

Record of a Hearing of the Bradford District Licensing Panel held on Friday, 8 December 2017 at Committee Room 4 - City Hall, Bradford

Procedural Items

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures of interest in matters under consideration were received.

INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Hearings

Application for a Summary Review of the Premises Licence for Bijou Cocktail Bar, 10 Chapel Lane, Bingley (**Document "F"**).

RECORD OF A HEARING FOLLOWING AN APPLICATION FOR A SUMMARY LICENCE REVIEW - BIJOU COCKTAIL BAR, 10 CHAPEL LANE, BINGLEY (DOCUMENT "F")

Commenced: 1005
Adjourned: 1020
Reconvened: 1030
Concluded: 1045

Present

Members of the Panel

Bradford District Licensing Panel: Councillor M Slater (Ch), Councillor Morris and Councillor B M Smith

Parties to the Hearing

Representing Responsible Authorities

P C Lord (West Yorkshire Police)

Representations

The Assistant Director, Waste, Fleet and Transport Services presented a report, **Document "F"** which outlined an application for a summary review of a premises licence for the sale of alcohol and provision of regulated entertainment which had been received from West Yorkshire Police.

Members were advised that on receipt of a valid application for summary review the licensing authority must, within 48 hours, consider whether it was necessary to take any interim steps pending determination of the review of the premises licence. The authority must then undertake a full review within 28 days of the receipt of the application.

It was explained that West Yorkshire Police had requested a summary review of the licence following a serious assault at the premises in the early hours of Saturday 25 November 2017. The police were of the opinion that other procedures under the Licensing Act were insufficient in the circumstances due to the seriousness of the incident and the potential for further disorder at the premises as a result of the incident.

The representative of West Yorkshire Police addressed the Panel and reiterated that the request to review the licence had not been taken lightly but was due to the seriousness of the incident, subsequent public reaction and the potential impact on public safety.

During a summary of the incident it was reported that at 3.30am on Saturday 25 November 2017 police had been called by the ambulance service to an incident where a 24 year old man was unconscious and bleeding from the head. The injured person was a young man, well known in the area, and he had, allegedly, been evicted from the premises. The young man had, sadly, subsequently passed away.

It was explained that Police investigations were currently on going and, due to the serious nature of those investigations, further information could not be disclosed without prejudicing those investigations. As the premises had been associated with serious crime;

following escalating tension and evidence about the potential for retribution it was believed that suspension of the licence was the only justifiable option.

Members were advised that the licence had been granted, by Members, on 14 June 2016. There had been considerable community opposition at that time and subsequent incidents in the area, assumed to be related to the premises, had been received with public outcry.

The police representative explained that additional information he wished to report could prejudice future criminal investigations and it was

Resolved -

That the public be excluded from the meeting as it was considered that the public interest in doing so, due to the evidence being given and the potential of prejudicing future investigations, outweighed the public interest in attending the hearing.

The panel resumed in public session with a summary from the police representative who explained that the circumstances being considered were exceptional. He reported that, ordinarily, the police would investigate all options to work with premises but it was felt that due to the nature of the incident and potential impact on public safety, suspension of the licence was the only option.

Resolved –

That having considered the evidence supplied by the Police in relation to the application for a summary review, the premises licence for Bijou Cocktail Bar be suspended with immediate effect pending a full review.

Reason: The Panel considered the evidence presented by the Police relating to a serious disorder at the premises on 25 November 2017 and the potential for future disorder at the premises and considered this compelling enough to justify the immediate suspension of the licence pending a full review under the prevention of crime and disorder objective; prevention of public nuisance objective and the promotion of public safety.

(Tracy McLuckie – 01274 432240)

