

Contact Officer: Carol Tague

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

LICENSING PANEL

Wednesday 18 September 2019

Present: Councillor Amanda Pinnock (Chair)
Councillor Karen Allison
Councillor Christine Iredale

1 Membership of the Committee

Not applicable.

2 Interests

No interests were declared.

3 Admission of the Public

That all agenda items be considered in public session.

4 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

5 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

**6 Licensing Act 2003 - Application for the Grant of a Premises Licence:
Westbourne News, 81 Westbourne Road, Marsh, Huddersfield, HD1 4LG**

The Panel considered an application for the Grant of a Premises Licence in respect of Westbourne News, 81 Westbourne Road, Marsh, Huddersfield, HD1 RLG.

The Licensing Officer outlined the application for the grant of the licence. In summary, the Panel were advised that on 24 July 2019, the Licensing Department received an application for the grant of a premises licence for Westbourne News.

The licensable activity applied for was for the sale of alcohol OFF the premises. The times applied for were Monday to Sunday, 00:00 – 00:00.

Two representations from Ward Councillors had been received in relation to the application. Both representations considered that the licensing objectives of Prevention of Public Nuisance and Prevention of Crime and Disorder would not be achieved should the licence be granted.

In presenting the case in support of the application, the applicant advised the Panel that there had been no objections from the police or other agencies and they wanted to increase business, keep staff in employment and respond to requests from the local community who wished to use the facility. Since taking over in July 2019, investment had been made in renovations that would enhance the property and area.

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It was noted that the applicant had previously held a 24-hour licence at another location and there had been no complaints or issues with the police. The applicant confirmed that they were aware of Challenge 25 and the regulations regarding the selling of alcohol, adding that they had run their previous premises as a family business for 10 years.

With regards to concerns relating to nuisance and anti-social behaviour referred to in the written submissions, the Panel noted that CCTV was currently in place and there were plans to upgrade the system. The applicant referred to statistical data from the Police UK website which did not indicate that drugs or antisocial behaviour were an issue in the area. The Licensing Officer stated that no objections had been raised by the police, but advised that the data presented, whilst legitimate, did rely on people reporting issues to the police and did not necessarily mean that there was not any anti-social behaviour.

The Panel were informed that whilst there was a flat above the shop and houses to the rear, people in the locality had indicated that they wanted this service. The shop had been open for several years, currently operated between 0400 – 1700 hours and traffic was minimal.

The Panel noted that home delivery of alcohol was not currently offered but might be in the future. The applicant advised that they had provided this service at their previous business and anyone who ordered goods needed to be of legal age to purchase alcohol and this was checked on delivery.

In their final submission, the applicant reiterated that they had previously run a 24-hour licensed business which had successfully passed the test purchases that had taken place on an annual basis. They concluded by telling the Panel that they would not countenance any illegal activities on their premises and wanted to provide a service for the community.

Resolved: The application for the Grant of a Premises Licence on behalf of Westbourne News, 81 Westbourne Road, Marsh, Huddersfield, HD1 RLG, be granted as stipulated in the application.