

DRAFT REPORT OF THE REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Held on 17th June, 2003

Membership:

Councillors: R.I. Matthews (Chairman), Mrs. S.P.A. Daniels, G.W. Davis, D.J. Fleet, J.W. Hope, T.W. Hunt, Brig. P. Jones CBE, G. Lucas, J.W. Newman, R. Preece, D.C. Taylor, P.G. Turpin.

VICE CHAIRMAN

1. The Committee were advised that Councillor J.G.S Guthrie had been appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee at the annual meeting of Council. It noted that since that meeting Councillor Guthrie had decided not to take up his seat on the Committee, thus causing a vacancy for Vice-Chairman.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

That Councillor Brig P. Jones CBE be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Regulatory Committee for the ensuing Council Year.

PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING – APPLICATIONS WHICH REQUEST A DEVIATION FROM POLICY.

2. The Committee considered three applications for Occasional Public Entertainment Licences requesting a finishing time of later than that of 0100 hours, which is set out in the Council's Licensing Policies.
3. Each applicant was given the opportunity to present their case, as were Officers of the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Department.
4. Comments were also considered from the West Mercia Constabulary and the Fire Authority. The Committee was mindful of the implications of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the fact that the finishing time was in place to protect the local community and individuals from disturbance by night time events within the County.
5. Having considered all the facts in relation to each application, the Committee took note of the Council's policies but was of the view that the applicants had given satisfactory evidence to suggest that the events would be well supervised in a responsible manner. It was clear that the applicants had gone to considerable lengths to ensure that there would only be a minimum amount of noise and nuisance caused for local residents. The applicants had held similar events in previous years and there had been no complaints from the public, West Mercia Constabulary or from the Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards.
6. It was therefore decided that the following extension of hours should be granted, subject to conditions to be imposed by the Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards, but only because of the exceptional circumstances involved in each application.
 - (i) Eardisley and District Young Farmers Club Summer Ball – 8.00 pm to 2.00 am on 21st June 2003 at Willersley Court Farm, Willersley, Eardisley;

- (ii) Luctonians Rugby Football Club Summer Ball – 8.30 pm to 3.30 am on 18th July, 2003 at Mortimer Park, Kingsland;
- (iii) The Big Chill Festival – finishing time of 2.00 am on 1st and 2nd August 2003 and 1.00 am on 3rd August 2003 at Eastnor Castle, Deer Park, Ledbury (The applicants were also granted an Occasional Cinema licence to 6.00 am on 3rd August 2003 at the same venue)

CARAVAN SITE LICENCE CONDITIONS

- 7. At its previous meeting the Committee had agreed to new standard Caravan Site licence conditions as part as a programme of rationalising the licensing arrangements inherited from the predecessor authorities. The conditions relate to permanent residential homes, holiday caravans, touring caravans and single residential/holiday caravans and their sites.
- 8. Subsequent inspections of licensed sites by the Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards had revealed that there were certain practical difficulties in licence fees immediately complying with all the conditions. The Committee has therefore agreed to recommendations from the Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards that some flexibility should be afforded within the Licensing Conditions with the effect that the licensees of caravan sites have three years to comply with the Council's licensing conditions in relation to existing combustible sheds and enclosed porches and the space between existing mobile homes. All new or replacement caravans and sheds will need to comply with the new licence conditions with immediate effect.

RENEWAL OF LICENCE FEES FOR GAME DEALERS LICENCES – THE GAMING ACT 1860

- 9. The Committee agreed to the introduction of a £25 fee for Game Dealers Licences, which would reflect the cost of administration and enforcement work.

STATUTORY FEES FOR LICENSES ISSUED BY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND TRADING STANDARDS DEPARTMENT

- 10. The Committee has agreed that the Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards should be authorised to set the statutory fees in respect of licenses which are issued by the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Department.

**R.I. MATTHEWS
CHAIRMAN
REGULATORY COMMITTEE**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Agenda papers from the meeting of the Regulatory Committee held on 17th June, 2003.