

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the LICENSING COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Thursday, 24th August 2006.

PRESENT: Councillor J M Sadler – Chairman.

Councillors K M Baker, J D Fell, Mrs K P Gregory, A Hansard, I R Muir, J Taylor and Mrs M Wheeler.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors D Harty and J S Watt.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Panel held on the 17th May 2006 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the amendment to the resolution of Minute No. 5 to read as follows:

“RESOLVED

that the Committee establish three Groups from which Members be appointed to nine Sub-Committees as follows:

- (a) 1. Councillors Sadler, Hansard and Baker;
2. Councillors Sadler, Baker and Watt;
3. Councillors Sadler, Hansard and Watt
- (b) 1. Councillors Bell, Fell and Gregory;
2. Councillors Bell, Fell and J Taylor;
3. Councillors Bell, Gregory and J Taylor
- (c) 1. Councillors Muir, Harty and Powell;
2. Councillors Muir, Harty and Wheeler;
3. Councillors Muir, Powell and Wheeler.”

2. MEMBERS INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

3. GAMBLING ACT 2005 - STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The Panel considered a report by the Head of Administration (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) advising Members that the Gambling Act 2005 had introduced a new regulatory regime for gambling and that the Council would become responsible for licensing premises for that purpose.

Members were informed that the first appointed date for the receipt of applications by the Council was 31st January 2007 and the Act required all licensing authorities to publish a Statement of Principles on how they intended to approach their responsibilities under the Act by 3rd January 2007. Information on fees for applications was awaited.

In considering the report now submitted and having noted the timetable for its introduction, the Panel agreed that the Draft Statement should be circulated for a consultation period of 10 weeks so as to meet the deadline contained in the Act. Accordingly, it was

RESOLVED

that the Gambling Act 2005 Draft Statement of Principles be approved for the purposes of public consultation.

4. SPECIAL MEETING

The Panel noted that a special meeting of the Committee would be held at 4pm on 27th November 2006 to consider the outcome of consultations on the draft Statement of Principles referred to above.

Chairman