

LICENSING CONSULTATION PANEL

**Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday May 10th 2005 at 2.00pm,
Taw Room, Civic Centre, Barnstaple**

Present:

Councillor Mrs Mair Manuel (Chairman)

Councillor F Ovey, Councillor J Moore, Councillor J Tucker, Councillor E Evans, Councillor C Haywood, Councillor N Lewis, Mr C T Gifford, Sam Moyse (South Molton & District Licensee's Association), Lesley Brown (Barnstaple Licensee's Association), Robert Wright (BII Representative), Mark Curgenvan (NDDC), Elizabeth Bryant (NDDC, Minutes), Mr John Guymer (Magistrates Court), Mrs F Williams (Brewer Harding & Rowe), Sgt D Elliot (Devon & Cornwall Constabulary), Mrs D Bryant (Devon & Cornwall Constabulary), Trevor Blatchford (NDDC Licensing Solicitor), Jean Knill (North Devon LVA), Alison Wroe (Devon & Cornwall Constabulary).

No	Minute	Action
1	<p>Apologies Apologies were received from: - Councillor A Davis, Councillor M Shapland, Councillor J Chesters, Mr Mervyn Lethaby (Ilfracombe Licensee's Association), Mr Kenny Peacock (Magistrates Court), Mr Barry Shingler (North Devon LVA), Mr A Coxon (Devon Fire & Rescue Service), Mr K Parfitt (Devon Fire & Rescue Service), Mr E Garner (Divisional Trading Standards Officer), Mr Paul Cooper (Magistrates Court), Shirley Loder (NDDC), Anna Bridgman (Devon & Cornwall Constabulary), PC Paul Daw (Devon & Cornwall Constabulary).</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 5th April 2005 APPROVED by the Panel and signed as a correct record by the Chairman Mrs Mair Manuel.</p>	
3	<p>Items brought forward by the Chairman; Mair thanked the Panel, also on behalf of Councillor Ovey as the annual Council Meeting may result in them leaving the LCP, Sam thanked Mair and Frank on behalf of the Trade and the LCP for their hard work and agreed that the LCP has moved forward with their input.</p>	
4	<p>David Bennett presented 'The Customers' Convenience', Discussion followed surrounding the new requirements of the provision of sanitary appliances in North Devon.</p> <p>A useful address is included for more information for Licensees about providing sanitary facilities for the disabled within the hand out accompanying the presentation (Appendix A).</p> <p>Discussion followed concerning the requirements under the Chronically Sick & Disabled Persons Act 1970 (Section 6).</p>	
5	<p>Licensing Act Update Mark gave a request for Agenda items for the next LCP meeting.</p> <p>As we are now half way through the transitional period Mark reminded the Panel of the original predictions regarding applications received by this time compared with actual received applications.</p>	

	<p>Originally predicted 200 premises licences 1230 personal licences</p> <p>Actual 31 (15% of anticipated) 70 (5.6% of anticipated)</p> <p>The statistics are similar to those nationally and there are various reasons behind it such as finance and complexity. Sam asked what progress has there been with the issue of the renewal date for the annual maintenance fee. Mark reported that he has had no evidence of a change in the original legislation and the maintenance fee is due on the anniversary of the determination date.</p> <p>Discussion followed on the subject of plans and the considerable costs for Licensee's to comply. The Local Authority has made several attempts to drum-up interest but as yet there has been no noted increase in applications.</p> <p>Mair suggested that she visit Nick Harvey to lobby to try to establish whether the Second Appointed Date is likely to be extended due to the shortage of applications, the panel agreed this couldn't hurt.</p> <p>Mair added that if anyone found themselves speaking to others about Licensing we would be grateful if it is made clear that fees are not set by Local Authorities but nationally.</p>	
6	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p><u>Update on Lalpac</u> We are ahead with regards to Lalpac in comparison with other authorities and the templates and administration procedures are being further progressed on Wednesday. Hopefully the Responsible Authorities will be able to make representations on line shortly.</p> <p><u>Village Halls</u> Mark proposed a meeting/presentation for Village/Parish/Community Halls on the 22nd June. Beaford Arts Centre are very keen to provide a presentation for Halls as well.</p> <p>Mair asked if there were any other sub-groups of applicants who may not have been supported, it was agreed that Joe will check with educational establishments to make sure they are confident with the new application.</p> <p><u>Enforcement Policy</u> The Devon Licensing Officers Group met on Monday 9th May and have developed a joint enforcement policy – this will eventually be reported back to the LCP.</p> <p><u>Training</u> Councillors recently attended some in house training with Officers and Licensing Staff on hearings and the hearing procedure that proved very useful and successful.</p> <p><u>DCMS</u> Mark circulated a letter from the DCMS regarding Designated Premises Supervisors and Personal Licence Holders.</p> <p><u>Taxis</u> On Wednesday 4th May NDDC in conjunction with the Police, VOSA, DVLA, Customs and Excise, DWP and the Revenues & Benefits Department undertook another very successful enforcement day.</p>	

	<p>We inspected 35 vehicles, 12 of which had minor faults and also 2 suspected unlicensed drivers were stopped.</p> <p><u>Underage Sales</u> Dave Elliot gave an update with regards to the previous LCP meeting and the recent newspaper articles about sales of alcohol to underage people.</p> <p><u>Minutes</u> Dave requested clarification of the matter of how much detail will be included in the minutes from hearings. Mark and Trevor will look into this and provide a decision at the next LCP meeting.</p> <p><u>Gambling Act</u> Mark updated the Panel with the news that the Gambling Bill was now an Act and will provide a briefing of the Act at a future meeting.</p> <p><u>Taxi Rules and Regulations</u> The Committee has met and approved the new regulations and they will shortly be distributed for consultation – Mark thanked Trevor for all of his help in this matter.</p>	<p>TB & MC</p> <p>MC</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Date of next meeting Agreed that the next meeting will be on TUESDAY 21st June 2005 at 2.00pm in the TAW ROOM, Civic Centre, Barnstaple.</p>	