

Chair - Councillor A P Edgeller

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

R P Cooke

A M Loughran

Also present:-

Officers in attendance:-

Mr S Turner	-	Legal Services Manager
Mrs J Wallace	-	Licensing Manager
Ms K McKinney	-	Senior Licensing Officer
Mr A Bailey	-	Scrutiny Officer

Also in Attendance:-

Ms V Osbourne	-	Environmental Health Officer
Mr T Olaf	-	Environmental Protection Officer
Ms G McMullin	-	Environmental Protection Officer
Ms A Brackel	-	Joules Brewery
Ms E Mason	-	The Crown Wharf - Premises Licence Holder
Mr S Nuttall	-	Joules Brewery
Ms P Deeks	-	Local Resident
Mr S Dunkley	-	Local Resident
Mr J Overall	-	Local Resident
Mr N Riley	-	Local Resident
Mrs L Riley	-	Local Resident
Mr D Tabernor	-	Local Resident

**LSC8 Application for a Review of a Premises Licence - The Crown Wharf,
Crown Street, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 8QN**

Considered the report of the Licensing Officer in relation to an Application for a Review of Premises Licence for The Crown Wharf, Crown Street, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 8QN.

On 23 September 2022 the Council received an application for a Review of the Premises Licence for the Crown Wharf, Crown Street, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 8QN. Stafford Borough Council's Environmental Health Team had requested the review in relation to issues relating to one of the licensing objectives, namely the prevention of public nuisance.

A previous review application was submitted on 31 August 2022; however on 22 September, Environmental Health advised that they had to restart the process for procedural reasons. Environmental Health had stated that the operation and current management of the premises were undermining the above licensing objective and requested that the premises establish more effective noise control and management measures.

The Premises Licence Holder of the Crown Wharf was Joules Brewery Limited. Environmental Health had proposed several changes to the premises licence outlined in the review application; these included stopping the use of the canal façade; adding conditions onto the premises licence concerning noise mitigation measures (closing doors/windows, noise notices to be displayed, etc); and restricting the times of entertainment at the venue. There had been no other representations from any other Responsible Authorities during the consultation period of this review which ended on 20 October 2022.

The Licensing Team had received emails from 9 members of the public who lived in the vicinity of the premises, all of whom were in agreement with the review application on the basis that they had been directly experiencing what could be summarised as excessive noise from the premises. Member's attention was also drawn to the fact that the Licensing Team had received 16 emails in support of the Crown Wharf.

Ms K McKinney attended the meeting on behalf of the Head of Operations and introduced the report for Members.

Ms V Osbourne and Mr T Olaf outlined their case in support of the application for a Review of the Premises Licence.

All parties were given the opportunity to question Ms Osbourne and Mr Olaf.

Ms P Deeks, Mr D Tabernor, Mr S Dunkley and Mr N Riley outlined their case in support of the application for a Review of the Premises Licence.

All parties were given the opportunity to question Ms Deeks, Mr Tabernor, Mr Dunkley and Mr Riley.

The Sub Committee took a short comfort break at this point.

Recording of the meeting was paused and then restarted when all parties were back in the room.

Ms A Brackel, Ms E Mason and Mr S Nuttall outlined their case in objection to the application for a Review of the Premises Licence.

All parties were given the opportunity to question Ms Brackel, Ms Mason and Mr Nuttall.

Mr T Olaf and Ms V Osbourne were then given the opportunity to sum up their case.

Mr D Tabernor, Mr S Dunkley and Mr N Riley were then given the opportunity to sum up their case.

Ms A Brackel, Ms E Mason and Mr S Nuttall were then given the opportunity to sum their case.

The Sub Committee then considered the matter in private.

Recording of the meeting was paused and then restarted when all parties were back in the room.

All parties were invited back into the meeting for the Sub Committee's decision.

RESOLVED:- That:-

- (a) The following condition be added to the premises licence - under "prevention of public nuisance" as follows:-
 - The DPS and licence holder will ensure that the outdoor areas on the canal side of the Premises, including the terrace and balcony areas are not used by patrons on Fridays and Saturdays from 10:00pm, and on other days from 9.30pm.

- (b) The following conditions be varied as follows -
 - Conditions 1 - for Prevention of Public Nuisance - on page 20 of the agenda is varied to read "Prominent, clear, and legible notices to be displayed at all exits requesting the public to respect the needs of residents and to leave the premises and the area quietly. Door supervisors and/ or the DPS will remind every customer, on leaving the premises, to leave the premises quietly."

 - Condition 2 - for Prevention of Public Nuisance - on page 20 of the agenda is varied to read "When music is to be played on the premises, the DPS will take steps to ensure that all windows and doors fronting neighbours are kept closed save for access and egress. The premises supervisor will ensure that music will not be such that its volume, vibration, and amplification will cause nuisance to neighbours."

- REASONS:-
- (a) The Committee found that there were ongoing issues with noise escape from the canal side outdoor area of the premises, which was undermining the licensing objective relating to the prevention of public nuisance;
 - (b) There was a fundamental issue with the canal side outdoor area being a large outdoor space for over 200 customers, and residential noise sensitive properties being situated only 30 metres away.

CHAIR