

LICENSING COMMITTEE
19 OCTOBER 2011

7.15 to 8.15 PM

PRESENT: Councillor David Simpson (chairman), Councillors Stan Anderson, John Bowcott, Richard Chellew, Chris Edge, Philip Jones, Logie Lohendran, John Sargeant, Linda Scott, Sam Thomas, Gregory Udeh, Martin Whelton.

ALSO PRESENT: Marc Dubet (Environmental Health Pollution and Licensing Manager), Susanne Wicks (Democratic Services Officer).

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Logie Lohendran declared a personal interest in item 4 as the vice-chair of the Morden Park Committee.

Councillor Stan Anderson declared a personal interest in item 4 as the vice-chair of FiSH (Friends in St Helier).

Councillor Chris Edge declared a personal interest in item 4, due to his attendance at this year's Filipino Festival as part of his deputy mayoral duties.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 JUNE 2011

RESOLVED: That the minutes are agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4 LICENSING SECTION PROGRESS REPORT

Marc Dubet introduced the report. Comments made were as follows:

Overview and Scrutiny Commission's review of the night-time economy

Marc Dubet went through the responses given to recommendations 11 and 12, which refer to the Licensing Committee.

Councillor John Sargeant suggested that the authority should promote and encourage the night-time economy through activities other than alcohol consumption.

The Committee undertook to look at the recommendations again when the new legislation is in place.

Merton Filipino Festival 2011

Marc Dubet went through the monitoring of noise that took place throughout this year's festival.

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Councillor Martin Whelton suggested that events in council run parks could be restricted in terms of noise, especially where the council is incurring costs due to the need for noise monitoring.

Councillor Logie Lohendran undertook to pass details to Marc Dubet of an event that took place in Morden Park this year that was very noisy.

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill

Marc Dubet highlighted the main implications for Licensing Authorities arising from the new bill. He noted his concern that some of the changes will have implications on resources in the Licensing Section.

With regard to the DCMS consultation on regulated entertainment, committee members undertook to pass their comments onto Marc Dubet, who will pull together the formal response from the authority, and seek approval from the chairman and cabinet member.

Report received.

5 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Councillor David Simpson advised that he had been consulted by officers on the frequency of meetings of this committee to be held in the next municipal year, and suggested that three meetings would be better than four.

RESOLVED: That the Licensing Committee should have three scheduled meetings per municipal year.