

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Miscellaneous Licences Panel held on Friday 20 January 2012 at City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 1405
Concluded 1430

PRESENT – Councillors

| LABOUR | CONSERVATIVE | LIBERAL DEMOCRAT |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| V Greenwood | Mallinson | C Reid |
| Lee | | |
| A Thornton | | |

Apologies: Councillors Chadwick, Ellis and Wainwright

Councillor V Greenwood in the Chair

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures of interest in matters under consideration were received.

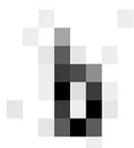
2. MINUTES

Resolved -

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2010 be signed as a correct record.

3. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.



4. PROPOSAL TO RELAX STREET TRADING RESTRICTIONS IN THE CITY PARK AREA OF BRADFORD CITY CENTRE

The Assistant Director, Environmental Health and Regulatory Services presented a report (**Document “A”**) which contained a proposal to introduce a consent street trading regime in the City Park area of Bradford City Centre which was currently under construction. The proposal was to increase the vitality and interest in the City.

It was explained that if Members were minded to authorise the instigation of the procedures to relax street trading restrictions a second report would be presented to Members, following the statutory 28 day representation period, for their further consideration taking into account any representations made.

The Bradford City Centre Operations Manager addressed the meeting and reported the view that the relaxation of the current restrictions would contribute towards increasing the vitality and interest in the City Centre.

Members questioned if City Ward Councillors had been consulted on the proposal. It was reported that they had been advised of the proposal and of the meeting date. If authority was delegated to the Assistant Director to publish the proposals a period of consultation would begin. Ward Members would be included in that consultation and it was agreed to include their comments in any future report.

The effect of the proposed relaxation of restrictions on prohibited or consent streets in the area was questioned. It was confirmed that their status would be unchanged and that the City Park area would be included as an addition to areas with street trading controls.

Concern was expressed that trading in the area could damage other businesses in the City Centre area which were already struggling during the current economic climate. It was also believed that the quality of businesses allowed to trade in the area should be strictly controlled. The Council's Legal Officer explained that applications would be strictly controlled by the City Centre Events Manager, they would be referred to the Licensing Department and may have conditions attached.

Members were concerned that no formal policy was in place to assess applications and requested that guidelines be developed before any applications for trading in the area were considered. It was also requested that the policy/guidelines developed should also specify the deciding criteria to consider if multiple applications were received and that defined time periods of consent be stipulated. It was believed that this would allow the Council to maintain the quality of trade; protect existing businesses in the area and to ensure that the area would not be occupied by traders for indefinite periods potentially preventing other 'one-off' events being staged in the area.

Resolved –

- (1) That the Assistant Director, Environmental Health and Regulatory Services be authorised to initiate the procedures outlined in Document “A” towards designating the areas shown on Appendix 2(b) of Document “A” as consent streets for street trading purposes and report back to the Panel in due course following the statutory 28 representation period**

- (2) That the Assistant Director, Environmental Health and Regulatory Services, in consultation with the Assistant Director, Economic Development and Property, be requested to produce draft guidance on the criteria for granting applications for consent to trade in the defined “City Park” area of Bradford City Centre. Those guidelines to be referred to the Panel for consideration at the same time as the report following the statutory 28 representation period referred to in (1) above.

ACTION: Assistant Director, Environmental Health and Regulatory Services and Assistant Director, Economic Development and Property

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Panel.

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THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER