

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Friday 20 September 2024

Present:-

Councillors Begley, Harding and Holland

Also Present

Legal Advisor, Principal Licensing Officer, Apprentice Solicitor and Democratic Services Officer (PMD)

66

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Councillor Holland was appointed as Chair for this meeting.

67

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made by Members.

68

APPLICATION TO GRANT A PREMISES LICENCE

The Chair introduced the Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee together with the Legal Advisor, Apprentice Solicitor, Principal Licensing Officer and Democratic Services Officer. The Legal Advisor set out the hearing procedure and the Applicants, who were in attendance, agreed that the procedure was understood.

The Licensing Officer presented the application to seek the granting of a premises licence for The Holt - Exeter at 5 Cathedral Close, Cathedral Green, Exeter as set out in the report.

The application included a plan of the proposed new licensable area and the Applicant had included additional conditions in the application to promote the Licensing Objectives. It was confirmed that the application had been advertised on the premises and in the local newspaper in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003, with the last date for representations being 23 August 2024.

It was confirmed that four representations objecting to the Application relating to all four Licensing Objectives were received. The representations were from members of the public were listed in an appendix to the report.

The Applicants spoke in support of their application and responded to questions from Members and the Legal team.

Representations were made by the public against the application.

All parties present were advised that a decision notice would be issued within five workings days of the hearing. The meeting was closed so that the Members could determine the application.

RESOLVED that the application be granted as applied for, subject to conditions for the reasons set out in the formal decision notice attached.

(The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and closed at 11.52 am)

Chair



LICENSING ACT 2003

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Date of Hearing:	20 th September 2024
Application:	Premises Licence
Name of Premises:	The Holt - Exeter
Address:	5 Cathedral Close Cathedral Green, Exeter
Licensing Sub-Committee:	Cllr Holland (Chair) Cllr Begley Cllr Harding
Committee Legal Advisors:	Matthew Hall
Principal Licensing Officer:	Nigel Marston
Democratic Services Officer:	Pierre Doutreligne
The Applicant:	Otter Brewery Limited
Representations:	In attendance: Timothy Noon
Hearing Duration:	10:03 – 11:21hrs

TAKE NOTICE:

That the Licensing Sub-Committee convened on 20th September 2024 to determine the application for a premises licence has resolved to grant the licence in part subject to the conditions in accordance with section 18 of the Licensing Act 2003.

THE SUB-COMMITTEE'S DECISION:

In determining this application the Licensing Sub-Committee took into account all relevant evidence and information presented to it both written and oral, and took account of all the matters it is bound to take account of, in particular the following:

- Licensing Act 2003
- Statutory Guidance
- Exeter City Council Statement of Licensing Policy
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Any equality and diversity considerations

The Application for the following licensable activities was granted:

Sale of Alcohol (for consumption on the Premises)

Monday, Tuesday Thursday 11:00 to 23:00hrs
Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 11:00 to 24:00hrs
Sunday 11:00 to 22:30hrs

Late Night Refreshment

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 23:00 to 24:00hrs

The opening and closing times will be consistent with the times permitted for the sale of alcohol.

The following conditions shall apply:

The conditions submitted by the Applicant set out in section 18 of the Application and the following conditions were imposed by the Licensing Sub-Committee:

A designated smoking area will be allocated at the rear of the Premises in a precise location and size approved in writing by the Licensing Authority.

Drinks shall not be permitted in the designated smoking area after 11pm.

A telephone number shall be made readily available and displayed in a prominent location where it can be conveniently read from the exterior of the premises for local residents to contact in the case of noise nuisance or anti-social behaviour by persons or activities associated with the premises. The telephone number will be a direct number to the management who are in control of the premises during opening hours. A record will be kept by management of all calls received, including the time, date and information of the caller, including actions taken following the call. Records will be made available for inspection and copying by an authorised officer of a responsible authority during the trading hours of the premises.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The Licensing Sub-Committee carefully considered the written and oral submissions in support of and against the application. The Applicant gave an explanation of the proposed use of the Premises and the concept of 'social dining'. The Licensing Sub-Committee recognised that the Applicant specialised in the use of local produce and commended its 'family values' based approach to the Application. This approach reassured the Licensing Sub-Committee that the Premises would be operated professionally and sympathetically based on its location and was not aimed at attracting a clientele simply looking to consume alcohol and cause a disturbance in the locality of the Premises.

The Licensing Sub-Committee was concerned that the Applicant had not given sufficient consideration as to how it would operate during the later hours and this was the main issue raised by the objectors in their representations. The concept of 'social dining' did not appear to align with the concept of patrons arriving after midnight. The Licensing Sub-Committee considered that more consideration needed to be given as to how the Premises would operate in respect of patrons arriving, leaving and smoking at later hours. This was important as the Premises are located within the City's Cumulative Impact Zone. It is for the Applicant to show that the Premises would not have a negative impact on the Licensing Objectives.

The Applicant's response to the objector's representations concerning the removal of off sales and proposed revised closing times was noted by the Licensing Sub-Committee. The Applicant made further concessions at the hearing to reduce the hours from a closing time of 02:00 hours to midnight. The Licensing Sub-Committee determined that the reduction in hours together with the implementation of conditions would promote the Licensing Objective of the Prevention of Public Nuisance and would strike a fair balance between the benefits to the community of a licensed venue and the risk of disturbance to local residents and workers.

When considering the Licensing Objective concerning the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, the Licensing Sub-Committee were mindful that the Licensing Authority should look to the Police as the main source of advice and no representations had been made by Devon and Cornwall Police. In respect of the Licensing Objectives concerning the Protection of Children from Harm and Public Safety, no representations had been received from the responsible authorities.

The Licensing Sub-Committee accordingly granted the application in part subject to the conditions set out in this notice.

Advisory Note(s)

The Licensing Sub-Committee recommend that Applicant consider signing up to the 'Best Bar None' scheme.

RIGHT OF REVIEW

At any stage, a responsible authority or any other person may ask the Licensing Authority to review the licence or certificate because of a matter arising at the premises in connection with any of the four licensing objectives; the prevention of crime and disorder, Public Safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

RIGHT OF APPEAL

All parties are reminded of their right to appeal against this decision to the Magistrates' Court in accordance with section 181 and schedule 5 Part 1 of the Licensing Act 2003. Any appeal must be made within the period of 21 days beginning with the date on which you are notified of the decision.

Any Appeal is commenced by a notice addressed to:

The Clerk to the Justices, North and East Devon Magistrates' Court Office, Southernhay Gardens, Exeter, EX1 1UH Telephone 01392 415300.

Parties are advised to contact the court office to check the form of notice required and the fee payable.

The Chair of Licensing Sub Committee



Councillor Peter Holland

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