

ITEM 4

Time commenced – 6.01pm
Time finished – 7:10pm

GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE 9 FEBRUARY 2011

Present: Councillor Hird (in the Chair)
Councillors Atwal, Barker, Berry, Harwood, Jackson, S Khan,
Leeming, Skelton and F Winter

27/10 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chera and Redfern.

28/10 Late items introduced by the Chair

There were no Late Items.

29/10 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

30/10 Confirmation of the Minutes of the General Licensing Committee held on Wednesday 8 December 2010

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to an amendment to minute 24/10 replacing the word "Inspection" with "Inspector".

31/10 General Licensing Enforcement Activities 2010-11, Quarters 1, 2 and 3

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods detailing the General Licensing enforcement activities in the first three quarters of the 2010/11 financial year. The report was to be the first of regular reports taken to the Committee on the subject.

Members requested a more detailed breakdown of the figures in future reports to include whether inspections had resulted in any offences being detected. Members also noted that it would be helpful to such details whilst considering individual applications at General Licensing Sub Committee hearings.

Resolved to note the report

32/10 General Licensing Fees and Charges 2011/12

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods on General Licensing Fees and Charges for 2011/12. It explained that a review of the fees and charges within the Environmental and Regulatory Services Department had been undertaken in line with the principles agreed by the Council Cabinet on 14 December 2010. The proposed fees and charges for General Licensing activities were set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

Members discussed the level of the rise, particularly in relation to renewals of Sex Shop licences. The Head of Environmental Health and Licensing noted that the Council would be bringing itself in to line with neighbouring authorities and that a benchmarking exercise had been undertaken. Members of the Committee added that this was a protected market and enquired as to how long it had been since a review of fees and charges had been undertaken, as Derby charged less than some other authorities. The Head of Legal Service – General advised that legislation dictated that fees and charges should be set locally according to cost recovery principles, so that the rate charged in other authority areas will differ considerably depending on their overheads and on-costs.

Resolved to approve the increase in General Licensing Fees and Charges as set out in Appendix 2 of the report, to be implemented from 1 April 2011

MINUTES END