

MEETING:	REGULATORY SUB - COMMITTEE
DATE:	29 SEPTEMBER 2010
TITLE OF REPORT:	APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE 'WITHINGTON VILLAGE STORES, 2 MEADOW CLOSE, WITHINGTON, HEREFORDSHIRE, HR1 3RR.' Licensing ACT 2003
PORTFOLIO AREA:	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (EHTS) PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORATE

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

Withington

Purpose

To consider an application for the variation of a premises licence in respect of Withington Village Stores, 2 Meadow Close, Withington, Herefordshire, HR1 3RR.

Key Decision

This is not a key decision.

Recommendation

THAT 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 necessary 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 Licensing Policy.

Key Points Summary

- One public representation against the application.
- No representations from the Responsible Authorities.

Options

- 1 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 necessary 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.

Introduction and Background

3 Background Information

Applicant	Craig Justin Bradbury Nestcliffe House, Fields Yard, Plough Lane, Hereford. HR4 0EL.	
Solicitor	N/A	
Type of application: Variation Application	Date received: 17/08/10	28 Days consultation 13/09/10

Licence Application

- 4 The application for a variation to the premises licence has received representation and is therefore brought before the committee for determination.

Current Licence

- 5 The current licence authorises the sale of alcohol by retail (off the premises) between the hours: -
Monday – Friday 07:00 – 20:00
Saturday 08:00 – 20:00
Sunday 08:00 – 16:00

Summary of Application

- 6 The application is for the supply of alcohol (off the premises) between the hours of 0600 to 2200 hours on all days of the week.

Summary of Representations

- 7 A copy of the representation can be found within the background papers.
- 8 No representations have been received from the Responsible Authorities.
- 9 One local resident has made a representation against the application.

Key Considerations

- 10 To consider what action should be taken, if any, to promote the four licensing objectives in accordance with the recommendation.

Community Impact

- 11 The granting of the licence as applied for may have an impact on the Community.

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 It was further said in this case that the Licensing Authority have a duty:
'to translate the proposals contained in the operating schedule to promote the licence objectives into clear and understandable conditions'.

- 18 The conditions offered by the applicant will translated and the following conditions will be attached to the licence by the Licensing Authority.

General

All staff must have undertaken and successfully passed the company's licensing examination within a 12 month period.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

At all times that the premises are open for the sale of alcohol, CCTV must be in operation which must meet the expectations of the Licensing Authority and Police.

Public Safety

Person under the influence of alcohol must be banned from the premises.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

Liaison must take place with the police and local community on a regular basis

Protection of Children from harm

Challenge 25 must be in operation at the premises

No child must be allowed near the alcohol

- 19 Schedule 5 gives a right of appeal to: -

Rejection of applications relating to premises licences

1 Where a licensing authority—

- (a) rejects an application for a premises licence under section 18,
 - (b) rejects (in whole or in part) an application to vary a premises licence under section 35,
 - (c) rejects an application to vary a premises licence to specify an individual as the premises supervisor under section 39, or
 - (d) rejects an application to transfer a premises licence under section 44,
- the applicant may appeal against the decision.

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).

20 Section 9 states that any such appeal must be made to a Magistrates Court for the area in which the premises are situated within 21 days of notification of the decision.

Consultees

21 Responsible authorities and persons living within the vicinity or with a business interest within the vicinity of the premises.

22 A copy of the application was served on the responsible authorities. This was backed up by an email sent to them by the Licensing Authority.

23 The notice of application was displayed on the premises prior to the start of the consultation period and for a period of 28 days. In addition, notice of the application was required to be published in a newspaper which was circulated within the vicinity of the premises.

24 The applicant has produced a copy of that advertisement which is correct.

Appendices

25 a. Public Representation

Background Papers

Background papers are available for inspection in the Council Chamber, Brockington, 35 Hafod Road, Hereford, 30 minutes before the start of the hearing.