

REPORT OF THE REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Meetings Held on 28th February and 18th April, 2006

Membership:

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

1. ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IN PUBLIC PLACES – DESIGNATION OF PUBLIC PLACES IN HEREFORDSHIRE

Local authorities have for some time had the power to bring in byelaws to control the consumption of alcohol in streets, roads and other such places within their areas. These powers were strengthened by the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 which made it easier for the Police to arrest those engaged in anti-social drinking in such designated places. The Council and its predecessor Councils brought such byelaws into effect in parts of the City of Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Ledbury, and Bromyard. The powers within the 2001 Act have brought about a change in town centres in terms of the previously held perceptions of some that loutish, anti-social behaviour prevailed. A 'tool' was therefore available to control such behaviour and reduce the chances of drinking vessels being used in acts of violence. Since 2001 Herefordshire Council has made 3 Orders relating to areas of the City of Hereford as well as the village of Madley. The Committee has decided to extend its control by making an Order to designate the following places for the control of the consumption of alcohol:

- Public open space (inc. Ball Court) to the west of Waterfield Road and south of Kestrel Road, Belmont
- Public open space (inc. Skateboard Park) to the east of Brampton Road, to the west of the dismantled railway line and south of Ethalstan Crescent, Newton Farm
- Public open space to the north of Luard Walk and south of the River Wye, Belmont
- Eastholme Centre, Eastholme Road, Belmont (i.e. areas adjacent to and around the library, health centre and community centre including the car park)
- Public open space at Northolme Road, Belmont (to include the building, tarmacaded areas adjacent to the building, children's play area and land between the building and the play area)
- Churchill Gardens, Aylestone, Hereford (in its entirety)
- Recreation ground off Grandstand Road, Bobblestock (i.e. those areas comprising the football pitch, car park, play area, changing rooms, bowling green and areas between these parts)
- Recreation Field (inc. its car park), Peterchurch
- Peterchurch Churchyard, Peterchurch
- Chapel Road (aka Station Road), Peterchurch

Bromyard

- Bromyard Cemetery
- Broad Street
- High Street
- Rowberry Street
- Church Lane (to the entrance to Old School Court)
- Church Street (to its jct. with Porthouse Industrial Estate)
- Cruxwell Street Tenbury Road (to its jct. with Firs Lane)
- Tenbury Road car park
- Land within the curtilage of Bromyard Leisure Centre
- Council Offices
- Alleyway adj. to Library
- Pump Street (to its jct. with Little Hereford Street)
- Market Square
- Queens Passageway
- Kempson Players (formerly the Playing Fields)
- St Peter's Closed Churchyard
- Nunwell Park
- The Knapp Recreation Ground
- Bowling Green and Tennis Courts, Rowberry Street

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 SECTION 119 PROPOSED PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDERS

2. The Committee has dealt with four applications for Public Path Diversion Orders. Orders have been granted in respect of the following diversions where alternative routes have been provided which are acceptable or preferable under the provisions of the Act following successful consultation with interested parties, the local parish councils and the local Ward Councillors:

- Footpath WZ1 (part) – Walterstone
- Footpath ZC100 – Leominster

The following applications were rejected because the proposed diversions did not meet the specified criteria as set out in section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 in that they were less convenient or more difficult for use by the public:

- Footpaths BF17 (part) And LH25 (part) - Brimfield And Little Hereford
- Bridleway HD22 (Part) - Birley With Upper Hill

APPLICATIONS FOR DUAL HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCES – LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976

8. Ten applications for the renewal or grant of Hackney Carriage/Private Hire drivers licences were referred to the Committee in accordance with the Council's terms and conditions and the advice on the interpretation of spent convictions and medical requirements. The applicants and their representatives gave details of the grounds for their applications and they provided the Committee with the circumstances giving rise to their offences or health situations.
9. Having considered all the facts put forward by the Licensing Manager, the applicants and their representatives, the Committee decided that the Licensing Manager should be authorised to renew six applications and grant one new application because it considered that the applicants were fit and proper persons under the meaning of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. The Committee refused three applications because they considered that the applicants were not fit and proper persons under the meaning of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Agenda papers from the meetings of the Regulatory Committee held on 28th February and 18th April, 2006.