

## Statutory Licensing Sub Committee

A meeting of Statutory Licensing Sub Committee was held on Monday, 11th September, 2017.

**Present:** Councillor Paul Kirton (Chairman), Councillor Kathryn Nelson, Councillor Maurice Perry

**Officers:** Mr Jonathan Nertney (HR,L&C), Mr Simon Mills (DCE)

**Also in attendance:** Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Reuben Kench, Director of Leisure Culture and Events was represented at the meeting by Tara Connor, Events Service Manager and Peter Savage, Events Team Leader. Mr Ross solicitor and his client

**Apologies:** None

### **SLS 29/17**      **Appointment of Chair**

RESOLVED that Councillor Kirton be appointed as Chairman for this meeting only.

### **SLS 30/17**      **Evacuation Procedure**

The Evacuation Procedure was noted.

### **SLS 31/17**      **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **SLS 32/17**      **Licensing Act 2003 Application for Variation of a Licence Cultural Quarter Area, Adjacent to Bishop Street, Stockton on Tees**

Members were required to determine an application for variation of a licence for the premise, Cultural Quarter Area, Adjacent to Bishop Street, Stockton on Tees.

An application for variation had been received from Stockton on Tees Borough Council in relation to the Cultural Quarter, Adjacent to Bishop Street, Stockton in Tees. The proposed variation was for the following:

To extend the Cultural Quarter licence area from the north of Calverts Lane to include Bishop Street up to and including Bishop Street car park. Additionally to extend the licensed area from Calverts Square to include Mohujos and Mohujos car park and to extend the licence to include Silver Street.

There had been no representation made by responsible authorities.

Two representations had been received from Interested Parties. These representations related to the prevention of crime and disorder, prevention of public nuisance, protection of children from harm and public safety objectives.

Mr Ross Solicitor and his client attended the meeting and were given the opportunity to make representation.

The applicant, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Reuben Kench, Director of Leisure Culture and Events was represented at the meeting by Tara Connor, Events Service Manager and Peter Savage, Events Team Leader, and were given the opportunity to make representation.

The Chair introduced all persons who were present and explained the procedure to be followed during the hearing.

The Committee considered the report, the application and the representations which had been received. The Committee heard oral submissions from the Applicant and Mr Ross, Solicitor, who represented one of the persons who had made a representation.

Stockton Borough Councils Events Services Manager addressed the Committee on the application and stated that Stockton Council events programme continued to play a significant part in Stockton Town Centre vitality and vibrancy, contributing to social and economic objectives.

The purpose of extending the premise license within the Cultural Quarter was to consolidate a number of outdoor spaces, situated off the main high street, which could be utilised as event venues. It was anticipated that small scale music events and outdoor markets would be programmed which would promote and attract residents and visitors into that area of the town, showcasing independent businesses, bars, retailers, character properties etc., that occupied that particular location.

Stockton Council had a proven track record in event management and with careful event planning/appropriate health and safety arrangements including crowd control, stewarding /security, traffic management etc., it was felt that incidents of public disorder and anti-social behaviour were less likely to happen whilst events were being delivered.

Stockton Borough Councils Events Services Manager informed the Committee that constructive discussions had taken place with the representative of one of the objectors and that she had also met with Mr Wilson, the other objector. Stockton Borough Councils Events Services Manager proposed a number of conditions which could be attached to the licence if granted, namely: -

- Silver Street - event activity would be restricted to Outdoor Market events only; no music or dancing performances will take place.
- Silver Street - consumption of alcohol is not permitted, off sales only as part of a market offer is permitted.
- Cultural Quarter licensed outdoor events will not be staged more than 10 times in any 12-month period
- Licensable activity will be restricted between the hours of 10:00am and 11:00pm.

The Committee were mindful that any evidence to persuade the Committee to refuse or vary the application had to be linked to the licensing objectives. The Committee had regard to the statutory guidance under Section 182 of the

Licensing Act and to the Councils Own Statement of Licensing Policy.

The Committee listened to the submissions which had been made to them and noted that the objector who was in attendance had indicated that following discussions with Stockton Borough Councils Events Services Manager their initial concern over the application had been allayed. It was also noted that the conditions which had been proposed would limit the activity initially proposed under the variation application.

After giving due consideration to all relevant information the Committee decided to approve the variation application as detailed in the report but attached several conditions which would limit the proposed activities under the Premises Licence and thus ensured that the licensing objectives were not undermined.

The Committee attached the following conditions: -

- Silver Street - event activity would be restricted to Outdoor Market events only; no music or dancing performances will take place.
- Silver Street - consumption of alcohol is not permitted, off sales only as part of a market offer is permitted.
- Cultural Quarter licensed outdoor events will not be staged more than 10 times in any 12-month period

Licensable activity will be restricted between the hours of 10:00am and 11:00pm.

RESOLVED that the application for Variation of a Licence Cultural Quarter Area, Adjacent to Bishop Street, Stockton on Tees be granted with conditions as detailed above.