

# Licensing Panel (Licensing Act 2003 Functions)

**Agenda Item 16**  
Brighton & Hove City Council

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Application for a Variation of a Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003</b>		
<b>Premises:</b>	<b>Garden Café, St Ann's Well Gardens, Nizells Avenue, Hove, BN3 1PR</b>		
<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Parissi &amp; Hall Limited</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>27 May 2011</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Head of Planning and Public Protection</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Sarah-Jane McNaught</b>	<b>Tel: (01273) 294431</b>
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<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>Goldsmid</b>		

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE

### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To determine an application for a Variation of a Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003 for Garden Café.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To determine an application for a Variation of a Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003 for Garden Café.

#### 2.2.1 The application is for:

A Variation of a Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003.

The application proposes:

To be able to open later in the evening to serve food and alcohol until 11pm.

2.2.2 Part P of the application is detailed at Appendix A

### 2.3 Summary table of existing and proposed activities

	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<b>M Supply of Alcohol</b>	On and off the premises Every Day 08:00 - 21:00	On and off the premises Every Day 08:00 - 23:00
<b>O Hours premises are open to public</b>	Every Day 08:00 - 21:30	Every Day 08:00 - 23:30

2.4 Existing licence attached at Appendix B

## 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 The premises does not fall in the Cumulative Impact Area or the Special Stress Areas.

### 3.2.1 Representations received

Details of the representations made are notified to applicants on receipt by the Licensing Authority using a pro-forma. A summary appears below:

3.2.2 Twenty five representations were received. They were received from local residents and a Resident's Association.

3.2.3 Representations received had concerns relating to Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance and the Protection of Children from Harm.

3.2.4 A representation was received from Sussex Police which included conditions relating to Prevention of Crime and Disorder and the Protection of Children from Harm. The representation was withdrawn as the applicant agreed to the conditions and amended the operating schedule accordingly.

Subsequently two representations (A&B) were received from two residents but after receiving a letter of intention from the applicant, were withdrawn.

3.2.5 Full details of the representations, withdrawals and the agreement are attached at Appendix C. A map detailing the addresses of the persons who have submitted the representations and their location in relation to the premises is attached at Appendix D.

Please note that Relevant Authorities and Residents' Associations are not included.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

Commentary on licensing policy

4.1 The following extracts from Brighton & Hove City Council Statement of Licensing Policy are considered relevant to this application and numbered as they appear in the policy:

##### **General**

1.2 The licensing objectives are:-

- (a) Prevention of crime and disorder;
- (b) Public safety;
- (c) Prevention of public nuisance;
- (d) Protection of children from harm.

1.3 Licensing is about regulating licensable activities on licensed premises, by qualifying clubs and at temporary events. Any conditions attached to various authorisations will be focused on matters which are within the control of individual licensees and others with relevant authorisations, i.e. the premises and its vicinity.

1.5 Each application will be given individual consideration on its merit. Nothing in this policy shall undermine the right of any individual to apply under the terms of the Act for a variety of permissions and to have any such application considered on its individual merits. Similarly, nothing in this policy shall override the right of any person to make representations on an application or seek a review of a licence or certificate where provision has been made for them to do so in the Act

1.10.4 The licensing authority's preferred position is to ensure planning permission is in place before an application for a licence is made.

##### **In respect of the prevention of crime and disorder**

2.1 The licensing authority acknowledges that training and good management play a key part in preventing alcohol and drug related crime. The authority expects that all licensees of on-licensed premises attend training programmes which will raise their

awareness of the issues relating to drugs and violence in licensed premises, and that suitable training be extended to all bar staff and door supervisors so that drug dealers and users will be deterred from using licensed premises for illegal purposes and that incidents of violence in licensed premises will be reduced. Licensees are also encouraged to attend training programmes to help identify children at risk and issues of basic child protection. It is the duty of the designated premises supervisor (DPS) to train staff on induction concerning conditions on their premises licence.

2.2 It is expected that the designated premises supervisor (DPS) will spend a significant amount of time on the premises. When not on the premises it will be essential that the DPS is contactable, particularly should problems arise with the premises and that staff are authorised by the DPS.

2.4 The location of violent attacks, anti-social behaviour and hate crime or related incidents may be used to justify closing times.

## **2.7 The Licensing Authority will support:**

2.7.1 Diversity of premises: ensures that there is a mix of the different types of licensed premises and attracts a more diverse range of customers from different age groups, different communities and with different attitudes to alcohol consumption. It gives potential for positively changing the ambience of the city or an area of it. This will have a positive effect in reducing people's fear of crime and in increasing the number of evening visitors to the city centre. The Community Safety Strategy recognises that too many single uses in a confined area and patrons turning out onto the streets at the same time may create opportunities for violent crime and public disorder and therefore supports: mixed use venues encouraging a wider age balance.

2.7.2 Favourable consideration will be given to promoting the city's cultural quarter, live entertainment in pubs, food led operations, developing LGBT and other communities of interest venues, particularly around St James's Street, promoting a family leisure area on the sea front with a more adult leisure centre at night.

### **2.7.3 Café Bars**

The licensing authority may be prepared to look favourably upon an application for the grant of a licence, subject to the following conditions that will prevent the premises becoming a public house.

- The sale of intoxicating liquor and other beverages shall be waiter /waitress service for consumption by persons seated at tables.
- Substantial food shall be available at all times.

Licensees should be aware that breach of such conditions is likely to lead to appropriate enforcement action.

### **2.7.4 Restaurants with outside service**

The licensing authority will also consider applications from restaurants that request to serve alcohol to areas adjacent to or immediately outside their premises. In addition to the above conditions for café bars, the licensing authority will require evidence that the applicants have an agreement with the local authority to use the area as defined on a plan provided. The following condition may also apply: -

The sale and supply of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall be restricted to an area licensed by the Local Authority for use of the public highway as shown on the plan deposited and such area shall be defined by a physical barrier acceptable to the licensing authority.

#### 2.7.6 Care, control and supervision of premises:

The Licensing authority supports the Business Crime Reduction Partnership and other approved schemes. Where appropriate, premises licence holders should be members of the BCRP for the deterrence to violent crime that such membership provides. The BCRP NightSafe radio scheme is normally expected as an operational requirement for city centre bars, clubs and pubs and is an example of good practice in achieving the aim of reducing crime and disorder and improving public safety. Well managed pub-watch schemes provide information exchange between the premises licence holders and responsible authorities that reduce and deter violent crime and disorder. The council will support a responsible licensing scheme.

2.7.7 The effective management and supervision of a venue is a key factor in reducing crime and disorder, both within it and outside. The police will consider the applicants, objecting to the application where appropriate. The police may suggest crime prevention measures in relation to, for example, the internal layout of the premises, closed-circuit television, help points, lighting and security staff. The police may ask for conditions which support such measures to be imposed when licensing applications are granted, e.g. type of licence, capacity, operating hours restrictions.

2.7.12 Enforcement will be achieved by the enforcement policy.

### **In respect of Public Safety**

3.3 Conditions will be imposed in accordance with operating schedules to protect public safety including where justified:-

(a) provision of close circuit television and panic buttons.

(b) use of shatterproof drinking vessels, bottles requiring use of toughened glass or plastic should normally be required unless applicants can show exceptional reasons (recognised by Community Safety Strategy).

(c) use of door supervisors, licensed by the Security Industry Authority (recognised by the Community Safety Strategy).

(d) requirement of a minimum of a licensed door supervisor for every 100 customers in nightclubs and large city centre pubs or as indicated by risk assessment.

(e) occupant capacity conditions will be applied where appropriate.

(f) the provision of designated and suitably trained first aiders

- 3.4 In determining applications for new licences or extensions in hours or terminal hours of licensed premises, regard will be had to late night public transport availability and location of taxi ranks to aid dispersal of customers as recognised by the Community Safety Strategy and Policing Strategy. Applicants may be required to consult local transport operators and are encouraged to support the use of public transport through the provision of advice, contact details, provision of dedicated taxi phones etc.
- 3.5 Policy recognises that the numbers of late night revellers can lead to service delivery pinch-points, for example at city centre taxi ranks. Frustration and restlessness in queues can lead to anti-social behaviour and public disorder which can be controlled by , for example, taxi marshalling systems. Operators whose customers contribute to the night-time demand for taxis may wish to consider assisting in the provision of resources for such systems or similar schemes.
- 3.6 Control of public safety at high profile commercial or sporting events or other large scale events may be supported by police powers of closure of licensed premises
- 3.7 Where appropriate, licence holders or their authorised representatives will submit event safety plans and operating manuals, attend Event Planning Teams or Safety Advisory Groups and similar meetings prior to large events and shall be part of Event Liaison Teams during such events. Due regard shall be had to relevant guidance and publications including, for example: HSE publications “Event Safety Guide” and “Managing Crowds Safely”; LACoRS publication – “Managing Large Events”.

### **In respect of the prevention of public nuisance**

- 4.1 Planning, building control and licensing will be properly separated to avoid duplication and inefficiency. Granting of licences will not relieve applicants of the need to apply for planning permission or building control consent and there is an expectation that these issues will have been explored before licensing applications are submitted. Applicants are recommended to obtain correct planning consents prior to applying for a licence to avoid potentially inoperative licences.
- 4.2 In determining applications for new and varied licences, regard will be had to the location of premises, the type and construction of the building and the likelihood of nuisance and disturbance to the amenity of nearby residents by reason of noise from within the premises, as a result of people entering or leaving the premises or from individuals or groups of customers gathered outside (e.g. in order to smoke)

- 4.6 In determining applications for new licences or extensions in hours or terminal hours of licensed premises, regard will be had to late night public transport availability and location of taxi ranks to aid dispersal of customers.
- 4.7 Regard will be had to any history or likelihood of nuisance. Generally, favourable consideration will be given to applications for later hours in the city centre, on busy main roads and in the central leisure area. Powers may be exercised to impose conditions as to hours of opening in order to avoid unreasonable disturbance to residents of the neighbourhood. Licensed premises in residential neighbourhoods will normally have a terminal hour no later than 2330. In mixed neighbourhoods they will normally have a terminal hour of no later than 0200 hours to counter noise disturbance to residents as informed by the health impact assessment and requested by Licensing Strategy Group.
- 4.9 Reasonable controls are available to all premises operators to minimise the impact of noise from customers outside. The council's Environmental Health Department has issued guidance on a number of steps that can be taken in this respect which are endorsed by this policy (see 4.10 below).

#### **4.10 Smoking Advice**

Premises licence holders will be expected to:

- Develop a management plan on how to manage smoking on your premises and ensure that all staff are aware of the contents of this plan, and that it is effectively implemented. Noise from people smoking and talking can be intermittent, vary in character and volume and be intrusive. An effective smoking management plan will help prevent neighbours being disturbed.
- Comply with any planning conditions restricting the use of outdoor areas.
- Ensure that any structures used by smokers comply with the design criteria detailed in the Heath Act 2006 and that any structures, awnings, retractable canopies, etc have the relevant planning permission.
- Ensure any new lighting to outdoor areas must be designed so as not to cause a light nuisance to neighbours and again have the relevant planning permission and building control consent.
- Ensure that the conditions on the premises licence are complied with. There may be conditions restricting the hours of use of gardens and outdoor areas. Having reviewed the contents of the premises licence you may find it necessary to request a variation of your licence.
- Licence tables and chairs on the Public Highway under the provisions of the Highways Act 1980. These licences may have conditions restricting the times that the area can be used.
- Ensure drinks, glasses and bottles are not taken onto the highway unless there is a tables and chairs licence permitting use. A system should be adopted to prevent theft and 'spiking' of drinks, and reminding customers not to leave unattended items.

- Discourage smokers remaining in gardens and outdoor areas and determine terminal hours.
- Discourage smokers remaining outside by removing/disabling tables and chairs or prohibiting their use after a certain time. Lights and heaters will also be turned off.
- Introduce a system that after a certain time the number of smokers outside are restricted to a maximum number. Staff will be needed to manage this restriction.
- Employ staff and/or SIA registered door supervisors to manage doors and control customers and smokers entering and leaving the premises. Staff positioned on the doors can help to encourage customers not to cause a noise problem. It may be that staff are required to manage doors after a certain time, particularly during the hours when neighbouring residents are trying to sleep.
- Ensure door supervisors maintain order outside venues and protect customer safety. BCRP supports the use of Night Safe. Radio net and other pager systems and pub watch schemes can be used to provide for rapid police response and alert other venues where customers and staff are endangered.
- Position signs to remind customers that the premises is in an area where people live. It is not always obvious in busy commercial streets with flats above. By changing the design and wording of signs customers do not forget. Signs can be located in and outside the premises and on tables.
- Use CCTV to manage outside areas.

4.11 Licensed premises should normally display prominent, legible signs at exits reminding customers to leave in a quiet, peaceful, orderly manner.

### **In respect of the protection of children from harm**

The following details and measures are intended to address the need for the protection of children from harm; this includes moral, psychological and physical harm which may be associated with licensed premises and certificated club premises (for example the exposure too early to strong language and sexual expletives, e.g. in the context of film exhibitions or where adult entertainment is provided). It is intended that the admission of children to premises holding a premises licence or club premises certificate should normally be freely allowed without restricting conditions (unless the 2003 Act itself imposes such conditions or there are good reasons to restrict entry or to exclude children completely).

5.1 Licensees should note the concern of the authority that drink related disorder frequently involves under 18's. To prevent illegal purchases of alcohol by such persons, the committee recommend that all licensees should work with a suitable 'proof of age' scheme and ensure that appropriate identification is requested prior to entry and when requesting alcohol, where appropriate. Appropriate forms of identification are currently considered to be those recommended by police, trading standards officers and their partners in the Licensing Strategy Group (e.g. passport, photo driving licence or pass card).

- 5.2 It is the licensing authority's expectation that all staff responsible for the sale of intoxicating liquor receive information and advice on the licensing laws relating to children and young persons in licensed premises. Licensed premises staff are required to take reasonable steps to prevent under age sales. The licensing authority will not seek to limit the access of children to any premises unless it is necessary for the prevention of physical, moral or psychological harm to them.
- 5.4 The licensing authority will not seek to require that access to any premises is given to children at all times – under normal circumstances this will be left to the discretion of the licensee. The following areas give rise to concern in respect of children, who will normally be excluded from premises:-
- where there have been convictions for serving alcohol to minors or with a reputation for underage drinking;
  - with a known association with drug taking or dealing;
  - where there is a strong element of gambling on the premises;
  - where entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is commonly provided.
  - where premises are used primarily or exclusively for the sale and consumption of alcohol and there is little or no seating for patrons

Options may include:-

- limitations on the hours when children may be present;
- age limitations (below 18);
- limitations or exclusions when certain activities are taking place;
- requirements for an accompanying adult;
- full exclusion of people under 18.

5.7 Children and Young Persons Overview and Scrutiny Council reported on Reducing Alcohol Related Harm to Children and Young People to Licensing Committee who agreed:

5.7.3 In determining applications and reviews, applications can only be dealt with on their individual merit. Use of schemes like Think 21 and Challenge 25 are appropriate on a case by case basis. Normally a Challenge 25 condition will be appropriate.

5.7.4 A clear causal link between price discounting and disorder will normally lead to the imposition of conditions prohibiting irresponsible promotions. This is now reflected in the new mandatory conditions which can be found on the licensing pages of the council's website.

## **5.8 Best Practice to protect children from harm**

The Council passed a Notice of Motion that licensing committee recommend best practice for both on and off premises to take on board on a voluntary basis, in order to promote responsible licensing.

- Staff must be aware of the risk of the problem of proxy sales and offer assistance to responsible authorities to deter offences
- Signage on premises should set out legal duties
- Voluntary restriction of high strength alcohol – operating schedules may be used to limit high ABV beers and ciders
- Staff training – in addition to personal licence holders training, staff must be adequately trained for duties
- Challenge 25 would be the norm, particularly in the off licence trade
- Signage – proxy sale – deterrence

The council will support accreditation schemes, such as Best Bar None and Purple Flag, where appropriate and subject to resources.

### **Strategic Integration**

- 6.5 Specific conditions may be attached to premises licences to reflect local crime prevention strategies. Such conditions may include the use of closed circuit television cameras, use of the NightSafe radio system or accredited scheme, the provision and use of shatterproof drinking receptacles, drugs and weapons search policy, the use of registered door supervisors, specialised lighting requirements, hours of opening.
- 6.6 The licensing authority will have regard to the need to disperse people quickly and safely from the city centre to avoid concentrations which may produce disorder and disturbance.
- 6.8 Other regulatory regimes  
This policy avoids duplication with other regulatory regimes wherever possible.

## **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### **5.1 Financial Implications:**

The licensing Act 2003 provides for fees to be payable to the licensing authority in respect of the discharge of their functions. The fee levels are set centrally at a level to allow licensing authorities to fully recover the costs of administration, inspection and enforcement of the regime.

Finance Officer Consulted: Karen Brookshaw      Date: 09.05.2011

## 5.2 Legal Implications:

The licensing authority must act to promote the four licensing objectives which are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

The licensing authority must have regard to its statement of licensing policy and the guidance issued by the Secretary of State in carrying out its functions.

Lawyer Consulted: Rebecca Sidell      Date: 09.05.2011

## 5.3 Equalities Implications:

Diversity is valued and strong, safe communities are vital to future prosperity. Licensing policy aims to protect children from harm including sale and supply of alcohol to children.

## 5.4 Sustainability Implications:

Licensing policy aims to prevent public nuisance and develop culture of live music, dancing and theatre.

## 5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications:

Licensing policy aims to prevent crime and disorder and protect public safety.

## 5.6 Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

Licensing is a crucial business and employment opportunity and unnecessary regulation might lead to legal challenge.

## 5.7 Corporate / Citywide Implications:

The success of the city's tourism strategy requires a safe, attractive city centre to improve competitiveness. The Act may significantly change night time economy

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Appendix A – Part P of the Application
2. Appendix B – Part A of Premises Licence
3. Appendix C – Representations, withdrawals and agreements
4. Appendix D – Map of the location of the premises and the representations

### **Documents in Members' Rooms**

1. Environmental Health & Licensing Service, Brighton & Hove City Council (2008): The Licensing Act 2003 – Brighton & Hove City Council: Statement of Licensing Policy

### **Background Documents**

1. Environmental Health & Licensing Service, Brighton & Hove City Council (2008): The Licensing Act 2003 – Brighton & Hove City Council Statement on Licensing Policy.