

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on
Wednesday, 20 June 2007 at 10.00am

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| Councillors: | RE Barrett EW Bullman Mrs JM Guest RB Martlew DC McCraith A Riley | Mrs PM Bear Mrs A Elsby R Hall RM Matthews Mrs CAED Murfitt |
| Officers: | Myles Bebbington Fiona McMillan Dale Robinson Ian Senior | Licensing Officer Senior Lawyer Corporate Manager (Health & Environmental Services) Democratic Services Officer |

Councillor Mrs DSK Spink MBE (Portfolio Holder for Housing and Environmental Services) was in attendance, by invitation.

There were no Apologies for absence.

**The Corporate Manager
(Health and Environmental
Services) opened the
meeting**

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor DC McCraith declared a personal interest as a Cambridgeshire County Councillor.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillors RE Barrett and Mrs CAED Murfitt were nominated and seconded and, following a ballot of those Committee Members present, it was

RESOLVED that, by six votes to five, Councillor RE Barrett be elected Chairman of the Licensing Committee for the year 2007-08.

**Councillor RE Barrett took
the Chair.**

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillors R Hall and Mrs CAED Murfitt were nominated and seconded and, following a ballot of those Committee Members present, it was

RESOLVED that, by six votes to five, Councillor R Hall be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Licensing Committee for the year 2007-08.

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Committee authorised the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2007.

Councillor Mrs CAED Murfitt stated that she had spoken before the meeting with the Licensing Officer, who had clarified a number of issues contained in the Minutes to her personal satisfaction.

5. GAMBLING ACT 2005 - SETTING OF FEES

The Committee considered a report setting out the maximum fees for applications and annual licence fees for the first year of the Gambling Act 2005, to be determined by the Cabinet, and proposing that fees for subsequent years be reviewed and set by the relevant Portfolio Holder to ensure full cost recovery, subject to any limitations laid out within the legislation.

Concern was expressed at the apparent inconsistency between Recommendations (a) and (b) at paragraph 15 of the report. In reply, the Corporate Manager (Health and Environmental Services) reminded Members that, under the Council's Constitution, the determination of fees was a function of the Cabinet. He stated that the proposal was that the Portfolio Holder review those fees annually on the basis of existing Council policy on the subject. The Committee felt that its expertise in licensing matters should be called upon by the Cabinet in finalising fee levels, and that the way to ensure this would be to communicate its views to the Portfolio Holder.

The Licensing Committee

- (1) **SUPPORTED** the maximum fees as set out in Appendix A to the report, and **ENCOURAGED** the Portfolio Holder to seek the Cabinet's approval of application and annual licence fees for the first year of the Gambling Act 2005; and
- (2) **AGREED** that fees for subsequent years be reviewed and set by the relevant Portfolio Holder, acting within the current fee policy framework, to ensure full cost recovery, subject to any limitations laid out within the legislation.