

MEETING:	REGULATORY SUB-COMMITTEE
DATE:	16 OCTOBER 2012
TITLE OF REPORT:	APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE THE 'STEINER ACADEMY HEREFORD, MUCH DEWCHURCH, HR2 8DL' – LICENSING ACT 2003
PORTFOLIO AREA:	HEALTH AND WELLBEING

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

Ross on Wye East

Purpose

To consider an application for the grant of a premises licence in respect of the 'Steiner Academy, Hereford, HR2 8DL'.

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

- **Three (3)** relevant representation from members of the public

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	Steiner Academy Hereford Much Dewchurch, Hereford, HR2 8DL.	
Representative	N/A	
Type of application: New Application	Date received: 22/08/2012	28 Days consultation 18/09/2012

Licence Application

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

Summary of Application

- 5 The application requests that the premises be licensed as follows:

Plays, Films, Recorded Music, Performance of Dance, Anything of similar nature to Live/Recorded Music and Dancing, (All indoors)

Monday to Friday 1600 – 2230
Saturday 0800 – 2230

Non Standard Timings
During School Holidays 0800 – 2230

Seasonal variations: None

(Whilst an application has been made for facilities for music and dancing or anything similar this is no longer licensable under the Licensing Act following introduction of the Live Music Act 2012)

Summary of Representations

- 7 A copy of the representations can be found within the background papers.

There are three (3) relevant representations made by members of the public

Key Considerations

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

Community Impact

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

Legal Implications

- 10 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.

- 11 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.

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.

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.

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'.

In addition to this it was stated that any condition attached to the licence should be an enforceable condition.

The committee should be aware that the Live Music Act 2012 commenced on 1st October 2012. This legislation will effect this application in that entertainment facilities are no longer licensable under the Licensing Act. Live unamplified music also is no longer licensable.

- 12 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).

- 13 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

- 14 Responsible authorities and persons living within the vicinity or with a business interest within the vicinity of the premises.
- 15 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.
- 16 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.

Appendices

- 17
- a. Application Form
 - b. Public Representations

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.