

MEETING:	REGULATORY SUB-COMMITTEE
DATE:	14 JANUARY 2011
TITLE OF REPORT:	APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE 'CROWN & SCEPTRE, 7 SHERFORD STREET, BROMYARD, HR7 4DL.' - LICENSING ACT 2003
PORTFOLIO AREA:	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & TRADING STANDARDS PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORATE

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

Bromyard

Purpose

To consider an application for the variation of a premises licence in respect of the 'Crown & Sceptre, 7 Sherford Street, Bromyard, HR7 4DL.'

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

- Four public representations against the application
- The police have made representation as a Responsible Authority

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	Cramar Leisure Ltd Little Burley, Stonehouse Lane, Bringsty, Worcestershire, WR6 5TG.	
Solicitor	N/A	
Type of application: Variation Application	Date received: 30 November 2010	28 Days consultation 28 December 2010

Licence Application

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

Current Licence

- 5 The current licence authorises: -

A performance of live music

Monday-Wednesday: 11:00 - 23:00

Thursday-Saturday: 11:00 - 00:00

Sunday: 12:00 - 00:00

Any playing of recorded music; Sale by retail of alcohol

Monday-Wednesday: 11:00 - 23:00

Thursday-Saturday: 11:00 - 00:00

Sunday: 12:00 - 22:30

Non-Standard Timings:

A further additional hour into the morning following every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday for May, Whitsun and August bank holiday weekends.

A further additional hour into the morning following every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday for the Easter bank holiday weekend.

A further additional hour every Christmas Eve and Boxing Day.
To reflect existing New Years Eve/Day hours.

Summary of Application

- 6 The application applies for a new function room to the rear of the premises to be licensed together with the courtyard to the rear and side of the existing premises, the patio area to the rear and the rear beer garden to the rear of the new premises. The following licensable activities during the hours shown have been applied for: -

Live Music, Provision of facilities for making music and dancing, Supply of Alcohol (Both on & off premises)

Sunday - Thursday: 11:00 - 00:00

Friday & Saturday: 11:00 - 01:00

Non Standard Timings: A further additional hour on Bank Holiday Sundays, Christmas Eve, Boxing Day and New Years Eve.

Performance of Dance

Sunday - Thursday: 11:00 - 00:00

Friday & Saturday: 11:00 - 01:00

Provision of Late Night Refreshment

Sunday - Thursday: 23:00 - 00:00

Friday & Saturday: 23:00 - 01:00

Non Standard Timings: A further additional hour on Bank Holiday Sundays, Christmas Eve, Boxing Day and New Years Eve.

All indoors & outdoors

Recorded Music

Sunday - Thursday: 11:00 - 00:00

Friday & Saturday: 11:00 - 01:00

Non Standard Timings: A further additional hour on Bank Holiday Sundays, Christmas Eve, Boxing Day and New Years Eve.

Indoor sporting events

All days: 17:00 – 00:00

All indoors only

Summary of Representations

- 7 A copy of the representation can be found within the background papers.
- 8 Representation has been made by the police as a Responsible Authority.
- 9 Four Local residents have made representations 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, which was 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 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).

18 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

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

20 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.

21 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.

22 The applicant has produced a copy of that advertisement. However it is noted that no mention has been made of licensable activities taking place outdoors and no non-standard timings are shown.

Appendices

- a. Public Representations
- b. Police representation
- c. Application Form

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.