SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on Thursday, 26 May 2005

PRESENT: Councillor RE Barrett – Chairman Councillor EW Bullman – Vice-Chairman

Councillors: R Hall Mrs HF Kember

Mrs JA Muncey Mrs CAED Murfitt

Dr JPR Orme NJ Scarr J Shepperson A Riley

Dr JR Williamson Mrs SA Hatton

Mrs A Elsby

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor DALG Wherrell.

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Chairman was authorised to sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2004.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared:

Councillor Mrs HF Kember as local Member for The Shelfords Councillor Mrs JA Muncey as local Member for Histon.

3. GREAT SHELFORD - APPLICATION FOR CONSENT STREET STATUS

The Assistant Licensing Officer asked the Committee to consider and approve Great Shelford's request for Consent Street Status, in order that the necessary process to organise the Status could be commenced.

The Licensing Committee

AGREED to the request from Great Shelford Parish Council for all streets in the

village to be designated as Consent Streets.

Members raised the issue of the possibility of designating blanket Consent Street Status across the district, as opposed to waiting for each village to make an application and agreeing them individually. It was confirmed that this had been discussed in the past and no further action taken due to the costs and officer time involved. At present there would also need to be a focus on ensuring applications under the Licensing Act 2003 were dealt with efficiently, thereby making Consent Street Status a lower priority except where specific applications were made by villages.

Until the Committee was able to devote its energies to this topic, it was agreed that all Council Members should be encouraged to consider talking to their parishes about making Consent Street applications. This was to be done through the Members' Weekly Bulletin. It was also suggested that the process of application be advertised in a future edition of South Cambs Magazine.

4. HISTON - RENEWAL OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE AT THE ROYAL

BRITISH LEGION CLUB

Councillor Mrs JA Muncey declared an interest in this item as the local member for Histon.

Four residents of Saffron Road, Histon were in attendance to voice their objections to the renewal of the Public Entertainment Licence for the Royal British Legion Club. These included:

- Loud music being audible in their homes including high levels of bass, causing vibrations;
- Noise disturbances from people leaving the club continuing well after closing time;
- Rowdyism of young people including apparent under-age drinking in the car park during opening hours;
- Glass bottles left in the car park and on the street;
- Extended opening hours until midnight, potentially every night of the week, since 2004 without the knowledge of local residents.

The applicant on behalf of the Royal British Legion Club sought to address these issues in his support of the application for renewal of the Public Entertainment Licence.

- The Noise Limiter in the Club was set to 90 Dba which was lower than it had been previously;
- Noise after closing time could not be commented on;
- No under-age persons were allowed to buy alcohol at the Club and only children of members and guests at the Club were only allowed on the premises;
- People buying drinks in the Club were asked by signage not to take glasses and bottles outside the Club:
- The notice of intent to extend public entertainments to midnight in 2004 was posted on the Club notice board outside as per the requirements of the application.

The Environmental Health Officer reassured the Committee of the capabilities of the Noise Limiter that was fitted at the Club but that it could not limit the power of low frequency or bass music and that alternative remedies to this problem would need to be discussed with the Club.

Having taken regard of the information provided by the Licensing Officer and the arguments of the applicant and the objectors, the Licensing Committee

AGREED that a Public Entertainment Licence be issued until such date as the new Licensing Act 2003 comes into force, in respect of the Royal British Legion Club, Histon, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) A sound limiter should be installed limiting all music and other entertainments to 87Dba.
- (b) Public entertainments can continue until midnight on a Friday and Saturday night only.
- (c) On Monday to Thursday nights public entertainments must finish by 10.30pm. There will be no entertainment licence granted for Sundays.
- (d) The applicant may also hold an additional one event per month to finish at midnight, subject to seven days prior notice being given to the Council's Licensing Officer and a prominent notice displayed on the door of the premises, notifying local residents of such additional events.

(e) The applicant should ensure that fire doors at the premises are kept closed but unlocked whilst an event is taking place.

The Committee would also like to recommend that the applicant consult further with the Environmental Health Officer regarding additional noise limitation measures, before a new licence is applied for.

The Meeting ended at 12.45 p.m.