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LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 12 MARCH 2019

Councillors Present: Peter Argyle, Jeff Beck (Chairman) and Tony Linden

Substitute: Richard Crumly

Also Present: Anne Marie Baird (Solicitor) and Kaya Shanmugalingam (Trainee Solicitor), Jo Watt (Member Services Officer)

PART I

1 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

2 Application No. 18/01858/LQN - Berkshire Restaurant Ltd, 26 Reading Road, Pangbourne, Berks, RG8 7LY

The Sub-Committee considered a report (Agenda Item 2(1)) concerning Licensing Application No. 18/01858/LQN in respect of Berkshire Restaurant Ltd, 26 Reading Road, Pangbourne, Berks, RG8 7LY.

Councillor Jeff Beck, Chairman of the Sub-Committee introduced the Sub-Committee members, Anne Marie Baird, West Berkshire Council's Solicitor and Jo Watt, Clerk to the Sub-Committee.

Councillor Jeff Beck confirmed the attendance of:

- Ms Karen Court, Licensing Officer on behalf of West Berkshire Council
- Mr Declan Smyth of Thames Valley Police, the Responsible Authority
- A member of the Press

The Sub-Committee noted that Councillor Pamela Bale, Ward Member had indicated that she may not be able to attend and was not in attendance.

The Council's Solicitor, Anne Marie Baird, addressed the Sub-Committee and informed them that shortly before the start of the meeting, West Berkshire Council had been notified that neither the Applicant, Mr James Southern nor his Solicitor (Licensing Lawyers) would be attending the Sub-Committee. The Applicant had a prior appointment that he was not able to rearrange and he had not instructed his Solicitors to attend on his behalf. The Applicant and his Solicitor had therefore requested that the Sub-Committee be adjourned.

Councillor Jeff Beck asked Mr Declan Smyth, representing Thames Valley Police, the Responsible Authority if he had any comments regarding the request to adjourn the Sub-Committee.

Mr Declan Smyth in addressing the Sub-Committee, raised the following points:

 If the Sub-Committee was adjourned then the application would not be heard within the statutory licensing timescales. In response, Anne Marie Baird, West Berkshire Council's Solicitor said that it was possible to extend the deadline for the hearing of the application if the Sub-committee felt that it was in the public interest to do so.

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE - 12 MARCH 2019 - MINUTES

- That Thames Valley Police stood by their representation as detailed in the agenda and nothing had changed in terms of their reasons for objecting to the application. In summary, Thames Valley believed that the previous premises Licence Holder, Mr Jamshed Miah was still actively involved in this new application.
- Whilst Mr Smyth understood the need for the Applicant and/or their Solicitor to be present in order to answer questions regarding the application, it was Mr Smyth's view that the Sub-Committee should proceed in their absence.

The Sub-Committee noted the views of Mr Declan Smyth of Thames Valley Police.

The Sub-Committee retired at 10.33 am to consider the Applicant's request to adjourn the hearing of Licensing Application No. 18/01858/LQN in respect of Berkshire Restaurant Ltd, 26 Reading Road, Pangbourne, Berks, RG8 7LY.

The Sub-Committee returned at 10.40 am and Anne Marie Baird, West Berkshire Council's Solicitor informed those present that the Sub-Committee had resolved to adjourn the hearing of the application as it was necessary to do so in the public interest, specifically to allow the Applicant a further opportunity to attend to make their representations, and for the Sub-Committee and the Responsible Authority to have the opportunity to ask questions.

In response, Declan Smyth representing Thames Valley Police, the Responsible Authority said that he accepted the decision of the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee resolved to adjourn the Sub-Committee and to re-schedule the hearing of Licensing Application No. 18/01858/LQN in respect of Berkshire Restaurant Ltd, 26 Reading Road, Pangbourne, Berks, RG8 7LY to the earliest possible date.

(The meeting commenced at 10.25 am and closed at 10.44 am)

Name

...Councillor Jeff Beck.....

Date of Signature

Name

Name

...Councillor Peter Argyle.....

Date of Signature

...Councillor Tony Linden.....

A.N. Linden

Date of Signature