

CITY OF DONCASTER COUNCIL

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

A MEETING of the LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE was held at the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICE, WATERDALE, DONCASTER DN1 3BU on WEDNESDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2023, at 2.00 pm.

PRESENT:

Chair - Councillor Dave Shaw

Councillors Bev Chapman, Martin Greenhalgh and Debbie Hutchinson.

25 Declarations of interest, if any.

There were no declarations made at the meeting.

26 Application for a New Premises Licence in respect of Go Local, 2 Langer Street, Hexthorpe, Doncaster, DN4 0EX

The Sub-Committee considered an application for a new premises licence in respect of 'Go Local', 2 Langer Street, Hexthorpe, Doncaster, DN4 0EX.

The Sub-Committee Members, the Applicant, the Applicant's Agent, and the persons making representations had received a copy of the agenda prior to the meeting. Copies of the representations were appended to the report at Appendix F.

Additional information in relation to Due diligence records, Challenge 25, Premise Licence Holder (PLH) / Designated Premise Supervisor (DPS) Information Booklet and Challenge 25 Poster, had been circulated to Members of the Sub-Committee prior to the meeting.

At the commencement of the hearing, the Chair welcomed all parties to the meeting, made introductions and outlined the procedure to be followed.

The Senior Licensing Practitioner, Hayley Oxley introduced the report and outlined the key points in relation to the application. It was reported that since the publication of the agenda papers, the Petition submitted by a group of individuals, objecting to the application, as set out at Appendix F of the report had been withdrawn. In addition, a letter of objection to the application, as set out at (Appendix F), page 42 of the agenda papers had been withdrawn by the objector. The objector had contacted the Licensing department and had indicated that they had not made a representation.

The Applicant, Mr Makeetharan, the Applicant's representative, Mr Ian Rushton, JL Licencing, acting on behalf of the Applicant, attended the meeting and made representations and answered questions.

Mr Oxley and Mr Swali, who had made written representations in respect of the application attended the meeting. Mr Oxley spoke on behalf of residents objecting to the application outlined their concerns, objections and answered questions.

All parties were then asked to leave the meeting, whilst the Sub-Committee deliberated on the application and reached a decision.

All parties were invited back into the meeting and informed of the Sub-Committee's decision.

RESOLVED that having considered the application for a new premises licence in respect of Go Local, 2 Langer Street, Hexthorpe, Doncaster, DN4 0EX and taken into account the representations made and the evidence presented today, the steps that are appropriate to promote the Licensing Objectives, the Home Office Guidance and our Statement of Licensing Policy, the Licensing Sub-Committee have decided to grant the licence in the terms set out in Appendices B-D, together with the conditions at page 39 of the agenda pack.

The Sub-Committee noted the comments made by Mr Oxley who had made representations regarding the application. Mr Oxley stated that litter and anti-social behaviour are horrendous in Hexthorpe – Mr Oxley spends hours each day clearing litter due to the extent of the problem. Mr Oxley repeatedly questioned the need for another licenced premises in Hexthorpe, given there is already a premise 50 yards away. However, 'need' is not something the Sub-Committee can take into account. The following is taken from the Home office Statutory Guidance:-

“Need” concerns the commercial demand for another pub or restaurant, or hotel and is a matter for the planning authority and for the market. This is not a matter for a licensing authority in discharging its licensing functions or for its statement of licensing policy.”

The Sub-Committee have sympathy for Mr Oxley and recognised the efforts he goes to personally to clear litter. However, the Sub-Committee have no evidence to say any of the current problems are attributed to this particular premise, rather they appear to be existing problems. The Sub-Committee was mindful that no representations had been made by any of the responsible authorities, such as the police and environmental health, who could have made representations if they had evidence of crime or environmental issues relating to this premise.

The Sub-Committee was satisfied that the applicant was proposing measures which would promote the licensing objectives, such as the installation of 32 CCTV cameras to cover inside and outside the premises and signage to encourage respect towards neighbouring premises.

CHAIR: _____

DATE: _____