

Contact Officer: Nicola Sylvester

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

LICENSING PANEL

Wednesday 3rd March 2021

Present: Councillor Amanda Pinnock (Chair)
Councillor James Homewood
Councillor Michael Watson

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 7th December 2020 be approved as a correct record.

2 Interests

No interests were declared.

3 Admission of the Public

That agenda items 1 – 6 be considered in public session.

That the public be excluded from the hearing in accordance with Regulation 14(2) of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 and Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 during consideration of agenda item 8.

4 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

5 Questions by members of the Public (Written Questions)

No written questions were received.

6 Application for Review Hearing under S51 Licensing Act 2003: Woodman Inn, 6 Hartley Street, Dewsbury

The Panel considered a report which outlined an application for review hearing for Woodman Inn, 6 Hartley Street, Dewsbury.

The Panel was informed that on 18 January 2021, West Yorkshire Police made an application for the review of the premises licence as they believed that the licensing objectives in respect of the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and protection of children from harm were not being achieved at the premises.

The Panel was advised that within the last 18 months there had been complaints from local residents alleging incidents of criminal behaviour, underage drinking, and breaches of the Covid-19 regulations. This had led to the West Yorkshire Police making an application for review of the premises licence.

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A representative acting on behalf of the brewery, acknowledged that there was no excuse for the unacceptable breach of Covid-19 regulations however, felt there was no evidence to support the allegations of underage drinking.

A document which had been circulated prior to the hearing by the brewery and its legal representative was referred to which included proposed amendments to the licence conditions.

In response to the proposal by the Brewery and its legal representative, West Yorkshire Police and Kirklees Licensing Department felt that these amendments did not go far enough and that they needed to be strengthened. Alternative amendments proposed by West Yorkshire Police and Kirklees Licensing were accepted by all parties and included the following:

- a) The premises shall install and maintain comprehensive digital colour CCTV system to cover all public areas including all public entry and exit points;
- b) A minimum of two SIA Approved door staff to be employed Friday and Saturday night from 20:00 until all customers have left the premises;
- c) A recognised personal Licence Holders Course from the British Institute of Inn Keeping to be completed by the Licensee and DPS;
- d) No persons under the age of 18 years of age to be allowed on the premises after 18:00;
- e) An incident log to be kept at the premises for at least six months and made available on request to relevant authorities;
- f) A full risk assessment to be in place for Covid-19 to a standard approved by Kirklees Environmental Health;
- g) Monitoring visits to be carried out by the relevant authorities

Officers from Kirklees Council Environmental Health made representations regarding breaches to the Covid-19 regulations. On visiting the premises, officers found that suitable and sufficient controls in line with the latest government public safety guidance for operating safely during the pandemic had failed to be implemented and a fixed penalty notice was served on the Designated Premises Supervisor.

Following careful consideration of all the representations made both verbally and in writing, in respect of the review application the Panel determined that:

RESOLVED

That the amendments to the licence conditions proposed by West Yorkshire Police and the Licensing Department were acceptable and that the licence should be amended to incorporate these amendments-

That the Licensing Services, relevant council services and responsible authorities continue to monitor the Woodman Inn on a regular basis to ensure ongoing compliance with the conditions of the licence and Covid-19 regulations to promote the licensing objectives.