

**MINUTES**

of the

**LICENSING COMMITTEE HEARING**

held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 11.30am

Present:

Councillor R. Lee (Chair of Hearing)

Councillors D. Clark, J. Hawkins and L. Mascot

1. **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies for absence were received.

2. **Declaration of Interests**

All Members were reminded to declare any interests where appropriate in any items of business on the meeting's agenda. None were made.

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July, were approved as a correct record.

4. **Licensing Act 2003 – Application for a Full Variation to a Premises Licence – Anglia Ruskin University, Lordship Road, Writtle, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3RR**

The Committee considered an application for a full variation to a premises licence made under Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003 and had regard to the representation made during the consultation period. These related to the promotion of the below Licensing objectives.

- a) The prevention of crime and disorder
- b) Public safety
- c) The prevention of public nuisance
- d) The protection of children from harm

The application was for the below licensable activities:

Sale or supply of Alcohol Monday - Saturday 10:00 - 00:00 Sunday 12:00 – 23:30  
Performance of Dance Every day 00:01 – 00:00  
Performance of Live Music Every day 00:01 – 00:00  
Performance of Recorded Music Every day 00:01 – 00:00  
Provision of Plays Every day 00:01 – 00:00  
Provision of Films Every day 00:01 – 00:00  
Provision of Indoor Sporting Events Every day 00:01 – 00:00  
Provision of anything of a similar description Every day 00:01 – 00:00  
Provision of Late-Night Refreshment Every day 23:00 – 05:00

It was noted by the Committee that there were three options namely;

- Grant the application, on the terms and conditions applied for
- Grant the application, on the terms and conditions applied for, modified to such extent as considered appropriate to promote the licensing objectives.
- Refuse the application in whole or in part.

The following parties attended the hearing and took part in it:

**Applicant**

- Mrs C – Anglia Ruskin University

**Objectors**

- Writtle Parish Council (Cllrs Evans and Swan)

Officers informed the Committee that during the course of the application, one representation had been received from the local Parish Council. The Chair advised that the written representation had been read and considered by the Committee in advance of the meeting.

The applicant addressed the Committee to summarise their application. They stated that they had held discussions with the Parish Council before the hearing and were happy to amend their application, to assure residents and the Parish Council. The Committee heard that they were happy to amend their application to 8am to 10pm, 7 days a week for the Performance of Dance, Live Music, Recorded Music and the Provision of Plays, Films, Indoor Sporting Events and anything of a similar description, but for the sale or supply of Alcohol to remain as applied for. The applicant also informed the Committee of the types of events that would be held, which included, open days for applicants, the Science festival, the Skills festival and graduation drinks receptions.

In response to a question from the Committee, the applicant stated they had an exception on their previous licence for the Summer Ball to be run until 1am and they wanted that to remain on the varied licence if granted. Officers indicated that as this had not been specifically applied for on the variation, the best solution would likely be to hold this event under a Temporary Event Notice instead.

The Committee heard from the Parish Council, who stated that their objection had been around the effective 24 hour opening, but if they were amended as discussed they would be happy with those hours. The Parish Council also asked if it was possible to be notified in advance of any events being held. The applicant stated that they would discuss the notification of events with the Parish Council after the meeting, but were happy to do so. The applicant also confirmed to the Committee, that they would be happy to hold the Summer Ball event under a Temporary Event Notice.

The Committee thanked the applicant, Parish Councillors and the officers for their input and advised that the decision would be made during the deliberation after the meeting. It was noted that due to the remote nature of the meeting, the decision would be circulated to all parties within a few working days via email.

The Committee gave careful consideration to the relevant representations both written and made in the course of the remote hearing.

**RESOLVED** that the Director of Public Places be authorised to grant the variation application on the terms applied for, but with the following modification to the licensable activities.

The Modification of:

The licencing hours be 8am-10pm, 7 days a week for the provision of the following licensable activities:

- Performance of Dance
- Live Music
- Recorded Music
- Provision of Plays, Films, Indoor Sporting Events, and
- anything of a similar description

Provision for the sale of alcohol would remain as applied for.

This was offered up by the applicant and agreed to by Writtle Parish Council, as acceptable at the hearing.

### ***Reasons for decision***

In reaching its decision the Committee considered all representations made and in particular, the representations made by Writtle Parish Council. All decisions on licencing applications must be evidence based. The Committee is mindful that none of the responsible authorities (in particular Essex Police and Environmental Services) had raised any objections to the application.

The applicant confirmed at the hearing that they were happy to modify the hours as above and Writtle Parish Council (the objector) signified that they were happy with the modification.

The Committee was satisfied that there was no evidence at this point in time, in prospective harm if the application were to be granted and considered in all circumstances, that it was appropriate the application be granted on the terms as set out above.

The Committee also agreed that the Summer Ball be excluded from the licence as it was not part of the application as applied for, and to allow representations to be made on further application. A Temporary Event Notice would, therefore, be required for this event.

It is noted that the applicants were acceptable to the Summer Ball being held under a Temporary Event Notice.

The meeting closed at 11:44am

Chair