

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Licensing Committee (Statutory)
held remotely by video-conference on Thursday, 26 November 2020**

Present: Councillor Clive Davies (Chairman) Councillors Euros Davies, Gareth Davies, Marc Davies, Endaf Edwards, Lloyd Edwards, Hag Harris, Alun Lloyd-Jones, Dan Potter, Ivor Williams and Matthew Woolfall Jones,

Also in attendance: Councillor Gareth Lloyd (Cabinet Member)

Officers in Attendance: Ms Anne Louise – Davies, Trading Standards & Licensing Manager, Mr Gareth Rees, Senior Licensing Officer, Mrs Carwen Evans, Corporate Manager - Protection, Mrs Victoria Evans, Solicitor, Mrs Dana Jones, Democratic Services and Standards Officer

(10:00am –11:10am)

1 Apologies

Councillor Elaine Evans together with Mr Alun Williams apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

2 Disclosure of Personal / Prejudicial Interests

Councillor Euros Davies declared a personal interest in Ceredigion Licensing Act Policy 2021-2026.

3 Minutes of Previous meetings of the Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 19 October 2019 subject to noting that Councillor Gareth Davies was present at the meeting.

4 Matters Arising

None.

5 Licensing Act 2003 Matters:

General Update

Consideration was given to the Report of the Senior Licensing Officer advising Members of activity undertaken by the Licensing Section since the last Committee meeting as follows:-

- Appointment of Trading Standards/Licensing Manager
- Coronavirus - Licensing and Public Protection in Ceredigion
- Licensing Act 2003 – Other Voices, Cardigan – Lleisiau Eraill, Aberteifi
- Licensing Act 2003 – Statement of Licensing Policy 2021-2026
- Minimum Unit Pricing

- Gambling Matters
- Licensing Act 2003 Appeal Fee
- Licensing Hours Extensions VE Day and VJ Day 2020
- Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Tregaron 2020
- Licensing Hearing – Premises Licence Application Section 17 Licensing Act 2003
- Licensing Hearing – Premises Licence Application Section 34 Licensing Act 2003

Following questions from the floor, it was AGREED:-

- (i) to note the report for information;
- (ii) that further information would also be sought if it was possible to end the advertising of gambling advertisements at Football matches due to its impact on viewers, the Officer would report back accordingly to the Committee on his findings; and
- (iii) to thank the service for all their work during this difficult time

Ceredigion Licensing Act Policy 2021-2026

Consideration was given to the Report on the Ceredigion Licensing Act Policy 2021-2026. It was reported that the authority's current Licensing Act 2003 Policy was published in January 2016. In accordance with section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 the authority was required to publish a revised updated Licensing Act 2003 policy in January 2021.

As a Licensing Authority, the Council must have regard to its Licensing Act 2003 policy when considering applications made under the Act, its purpose was to set out how the authority have interpreted the Act and the basis on which decisions were made. In addition, the Secretary of State was responsible for publishing guidance in relation to the Licensing Act 2003, its purpose was to promote best practice, ensure consistent application of licensing powers and to promote fairness, equal treatment, and proportionality. These two documents are key for the authority in discharging its functions and determining applications under The Licensing Act 2003.

When members were requested to consider an application, subject to relevant representations the application should be considered on its own merits, and regard should be had to both the Licensing Act guidance and policy.

It is five years since the policy was reviewed and the updated draft policy aims to improve and update the current policy taking into consideration any legislative changes, revisions to guidance or relevant case law that had occurred since.

The authority collaborated with colleagues from the Four Counties Licensing Forum when considering appropriate amends and additions (the Four Counties being the four authorities within the Dyfed Powys Police area: Carmarthenshire,

Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and Powys). Similar amends to each individual policy with a view to consistency had been agreed.

Due to issues connected with the current Covid-19 pandemic it was not possible to bring the draft policy to the attention of a Licensing committee meeting before going out to consultation.

The draft policy which went out to consultation had been circulated to all Committee members and any proposed changes following the end of the consultation period had been brought to the attention of members of the Committee prior to the meeting.

Following questions from the floor, it was AGREED to approve the revised Licensing Act 2003 policy, and following consultation to consider any relevant comments and to present the final policy to Full Council on 21st Janaury 2021 for approval and subsequently publication.

Cumulative Impact Assessments.

Consideration was given to the Cumulative Impact Assessments report. The following information was outlined:-

- Background/Summary
- The Licensing Act and Cumulative Impact
- The Licensing act 2004
- Cumulative Impact Assessments
- Publishing a Cumulative Impact Assessment
- Evidence of a Cumulative Impact Assessment
- Effect of a Cumulative Impact Assessment
- Reviewing of a Cumulative Impact Assessment
- Timeline for reviewing Ceredigion County Council Cumulative Impact Assessment

Following questions from the floor, it was AGREED to note the report and AGREED with the recommendation that the evidence did not support the retention of a Cumulative Impact Area in Aberystwyth. It was also AGREED therefore, that the publication of a Cumulative Impact Assessment as part of the policy was not required. However, several Members raised concern regarding certain areas of Aberystwyth Town continued to be problematic. Once the position with Covid -19 had improved Officers would discuss any local issues with the Police and Environmental Control officers to review the position.

Confirmed at the meeting of the Committee held on the

Chairman:-_____

Date:_____