

Minutes of the meeting of the **LICENSING COMMITTEE** held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Wednesday, 19 October 2022 at 5.30 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor T A Bond

Councillors: P D Jull
M Bates
D G Beaney
P M Brivio
N J Collor
D G Cronk
M F Hibbert
K Mills
D P Murphy
R S Walkden

Officers: Licensing Manager
Democratic Services Officer

8 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor C D Zosseder.

9 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

There were no substitute members appointed.

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor T A Bond declared an Other Significant Interest in agenda item 13 by reason that he carried out work for two hotels in the district and would leave the meeting for consideration of the item.

Councillor M Bates declared an Other Significant Interest in agenda item 13 by reason that his wife had an interest in some hotels in the district and would leave the meeting for consideration of the item.

Councillor D G Beaney declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in agenda item 13 by reason that he was the joint owner of The Crown Inn public house, Finglesham and would leave the meeting for consideration of the item.

11 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24 May 2022 were approved as a correct record for signing by the Chairman.

12 MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committees held on 28 February, 22 March and 27 June 2022 were received and noted.

13 FEES AND CHARGES 2023/24

Councillor P D Jull, as Vice-Chairman, assumed the Chair in the absence of Councillor T A Bond.

Members considered the Fees and Charges 2023/24 report of the Head of Regulatory Services and presented by the Licensing Manager which set out the fees and charges for 2023/24 relevant to the Licensing Authority. The Licensing Act fees were set by Government and the fees set under the Gambling Act were capped by Government and set within the guidelines.

- RESOLVED:
- (a) That the Fees and Charges for 2023/24 as set out in Appendix 3 be APPROVED.
 - (b) That Members approved the general principle that fees are set an appropriate inclusive level, irrespective of VAT status, and that the VAT element within the overall fee level is then determined.
 - (c) That Members approve the general principle that, unless the fee is set by statute, licensing fees will be set on a cost recovery basis.
 - (d) That the Head of Regulatory Services be authorised to adopt fees at, or close to government directed levels without the need for further reporting, in cases where the Council is awaiting Government guidance and it has not been possible to set a fee level at this stage.
 - (e) That the Head of Regulatory Services be authorised in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Licensing and Regulatory Services and the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources to make minor adjustments to the fees and charges as necessary.

(Councillor T A Bond declared an Other Significant Interest in agenda item 13 by reason that he carries out work for two hotels in the district and would leave the meeting for consideration of the item.

Councillor M Bates declared an Other Significant Interest in agenda item 13 by reason that his wife had an interest in some hotels in the district and would leave the meeting for consideration of the item.

Councillor D G Beaney declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in agenda item 13 by reason that he was the joint owner of The Crown Inn public house, Finglesham and would leave the meeting for consideration of the item.)

The meeting ended at 5.34 pm.