

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Tuesday, 24th December 2019

PRESENT: Councillors Burke, O'Neill and Rush

OFFICERS: J. Alom (Neighbourhoods Directorate), Z. Ali and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor K. Nolan, Councillor S. Rowbotham; G. Grennan, D. Kent (Greater Manchester Police); Ammer Taufail, Victor Adereni (infinity Restaurant and Bar)

9 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Resolved:

That Councillor Burke be appointed Chair for the duration of the meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee.

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests.

11 PROCEDURES FOR HEARINGS UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

The Chair advised that the sub-Committee had been convened to assist in the interim review of the Premises Licence in respect of the Infinity Restaurant and Bar, 1 Market place, Middleton, Manchester, M24 6AE, which had been the subject of a Police certificate and application, in accordance with Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003.

The meeting was conducted in accordance with the adopted "Procedure for hearings under the Licensing Act 2003 where representations are received", as contained within the Local Authority's Code of conduct for Members and Officers Dealing with Matters under the Licensing Act 2003.

12 LICENSING OFFICER

The Licensing Officer addressed the Sub-Committee in respect of the submitted report, copies of which had been made available to the parties in advance of, and at the hearing. The submitted report included representations received from the applicant and from representatives of Greater Manchester Police.

The Sub-Committee in determining the application was required to give due regard to local policy considerations and the national guidance. The Licensing Officer advised that the Sub-Committee had been convened to assist in the interim review of the Premises Licence in respect of the Infinity Restaurant and Bar, 1 Market place, Middleton, Manchester, M24 6AE, which had been the subject of a Police certificate and application, in accordance with Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003.

In respect of the application the Sub-Committee were invited to determine the application and either:

- a. Consider modification of the conditions of the Premises Licence;
- b. Consider the exclusion of the sale of alcohol by retail from the scope of the licence;
- c. Consider the removal of the designated premises supervisor from the licence;
- d. Consider the suspension of the licence

The Licensing Sub-Committee has delegated authority to determine reviews of Premises Licences in accordance with Section 53B of the Licensing Act 2003, to take interim steps.

13 THE REPRESENTATIONS

Mr. D. Kent addressed the Sub-Committee on behalf of Greater Manchester Police.

Councillor S. Rowbotham, a North Middleton Ward member addressed the Sub-Committee in relation to this matter.

14 THE APPLICATION

Mr. Ammer Tufail addressed the Sub-Committee on behalf of the Premises Licence Holder of the Infinity Restaurant and Bar, 1 Market Place, Middleton.

15 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

All parties were requested to retire from the meeting whilst the Sub-Committee determined the application for a Premises Licence, after which the respective parties were re-admitted to the meeting.

16 DECISION

The Sub-Committee having considered very carefully all the oral and written submissions, from all the parties and accepted that every opportunity had been given for all of the parties to fully express their views, the Sub-Committee continues to have concerns regarding the overall management of Infinity Restaurant and Bar, especially the concerns regarding SIA door staff, the closing times of the premises and in particular the issues surrounding the CCTV systems.

The Sub-Committee recognises that a number of serious incidents have taken place, namely on 21st December 2019 and 22nd December 2019, of which the incident on 21st December 2019 three people were detained and charged with criminal offences and are due to be dealt with at the Magistrates Court.

The Sub-Committee acknowledged the need to reach a decision, which is proportionate. Given all of these issues the Sub-Committee, having carefully considered all of the options available, decided to the suspension of the Premises Licence, with immediate effect, until a full review of the Premises Licence is determined.

Councillor Phil Burke – Chair of the Licensing Sub-Committee

Please note that any correspondence in relation to this matter must be forwarded to: licensing.reg@rochdale.gov.uk