Court, 24 February 2009, [2009] EWHC 625 (Admin) 2009 WL 648859 in which it was said:

'Licensing authorities should only impose conditions which are necessary and proportionate for the promotion for licensing objectives'.
22. In addition to this it was stated that any condition attached to the licence should be an enforceable condition.

Right of Appeal

23. Schedule 5 gives a right of appeal which states:

Decision to grant premises licence or impose conditions etc.

- 2 (1) This paragraph applies where a licensing authority grants a premises licence under section 18.
- (2) The holder of the licence may appeal against any decision—
 - (a) to impose conditions on the licence under subsection (2)(a) or (3)(b) of that section, or
 - (b) to take any step mentioned in subsection (4)(b) or (c) of that section (exclusion of licensable activity or refusal to specify person as premises supervisor).
- (3) Where a person who made relevant representations in relation to the application desires to contend—
 - (a) that the licence ought not to have been granted, or
 - (b) that, on granting the licence, the licensing authority ought to have imposed different or additional conditions, or to have taken a step mentioned in subsection (4)(b) or (c) of that section, he may appeal against the decision.
- (4) In sub-paragraph (3) “relevant representations” has the meaning given in section 18(6).

Risk Management

24. There is little risk associated with the decision at this time as the legislation allows a right of appeal to the Magistrates Court within a period of 21 days of being notified of the decision in writing.

Consultees

25. All responsible authorities and members of the public living within Herefordshire.

Appendices

Appendix A - application form
Appendix B - trading standards representation
Appendix C - police representation

Background Papers

None