

LICENSING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

15 JUNE 2010

Chairman: * Councillor Mano Dharmarajah

Councillors:

* Husain Akhtar	* Ajay Maru
* Ramji Chauhan (3)	* John Nickolay
* Mrinal Choudhury	* Bill Phillips (5)
* John Cowan	* Raj Ray
* David Gawn	* Stanley Sheinwald
* Thaya Idaikkadar	* Krishna Suresh
* Krishna James	* Simon Williams

**In attendance:
(Councillors)** Sue Anderson
Varsha Parmar
Ben Wealthy

* Denotes Member present
(3) and (5) Denote category of Reserve Members

4. Attendance by Reserve Members

RESOLVED: To note the attendance at this meeting of the following duly appointed Reserve Members:-

Ordinary Member

Councillor Susan Hall
Councillor Manji Kara

Reserve Member

Councillor Ramji Chauhan
Councillor Bill Phillips

5. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

RESOLVED: To note the appointment of Councillor Ajay Maru as Vice-Chairman at the Special meeting of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee on 27 May 2010.

6. Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: To note that there were no declarations of interests made.

7. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2010 and the special meeting on 27 May 2010, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

8. Public Questions, Petitions and Deputations

RESOLVED: To note that no public questions were put, or petitions or deputations received at this meeting.

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

9. Licensing Policy

The Committee received a report of the Corporate Director of Community and Environment that outlined the draft revised Licensing Policy for Harrow Council as the Licensing Authority and the responses to the consultation exercise in respect of it. An officer reported that:

- the licensing policy was a guide for submitting a licensing application and had been amended to capture legislative changes;
- the consultation process had taken place between 15 March and 21 May 2010. The draft policy had also been distributed to responsible authorities, existing premises licence holders and known local residents associations for comments. Officers had received two responses, one of which related planning issues. In response, officers had advised that planning matters did not form part of the licensing policy;

In response to questions raised by Members, officers advised that:

- licensing applications were considered and granted in accordance with the four licensing objectives, whereas, planning decisions were considered in accordance with planning legislation. Both applications were independent of each other, however, licensing applicants were advised to resolve any planning issues in order to operate according to their premises licence;

- applicants seeking planning permission could apply for a provisional licence and approach planning once the application was granted. Comments from licensing were invited when a planning application was made. Any changes made to a licensed premises may require planning consent and/or building regulations approval. Any new renovation work would require need to provide disabled access in accordance with current building regulations;
- officers response to comments received following the consultation process would be included in the report submitted to full Council on 8 July 2010;
- the licensing policy was reactive to other policies or initiatives that were implemented or exercised by the Council;
- if an isolated offence had been committed, officers would normally issue a written warning to a licensee advising them to discontinue any unauthorised activity. A simple caution was a formal legal sanction that was issued where licences were persistently breached. A record of this would remain on file for 3 years;

RESOLVED to Recommend: (to Council)

That the draft licensing policy be referred to full Council for approval.

RESOLVED: That the responses received following the consultation be noted.

RESOLVED ITEMS

10. Appointment of Non-voting Co-optee

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Legal and Governance that set out the proposed appointment of a non-voting co-optee to the Pension Fund Investments Panel for the 2010/11 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That Mr Howard Bluston be appointed as a non-voting co-optee to the Pension Fund Investment Panel for the 2010/11 Municipal Year.

11. INFORMATION REPORT - Non-Executive Decision: Action taken in accordance with Section 102(5) of the Local Government Act 1972

The Committee received a report of the Director of Legal and Governance Services that set out the action taken under the Urgent Non-Executive Decision procedure as set out in part 3 of the Council's constitution.

The report outlined that the decision had been taken in order to allow certain Panels to meet during the transitional period between the date of the elections and the date of the Annual Council meeting. This was a particular requirements where committee business was subject to statutory timescales and regulations.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 8.00 pm, closed at 9.00 pm).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR MANO DHARMARAJAH
Chairman