

MINUTES of the meeting of Regulatory Sub Committee held at The Council Chamber, Brockington, 35 Hafod Road, Hereford on Wednesday 6 October 2010 at 10.00 am

Present: Councillor JW Hope MBE (Chairman)

Councillors: SPA Daniels and JHR Goodwin

22. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor JW Hope MBE was elected as Chairman.

23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

24. NAMED SUBSTITUTES (IF ANY)

There were no substitutes present at the meeting.

25. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

26. EXPEDITED / SUMMARY LICENCE REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCE: THE CROWN & SCEPTRE INN, MARKET PLACE, ROSS-ON-WYE, HR9 5NX

The Regulatory Sub-Committee was convened in order to determine an application for an expedited review of a premises licence for the Crown & Sceptre, Ross on Wye. The Review had been applied for by Superintendent Charles Hill, representing West Mercia Police. The review related to the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder.

The Chairman introduced the Members and Officers and asked any interested parties to introduce themselves. The following interested party was noted:

- James Mooney (Representing the Applicant for the Review)

The Chairman advised Mr Mooney of the hearing procedures and asked if he required an extension to the 10 minute time limit for public speaking, no extension to the time limit was requested.

The Licensing Officer presented his report. He advised Members that the Designated Premises Supervisor had received notification of the hearing. He added that an agenda had been sent to the home address of the DPS by recorded delivery.

In accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005, James Mooney, representing West Mercia Police who had requested the review, addressed the sub-committee. He requested that the Sub-Committee suspend the premises licence in accordance with section 53A of the Licensing Act due to the high number of crime and disorder incidents that had occurred in or around the premises. This had culminated in a large scale disorder near the premises on Saturday 2 October 2010. He added that during the incident Police Officers had entered the premises and were obstructed from making an

arrest by patrons of the public house, the front door of the premises had also been closed preventing additional Officers from entering the premises to assist their colleagues.

Mr Mooney advised Members that since January 2010 there had been 20 incidents of crime and disorder in or in the vicinity of the Crown & Sceptre which had resulted in 9 arrests.

In response to a question, Mr Mooney confirmed that the premises had been visited by the Police and the Council's Licensing Officer in a joint visit on 15 September 2010. The purpose of this visit was to address concerns raised by the local policing team and to offer guidance and support to Miss Claire Dean who was in the process of taking over the lease from Mr Cousen, the Designated Premises Supervisor.

RESOLVED

That the premise licence in respect of The Crown & Sceptre, Market Place, Ross on Wye, HR9 5NX be suspended as an interim step pending a full review of the premises to take place within 28 days of the application date.

The meeting ended at 10.30 am

CHAIRMAN

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
**REGULATORY COMMITTEE DECISION NOTICE
(THE LICENSING ACT 2003)**

PREMISES	The Crown & Sceptre Inn
DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR	Nicholas Cousens
APPLICANT'S NAME	West Mercia Police
APPLICATION TYPE	Summary Review
PANEL MEMBERS	Councillor JW Hope MBE (Chairman) Councillor SPA Daniels Councillor JHR Goodwin
DATE OF MEETING	6 October 2010

Members of the Licensing Panel of the Council's Regulatory Committee considered the above application, full details of which appeared before the Members in their agenda and the background papers.

Prior to making their decision the Members heard from James Mooney, representing West Mercia Police. The Committee noted that the premises licence holder was not present but received confirmation that the papers had been served by recorded delivery on Mr Cousens.

Having carefully considered those matters brought before them and in reaching their decision, the Members had full regard to both the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended by the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006) and the Council's Licensing Policy. The Members made the following decisions in order to promote the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder.

DECISION

- 1 It is the decision of the Committee that the premises licence for the Crown & Sceptre Inn be suspended forthwith subject to further review.

REASON

- 1 The Committee has found that there has been serious disorder at the premises and has made its decision having heard evidence from West Mercia Police and in accordance with the guidance issued under Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 as amended. The Committee therefore decided that to promote the licensing objective of Crime and Disorder the licence should be suspended.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 1 The Committee is required to review the premises licence in full within 28 days of the application for a summary licence review made on 4 October 2010.

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**REGULATORY COMMITTEE DECISION NOTICE
(THE LICENSING ACT 2003)**

- 2 The Licensee may make representations to the licensing authority in respect of the interim steps at any stage prior to the review. These representations must be heard by Committee within 48 hours (When calculating the 48 hour period any non-working day will be disregarded).
- 3 There is no right of appeal to a magistrates' court against the licensing authority's decision at this stage.