

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Special Meeting of the COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Monday, 20 December 2004.

PRESENT: Councillor J A P Eddy - Chairman

Councillors M G Baker, Mrs M Banjeree, I C Bates, J T Bell, Mrs B E Boddington, P L E Bucknell, E R Butler, Mrs J Chandler, R L Clarke, W T Clough, S J Criswell, J W Davies, P J Downes, J J Dutton, J D Fell, J E Garner, D A Giles, J A Gray, N J Guyatt, A Hansard, D Harty, D P Holley, C R Hyams, Mrs P J Longford, Mrs S A Menczer, P G Mitchell, I R Muir, M F Newman, R Powell, Mrs D C Reynolds, K Reynolds, T V Rogers, J M Sadler, T D Sanderson, L M Simpson, C J Stephens, P A Swales, J Taylor, G S E Thorpe, R G Tuplin, J S Watt and Ms M Wheeler.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs D E Collins, D B Dew, N J Finnie, Mrs C A Godley, Mrs K P Gregory, I P Taylor and Mrs S J Vanbergen.

41. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8th December 2004 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to -

- (a) in Minute No 32(b) the insertion of the word 'Councillors' before the word 'Mrs' and the deletion of the word 'Mr' in the second line; and
- (b) the insertion of the following paragraph in Minute No 32 –

'aa) Lord Lieutenant

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mr A H Duberly CBE.'

42. LICENSING ACT 2003: STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

The Chairman of the Licensing & Protection Panel, Councillor J M Sadler introduced a report by the Head of Administration (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) regarding the outcome of public consultation on a draft statement of licensing policy, which required approval under the Licensing Act 2003 by the Council prior to 7th January 2005. Councillor Sadler added that the policy would apply for a period of three years but once adopted could be amended at any time provided consultation was undertaken on the proposed change.

Members noted that 40 questionnaires and associated comments had been returned from Members of the public together with replies from the Police and representative bodies involved in the licensing and entertainment industry. In response to questions from Councillor PJ Downes and A Hansard, the Chairman indicated his satisfaction that the representations received during the consultation exercise had been reflected within the proposed statement, that given the resources available the District Council might have difficulty in enforcing compliance with the policy, that he doubted whether the fees chargeable would meet the cost of the service and that in the absence of final Regulations on procedure and forms, the District Council would have to exercise its functions under the Act as best it could given the constraints imposed by the Government.

The Chairman undertook to respond to Councillor Hansard in writing on the question of the status of authorised persons under the Act and rights of entry to premises with club premises certificates. Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the Statement of Licensing Policy as set out in Appendix C to the report now submitted be approved and implemented with effect from 7th January 2005 for a period of three years.

The meeting ended at 6.40 pm.

Chairman