

Meeting	<b>LICENSING COMMITTEE</b>
Time/Day/Date	6.30 pm on Wednesday, 24 February 2016
Location	Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coalville
Officer to contact	Democratic Services (01530 454512)

All persons present are reminded that the meeting may be recorded and by attending this meeting you are giving your consent to being filmed and your image being used. You are kindly requested to make it known to the Chairman if you intend to film or record this meeting.

The Monitoring Officer would like to remind members that when they are considering whether the following items are exempt information under the relevant paragraph under part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 they must have regard to the public interest test. This means that members must consider, for each item, whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure outweighs the public interest in making the item available to the public.

## AGENDA

Item	Pages
<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	
<b>2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
Under the Code of Conduct members are reminded that in declaring disclosable interests you should make clear the nature of that interest and whether it is 'Pecuniary' or 'Non-Pecuniary'.	
<b>3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	
To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2015.	<b>3 - 6</b>
<b>4. PURPLE FLAG ACCREDITATION - ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH</b>	
Report of the Environmental Health Team Manager	<b>7 - 10</b>



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MINUTES of a meeting of the LICENSING COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coalville on WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2015

Present: Councillor N Smith (Chairman)

Councillors J Clarke (Substitute for Councillor J G Coxon), N Clarke, J Cotterill, D Everitt, T Eynon, D Harrison, G Houl, G Jones, K Merrie MBE, T Neilson, P Purver, V Richichi, A C Saffell, M Specht and M B Wyatt

In Attendance: Councillors J Legrys and A V Smith MBE

Officers: Mr S Eyre, Mrs A Lowe, Mr L Mansfield and Mrs R Wallace

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G A Allman and J G Coxon.

Councillor M Specht suggested that a card be sent to Councillor G A Allman on behalf of the Committee wishing him a speedy recovery. All Members agreed.

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **3. MINUTES**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2014.

In relation to the installation of IDOX public access software referred to on page four of the minutes, Councillor T Eynon asked what training had been offered and if Members were satisfied that the software met their needs. The Environmental Health Team Manager reported that since November Officers had spent time updating the software which allowed the public to view details of current licences and applications, plus Officers were available at any time to assist Members in using the software. He stated that the link to the webpage would continue to be included in the Members weekly bulletin but proposed that a word document of the log also be attached. He concluded that access to the software had been set up in the Council Chamber and a demonstration would be given to any Members interested after the meeting.

By affirmation of the meeting it was

RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2014 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **4. REVIEW OF GAMBLING ACT STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

The Environmental Health Team Manager presented the report to Members.

In response to a question from Councillor G Jones, the Licensing Team Leader explained that background checks were not undertaken by the Council in relation to the people running the premises; this was done by the Gambling Commission.

Councillor T Neilson asked if there was any statutory guidance on what was to be included in the Local Area Profile. The Licensing Team Leader reported that the Gambling Commissions guidance had only been released within the last two weeks and

the Council's Local Area Profile had already been drafted. He explained that the lack of complaints from consultees indicated that it was sufficient.

Regarding the licensing objective to protect children and other vulnerable people, Councillor T Neilson asked if there were any examples of what was currently happening or a list of what might be required. The Licensing Team Leader explained that people were monitored when using certain types of machines and he was impressed with how it was being handled in the area. In response to a further question on the matter, the Licensing Team Leader reported that in premises licensed to sell alcohol, the number of machines permitted was restricted to two with low stakes of a maximum of one pound. The machines had to be placed in the sight of the bar staff within the premises and it was essentially the staff's responsibility to monitor the usage. He concluded that there had been no complaints received.

In response to a question from Councillor T Neilson regarding the list of bodies consulted as detailed within appendix B of the report, the Environmental Health Team Manager confirmed that 'other faith groups' should be removed as it was the Salvation Army only.

Councillor M Specht referred to fixed odd betting terminals and was pleased that they did not seem to be a problem in the area; he asked how often they would be monitored. The Licensing Team Leader reported that all of the licensed premises in the area had these types of machines and that they had been visited twice so far this year on an ad hoc basis.

In relation to the risk assessment for premises that was undertaken when applying for a licence, Councillor N Clarke asked why this would reduce the amount of review required. The Licensing Team Leader explained that it was a form of self compliance and by assessing themselves they would gain a better understanding of the area. The Environmental Health Team Manager added that the risk assessment helped the officers when considering an application with regards to adding conditions and after ten years of legislation there had been no licence reviews.

Councillor T Eynon commented that she was pleased that the Leicestershire Partnership NHS had been consulted but was disappointed that the Primary Care trust had not. She also expressed concerns that there was nothing in the report to indicate how the outcomes would be measured so there was no data to rely on.

It was moved by Councillor M Specht, seconded by T Neilson and

**RECOMMENDED THAT:**

The Review of Gambling Act Statement of Licensing Policy be approved when considered by Council.

Councillor M Specht raised a complaint regarding taxi drivers that beep their horns when picking up customers no matter what time of day it was. This was happening where he lived and it was disturbing the residents. The Community Services Portfolio Holder concurred that it was a problem and agreed to raise it at the next Taxi Drivers Forum. The Licensing Team Leader informed the Committee that the next Taxi Drivers Forum would be held on 24 November.

The Chairman invited Members to join the licensing team and the police to observe monitoring checks being carried out over the Christmas period. The checks would be carried out on 21 November and 8,9,10 December. Further details of how to take part would be included on the Members Weekly Bulletin.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.04 pm

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**NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**LICENSING COMMITTEE – 24 FEBRUARY 2016**

Title of report	<b>PURPLE FLAG ACCREDITATION – ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH</b>
Contacts	<p>Councillor Alison Smith MBE 01530 835668 <a href="mailto:alison.smith@nwleicestershire.gov.uk">alison.smith@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Environmental Health Team Manager 01530 454610 <a href="mailto:lee.mansfield@nwleicestershire.gov.uk">lee.mansfield@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Community Focus Officer 01530 454740 <a href="mailto:catherine.ridgway@nwleicestershire.gov.uk">catherine.ridgway@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</a></p>
Purpose of report	To inform Members of Licensing Committee of an application for accreditation to the Purple Flag Scheme
Council Priorities	Business & Jobs Homes and Communities
Implications:	
Financial/Staff	See body of report
Link to relevant CAT	Not applicable
Risk Management	No significant risks identified
Equalities Impact Screening	Not applicable
Human Rights	None
Transformational Government	None
Comments of Head of Paid Service	The report is satisfactory
Comments of Deputy Section 151 Officer	The report is satisfactory
Comments of Deputy Monitoring Officer	The report is satisfactory

Consultees	Safer North West Partnership, Ashby de la Zouch Town Council, Community Focus Team, Licensing Team, Business Focus Team, Community Safety Team
Background papers	<a href="http://www.100ways.org.uk/purple-flag">www.100ways.org.uk/purple-flag</a>
Recommendations	<b>THAT LICENSING COMMITTEE AGREE TO ACTIVELY SUPPORT AN APPLICATION FOR PURPLE FLAG ACCREDITATION WITHIN ASHBY DE LA ZOUC BY ELECTING A MEMBER TO REPRESENT THE LICENSING COMMITTEE AT THE WORKING GROUP</b>

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Purple Flag is an accreditation process similar to Green Flag Award for parks and Blue Flag for beaches. It leads to Purple Flag status for town and city centres that meet or surpass the standards of excellence in managing the evening and night-time economy.
- 1.2 Purple Flag recognises excellence in the management of town and city centres at night time. Entertainment areas that achieve the standard will benefit from an improved night time environment and a reputation that offers 'a better night out' to visitors.
- 1.3 Towns and cities are assessed on their core agenda and key attributes such as:

Wellbeing	How safety issues are addressed, regulations that are in place and the perceptions of local people.
Movement	How transport works, parking, pedestrian routes, how crowds are managed and information available.
Policy	How local data is collected and used, coordination between local partners and the inclusion of the local community.
Appeal	The choice of different activities on offer including a wide range of bars, restaurants, shops and public buildings.
Place	The layout of the town centre looking at its design, identity and diversity of local activities.

- 1.4 Gaining Purple flag accreditation could bring benefits to Ashby de la Zouch such as a raised profile, improved public image, increased visitors, increased expenditure by visitors, lower crime and anti-social behaviour and a more successful mixed-use economy.

## 2.0 ENGAGING PARTNERS & APPLICATION PROCESS

- 2.1 The application process will be led by the Community Focus Team. A partnership approach has always been promoted in Ashby de la Zouch and it is important that a strong partnership approach continues throughout the application process.
- 2.2 The following have already committed to membership of the working group:
- 2 Ashby de la Zouch Pubwatch scheme members
  - 1 Police
  - 1 Street pastor
  - 1 NWL Community Safety team



- 1 NWL Licensing Officer
- 3 Ashby Town Council Councillors

2.3 The Community Focus Officer will engage the following partners to ensure attendance at the working group.

- local residents
- local businesses
- Tourist Information

2.4 Ashby de la Zouch Town Council agreed to support Purple Flag accreditation by electing 3 named Councillors at it's Licensing Committee on 14 December 2015.

2.5 The Safer North West Partnership agreed to support this initiative at the partnership meeting on 21 January 2016. The partnership will be represented at the working group by the Community Safety team and the police.

2.6 Assessment Process:

- Submission of entry form  
The entry must include a map of the area, details of the town centre offer (snapshot), a self assessment report
- 2 Purple Flag assessors will carry out a 12 hour assessment of the town centre. The assessment will involve:
 

5pm-	Meet and greet Presentation
6pm-	Accompanied tour of the town centre – meeting and questioning of key people / venues (theatre, restaurants, pubs, night clubs, street pastors, taxi operators)
Midnight-	Assessor observations
5am-	Close
8am-	Street inspection (cleanliness)

### **3.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 A member of the Licensing Committee will be required to join officers from North West Leicestershire District Council to actively participate in the working party/steering group and to greet the Purple Flag assessors on the evening of the overnight assessment at the presentation stage of the evening. The Licensing Committee representative does not necessarily have to be an Ashby Ward.

3.2 The working party/steering group will be required to meet in a central location.

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Implementation and self assessments will be carried out by district council officers.

4.2 The cost of the application (£2,250 + VAT) shall be sourced from within North West Leicestershire District Council existing budgets together with partnership funding.

4.3 Should Ashby de la Zouch meet the required standard and achieve Purple Flag accreditation, there is an ongoing annual cost associated to retaining Purple Flag status.

This current cost is £750 + Vat per year. NWLDC will commit to a financial contribution to be met within existing budgets and the ongoing funding (if Ashby de la Zouch is successful in being awarded Purple Flag status) will be a matter for discussion with partners.

- 4.4 There will be a small budget required for publicity should Ashby de la Zouch be successful in gaining the accreditation. This will be met within existing budgets.

## 5.0 NEXT STEPS

Indicative Date	Action
02/02/2016	Pubwatch presentation
March 2016	Overnight assessment exercise
March 2016	1 <sup>st</sup> Working Party meeting (monthly meetings)
30 June 2016	Submission Option 1 – deadline for Purple Flag application submission
September 2016	3 <sup>rd</sup> Overnight assessment for application submission
14 October 2016	Submission Option 2 – deadline for Purple Flag application submission
December 2016	Assessment by Purple Flag assessors