

## **SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on  
Friday, 23 October 2009 at 10.00am

PRESENT: Councillor Richard Barrett – Chairman  
Councillor Roger Hall – Vice-Chairman

Councillors: Val Barrett Trisha Bear  
Sally Hatton Liz Heazell  
Robin Martlew Raymond Matthews  
Cicely Murfitt Charles Nightingale

Officers: Myles Bebbington Licensing Officer  
Fiona McMillan Legal & Democratic Services Manager and  
Deputy Monitoring Officer  
Dale Robinson Corporate Manager, Health & Environmental  
Services  
Ian Senior Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Janice Guest, Mervyn Loynes,  
David McCraith, Alex Riley and John Williams.

### **10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **11. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Committee authorised the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13  
July 2009 as a correct record.

In respect of minute 9 (Gambling Act 2005 – Revision of Policy), Members noted that  
examples of ‘tracks’ had been included in section 7 of the draft revision.

### **12. GAMBLING ACT 2006 - REVISED POLICY**

The Licensing Committee considered a report on the revised Gambling Act statement of  
Licensing Policy, drafted in line with the requirements of the Gambling Act 2005.

No changes had been required as a result of public consultation.

A Member asked what the “...ordinary and natural meaning...” was of Bingo. The  
Licensing Officer referred to the standard dictionary definition, and common  
understanding, of the word, but agreed to delete from the Policy statement the words  
“...and natural...” The Licensing Officer explained that games involving total prize money  
of less than £2,000 were exempt from regulation.

The Senior Lawyer conveyed comments from Councillor Alex Riley, who had queried the  
linguistics of the Government guidance, and suggested amended wording short of altering  
the meaning. For example, in Part B of the draft Policy, the second bullet point for casinos  
stated that “...No entrance to a casino must be from premises that are used wholly or  
mainly by children and/or young persons”. This should be amended to say “...No  
entrance to a casino is permitted to be from premises that are used wholly or mainly by  
children and/or young persons”.

In response to a question, the Licensing Officer informed the Committee that the term “Chief of Police” (as opposed to “Chief Constable”) was the statutory wording and could not be changed.

The Licensing Committee **noted** that the final decision was to be made by Council and commented that the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Policy (as attached at Appendix B to the report and amended slightly at the meeting in the interests of clarity, should be approved, ratified and adopted by the Leader, substituting for the Environmental Services Portfolio Holder and in his own right under the new procedures, and by Council.

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**The Meeting ended at 10.15 a.m.**

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