

MINUTE NUMBERS

Minutes of Licensing Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: Monday, 7 July 2014 at 10am
Present: Councillor J Alcock (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Brunskill
R Hargreaves

In attendance: Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Solicitor, Admin and Licensing (Alcohol & Entertainment) Officer, Enforcement Officer (Licensing and Planning), Committee Clerk – Community Development Officer, Councillor T Hill.

Also in attendance: Applicant and individuals giving evidence for the Applicant, Solicitor for the Licence Holder, Licence Holder, Licence Holder's husband and son.

Observer: Councillor J Holgate.

VARIATION OF THE LICENCE FOR RENDEZVOUS, 16 ACCRINGTON ROAD, WHALLEY, BB7 9TD

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained how the hearing would operate. She then invited Councillor Hill to make his comments before he had to leave the meeting. Councillor Hill commented that he had not had any complaints about the premises except those received from the Applicant. He stated that the late night noise was an issue but he did not believe on balance that the general public would want to see the premises put out of business.

The Applicant listed her concerns as follows:

- Increase in noise from Rendezvous since 2010.
- Noise from patrons and once the club had been closed.
- Litter and general anti-social behaviour of patrons leaving the club.
- Noise from taxi drivers (engines, talking and loud music).
- Noise as a result of doors being opened for smokers in the club.

Those giving evidence in support of the Applicant:

- Questioned various aspects of the proceedings including witness statements and Councillor Hill's earlier comments.
- Raised concerns about the future management of the club, in particular noise levels which may increase once soundproofing work was completed.

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- Listed problems with the dispersal policy which in their view did not seem to be working. They were also concerned about litter, bottles and glasses being left in nearby gardens.

The Solicitor representing the Licence Holder:

- questioned the evidence of the applicants about times/dates of noise reports.
- questioned why the Applicant had not shared her concerns with the club's management to arrive at an amicable solution.
- stated that neither the Environmental Health Department or the police (as responsible authorities) had made representations.
- emphasised that any decision had to be proportionate and evidence based.
- stated that there was a grey area about what the club was responsible for in terms of patrons' actions once they had left the club.
- lack of support for the application case from neighbours.

Decision

The Sub-Committee informed the Applicant and the Licence Holder that they would release their decision within 5 working days.

The Sub-Committee's decision is available at:

https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/9574/rendezvous_whalley_ltd