



## **LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE**

**MEETING** : Tuesday, 15th July 2014

**PRESENT** : Cllrs. Randle (Chair), Patel (Vice-Chair), Noakes, Tracey, Lugg, C. Witts, Hanman, Ravenhill, Brown, Gilson and Chatterton

### **Officers in Attendance**

Steve Isaac, Solicitor

Lisa Jones, Food, Licensing and Markets Manager

Darren Mountford, Senior Licensing & Markets Officer

Tony Wisdom, Democratic Services Officer

**APOLOGIES** : Cllrs. Llewellyn and Mozol

### **1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

The following appointments, made by Council at the Annual Meeting were noted:-

Chair – Councillor Randle

Vice Chair – Councillor Patel

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made on this occasion.

### **3. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### **4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from members of the public.

### **5. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS**

There were no petitions or deputations.

### **6. UPDATE FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY**

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**RESOLVED that this item be deferred until September.**

**7. TATTOO HYGIENE RATING SCHEME**

The Food, Licensing and Markets Manager presented the report which detailed a proposal to adopt a Tattoo Hygiene Rating Scheme in the City of Gloucester.

She advised Members that the voluntary Scheme which had been developed with the support of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health and the Tattoo and Piercing Industry Union, was being adopted by all the Districts in Gloucestershire.

The Chair asked if the Scheme could be made mandatory and was advised that persons carrying out tattooing must be registered with the City Council and were inspected with an emphasis on infection control procedures.

The Food, Licensing and Markets Manager was not aware of any current cases of infection caused by tattooing. She noted the risks of 'underground;' tattooists or 'scratchers' and believed that the Scheme would drive up standards in the City.

The Vice Chair asked if those consulted on the Scheme and were in favour of a local scheme had been aware of the cost implications. He was informed that tattooing was a profitable trade and that those who operated properly were in favour of the Scheme. Research undertaken for the development of the Scheme showed that 80 per cent of the trade thought a rating scheme would be beneficial and 80 per cent believed that the current registration scheme was not adequate.

The Vice Chair asked why the Scheme only used a four star system rather than the more usual five stars as used in the 'Scores on Doors' food establishment rating scheme. He was advised that the four star rating was part of the Scheme prepared for use nationally. He was also advised that the Council logo would be incorporated in the certificate and window stickers.

**RESOLVED that the Tattoo Hygiene Rating Scheme as outlined in the report be adopted in the City of Gloucester with immediate effect.**

**8. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT SEX ESTABLISHMENT POLICY STATEMENT FOLLOWING CONSULTATION**

The Food, Licensing and Markets Manager presented the report which informed the Committee of the outcome of consultation on the draft revised Sex Establishment Policy Statement and invited the Committee to recommend to the Council that the Policy Statement be adopted with immediate effect.

She advised Members that no comments had been received from the consultees which she believed reflected the minor nature of the amendments proposed.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND to the Council that the revised Sex Establishment Policy Statement be adopted to take immediate effect.**

**9. FINAL DRAFT STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR SCRAP METAL FOLLOWING A 12 WEEKS' CONSULTATION PERIOD**

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The Food, Licensing and Markets Manager presented the report which detailed the outcome of consultation on the Draft Statement of Licensing Policy and Guidelines for Scrap Metal and invited the Committee to adopt the Statement of Licensing Policy and Guidelines for Scrap Metal with immediate effect.

She advised that the consultation period had been 17 March to 9 June 2014. The three written responses were detailed at Appendix C to the report and a number of suggestions for the avoidance of doubt had been incorporated in the final draft version before the Committee.

Councillor Witts expressed concern at the continuing use of loudspeakers on scrap metal collection vehicles in residential areas. He was advised that this was an offence under separate legislation and an informative warning note that the use of such devices for the purposes of a trade or business was an offence had been included on the licence application form. Members were advised that the Environmental Protection Team were currently pursuing a prosecution for such an offence.

The Vice Chair asked for increased enforcement measures and suggested that members of the public witnessing such events should take note of the registration number of the vehicle involved and inform the Council.

**RESOLVED that the final draft Statement of Licensing Policy and Guidelines for Scrap Metal be adopted to take immediate effect.**

**10. MEMBERS' UPDATE**

The Food, Licensing and Markets Manager presented the report which provided details of the following:-

- Licensing Activities in the last Quarter
- New Licensing Applications
- Court Cases and other Enforcement Work
- Legislative Updates
- Forward Work Plan

She introduced Darren Mountford, the Council's newly appointed Senior Licensing and Markets Officer.

Councillor Tracey asked about the Taxi drivers' cabin in Broome Way and she was advised that it was to be demolished due to vandalism and anti-social behaviour. She questioned where the drivers would be able to go for their breaks and the Chair believed that they would return to their bases.

The Chair was advised that the gate at the Butlers Nightclub end of Organ's Alley was expected to be installed on 16 July. The gate at the other end of the alley would be installed by a different contractor at the end of July.

Councillor Lugg advised that two private hire drivers had told her recently that when there had been trouble in the evenings in Eastgate Street, they had, on occasion,

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been ordered by the police to take people home. She believed that this could a contravention of the terms of their licence. She was advised that Officers were in discussion with the police regarding this issue.

The Vice Chair was pleased that the team was nearly up to full strength and he thanked Officers for the report

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 9 September 2014 at 18.30 hrs.

**Time of commencement: 18:30 hours**

**Time of conclusion: 19:15 hours**

**Chair**