

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 Monday, 11th February 2008.

PRESENT: Councillor J M Sadler – Chairman.
Councillors K M Baker, J T Bell, J J Dutton, R W J Eaton, R S Farrer, J D Fell, A Hansard, I R Muir and J S Watt.

APOLOGY: An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor T D Sanderson.

19. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 23rd October 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

20. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

21. LICENSING ACT 2003 - DELEGATIONS

Consideration was given to a report by the Head of Administration (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which drew Members' attention to an amendment to the Licensing Act 2003 which had come into force in October 2007 which enabled licensing authorities, on receipt of an application from a senior police officer in cases of serious crime and disorder, to attach interim conditions to premises licences pending a full review.

Members were also informed of the introduction of new powers for local authorities and the police to designate Alcohol Disorder Zones as a last resort to tackle alcohol related crime and disorder in an area. The designation of an area as an ADZ would empower a local authority to charge licensees for additional enforcement activity affecting all licensed premises within the zone. Members were informed that the new power had yet to be brought into effect by regulation and that further information would be brought to the Committee's attention when regulations were made and guidance issued by the Secretary of State.

RESOLVED

that the Licensing Sub Committees be authorised to take steps (as deemed necessary), following the receipt of an application from a senior police officer in cases of serious crime and disorder, to attach interim conditions to premises licenses pending a full review.

22. REGULATORS' COMPLIANCE CODE

Members received and noted a report by the Head of Administration (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) on the Regulators' Compliance Code published by the Department for Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR). Members' attention was drawn to the necessity for relevant Heads of Service to update a range of enforcement policies to reflect the requirements of the new Code which would be undertaken in consultation with the Chairman.

RESOLVED

- (a) the contents of the report be noted; and
- (b) that relevant Heads of Service be authorised to review their enforcement policies having specific regard to the content of the new Regulators' Compliance Code and to make any necessary changes after consultation with the Chairman.

Chairman