

Meeting:	Regulatory sub-committee
Meeting date:	7 February 2017
Title of report:	Application for a variation of a premises licence in respect of 'Royal Hotel, Royal Parade, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 5HZ' – Licensing Act 2003
Report by:	Licensing officer

Classification

Open

Key Decision

This is not an executive decision.

Wards Affected

Ross West

Purpose

To consider a variation of a premises licence in respect of 'Royal Hotel, Royal Parade, Ross-On-Wye, HR9 5HZ'.

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 sub-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 variation of premises licence has received representation and is brought before the committee for determination. A copy of the existing licence is attached at appendix b

Summary of Application

4. The details of the application are:

Applicant	Greene King Retailing Ltd Westgate Brewery, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1QT	
Solicitor	N/K	
Type of application: Variation	Date received: 7th December 2016	28 Days consultation ended 3rd January 2017

5. The application requests that:

the premises licence plan be extended to include the outside patio area. There is no change of hours or the licensable activities.

Summary of Representations

6. One (1) representations has been received from the Responsible Authorities (trading standards [appendix C]). They request that 3 conditions be attached to the licence.
7. It appears that the applicant has not engaged with the responsible authority to try and negotiate the representation made.

The matter is brought before sub-committee for determination as the representation remains outstanding.

Community Impact

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

Equality duty

10. There are no equality or human rights issues in relation to the content of this report.

Financial implications

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

Legal Implications

12. The Committee should be aware of a number of stated cases which have appeared before the Administrative Court and are binding on the licensing authority.
13. 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.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. 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'.
17. In addition to this it was stated that any condition attached to the licence should be an enforceable condition.

Right of Appeal

18. 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

19. 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

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

Appendices

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| Appendix A | Application form |
| Appendix B | Current premises licence |
| Appendix C | Trading standards representation |

Background Papers

None.