

DRAFT

LICENSING PANEL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13 APRIL 2026

Councillors Present: Paul Dick (Chairman), Billy Drummond, and Clive Taylor

Also Present: Moira Fraser (Principal Officer - Policy & Governance), Mark Groves (West Berkshire Licensing Officer), Tobi Oyedeji (the Panels Legal Advisor), and Jodie Wilson (Environmental Health Officer)

PART I

1 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest received.

2 **Application No. 29442 - Benham Park House, Speen, Newbury, West Berkshire, RG20 8LU**

The Licensing Sub-Committee (the Panel) considered a report (Agenda Item 2(1)) concerning Licensing Application No. 29442 in respect of the premises license for Benham Park House, Newbury, West Berkshire, RG20 8LU.

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Mark Groves (Licensing Officer, West Berkshire Council), Jodie Wilson (Environmental Health Officer, West Berkshire Council), Mark Scholfield, Guy Rodger, Anthony Becher, Rob Sutherland (Applicant and Supporters), and Nicholas Cottam, Sarah Cottam, Angie Vokins, Paul Mason, Steve Stillman Hurst, Olivia Allin, Matthew Allin, Alison Power, Ed Austin, Jane Ward, Julie Wetherell, Peter Wetherell, Alice Stillman Hurst, and Ben Morton (online) (represented by Marcus Lavell and David Nevitt) (Objectors), and Councillor Antony Amirtharaj (Ward Member) addressed the Panel on this application.

The Applicant and Supporters indicated that, with some time for discussions with the Objectors and their representatives, a mutually agreeable solution to several of the points in contention with the application could be found. With the agreement of all parties, the Chairman adjourned the Panel for 20 minutes.

Upon resumption of the hearing, the Applicant and supporters indicated that they would be open to an amendment to the licensable area. In order for the Objectors and their representatives to consider this proposed amendment, with the agreement of all parties, the Chairman adjourned the Panel for a further 10 minutes.

Upon the resumption of the hearing, all parties confirmed that they had reached an agreement to restrict the sale of alcohol to the inside of Beenham House and that a new red line map would be produced for the Panel to consider in their deliberations.

With the consent of all parties, all the late notice documents submitted and the agreement that had just been reached were agreed to be reasonable and appropriate for the Panel to consider.

All parties to the hearing were provided the opportunity to give evidence and ask questions of the other parties.

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When the evidence had been presented and questions concluded, all parties confirmed that they were satisfied that they had been provided a reasonable opportunity to present their case.

The Panel then retired at 1.13pm to make their decision.

In considering the application, the Panel agreed that the central issues raised by the Objectors were around the Licensing Objective of the prevention of public nuisance. In light of this, and the general agreement of the Panel that the application was acceptable, the Panel considered possible conditions that should be applied to the approval.

The Panel agreed to apply 19 conditions to the approval of the application which included the operating schedule and revised site map showing areas of licensable activity. These conditions were considered to be reasonable and proportionate, whilst best promoting the Licensing Objectives.

Having taken the representations into account, including the written representations, the Panel **RESOLVED** that Application No. 29442 be granted, subject to the proposed conditions outlined in the Decision Notice.

(The meeting commenced at 10.45am and closed at 1.13pm)

Name

Date of Signature

Name

Date of Signature

Name

Date of Signature