

## Licence Review Hearing

**To:** Councillors Moore, Looker and B Watson  
**Date:** Monday, 18 January 2010  
**Time:** 10.00 am  
**Venue:** The Guildhall

### AGENDA

**1. Chair**

To elect a Member to act as Chair of the meeting.

**2. Introductions**

**3. Declarations of Interest**

At this point Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda.

**4. The Determination of an Application by Helen Howlett, Senior Environmental Protection Officer, City of York Council for the Review of a Premises Licence Section 52(2) in respect of Ziggy's, 53-55 Micklegate, York, YO1 6LJ. (CYC-009397)**

If you require any further information, please contact Laura Bootland on Tel 01904 552062 or Fax 01904 551035 or email [laura.bootland@york.gov.uk](mailto:laura.bootland@york.gov.uk)

**Distribution:**

Members of Licensing Act 2003 Sub-Committee

Licensing Officer

Legal Services

Applicant

Representors

Press, Libraries, Council Receptions



## LICENSING ACT 2003 SUB – COMMITTEES PROCEDURE FOR HEARINGS

### Introduction

The procedure outlined below will be followed at all Licensing Hearings.

As Licensing Hearings are quasi-judicial the Sub-Committee will, in effect, act like a Court and the rules of natural justice will apply. The Sub-Committee will be guided by legal principles in determining whether evidence is both relevant and fairly admitted. Committee Members have a duty to view all evidence presented before them impartially. Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee have all received relevant training and are used to making decisions of this type. No matter how strong local opinion may be, Committee Members can only make decisions based on relevant licensing issues as set out before the Sub-Committee in determining applications.

The hearing will be in public session. However, the Sub-Committee may exclude the public from a hearing if it considers it in the public interest to do so. However, the decision will be made in private.

The purpose of the hearing is

- To enable those with a right to appear to advance their point of view and to test the case of their opponents
- To assist the Sub-Committee to gather evidence and understand the relevant issues

**In view of the requirement to hold hearings within specified times, the Licensing Authority will generally be unable to enter into discussions to identify dates convenient to all parties concerned.** In exceptional circumstances, the Licensing Authority will consider applications to adjourn hearings to a later date.

### Representations at Licensing Hearings

The Applicant, Ward Councillors, and Representors who have made written submissions will be allowed to speak at the Sub-Committee. At any hearing of an application, the Applicant and any Representors shall attend in person wherever possible. Any party to a hearing may be assisted or represented by any person, legally or otherwise.

All parties will be given a fair hearing and each party will have the same amount of time in which to address the Sub-Committee. A time limit has been set because of the pressures on the Sub-Committees to hear so many applications in a short period of time. **Each party will have 15 minutes to address the Sub-Committee, give any further information, and call any witnesses.** If any party considers this time to

be insufficient then a request in writing may be made to the Democracy Officer for an extension of time at least 2 working days before the hearing. However, this will not be automatically granted and will be at the discretion of the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee may take into account any documentary evidence or other information in support of the application, representations or notice, either before the hearing or, with the consent of all other parties, at the hearing.

If any Representors fail to attend the hearing, the Sub-Committee will normally proceed but will consider their written objection and hear and consider any evidence and argument in relation to it put forward by the Applicant. In considering written evidence in the absence of a Representor, appropriate weight will be attached, given that the person cannot be questioned by the Applicant and Members.

**The Sub-Committee is required to disregard any information given or evidence produced by a party or witness which is not relevant to the application, representations, or notice, and the promotion of the licensing objectives.** Duplication should be avoided. Comments must be confined to those points already made, although the parties may extend or expand on their written submissions. The Sub-Committee will have read and familiarised themselves with all the written submissions and the issues prior to the hearing, and therefore do not require the points to be repeated or made at length. The Applicant and Representors cannot raise substantial new information at a hearing which has not been seen previously by the other parties.

A Representor **may not** introduce any new ground or objection not referred to in the written submission. Additional representations which do not amount to an amplification of the original representation may not be made at the hearing.

Any person behaving in a disruptive manner will be asked to leave the hearing. If this does occur, that person may, before the end of the hearing, submit in writing any information which they would have been entitled to give orally.

### **Procedure prior to the Hearing**

The Members sitting on the Sub-Committee will meet prior to the hearing to note the matters that are to be presented. They will only be accompanied by the Democracy Officer and Legal Advisor (*if present*). Attention will only be drawn to the nature of the application and the premises or person to which it relates. The actual application will not be discussed.

At any hearing of an application, the Licensing Officer, the Applicant and any Representors or representatives will report to reception and be asked to wait in reception until the democracy officer calls them through to the committee room.

### **Procedure at the Hearing**

1. Members of the Sub-Committee will appoint a chair.
2. The Chair introduces the Committee Members and officers [*Democracy Officer, Legal Advisor to the committee (if present) and the Licensing Officer*],

welcomes the Applicant and Representors (or their representatives), and establishes the identity of all who will be taking part.

3. The Chair will explain to the parties the procedure that will be followed at the hearing.
4. The Chair will proceed with the order of business on the agenda.
5. When the agenda item relating to the application is reached, the Chair will invite the Licensing Officer to present the application.
6. The Licensing Officer outlines the application, confirms the application details, introduces the report and gives an update on any recent changes.
7. The Chair will invite Committee Members, the Applicant and Representors (or representatives) to ask the Licensing Officer questions to clarify any points raised in the report.
8. The Chair will ask the Applicant (or their representative) to present their case.
9. The Applicant (or their representative) will present their case and may call any witnesses to support their case *[maximum 15 minutes]*.
10. The Chair will invite the Representors (or their representative) in the following order to ask questions of the Applicant (or their representative) and/or witnesses *[maximum 5 minutes each party]*
  - (i) Police
  - (ii) Other Responsible Authorities
  - (iii) Ward Councillors
  - (iv) Interested Parties
11. The Chair will invite the Committee Members to ask questions of the Applicant (or their representative) and/or witnesses.
12. The Chair will invite the Representors (or their representative) in the following order to state the nature of their interest in the matter, present their case and call any witnesses to support their case *[maximum 15 minutes each party]*
  - (i) Police
  - (ii) Other Responsible Authorities
  - (iii) Ward Councillors
  - (iv) Interested Parties
13. The Chair will invite the Applicant to ask questions of each Representor (or their representative) and/or their witnesses after each presentation *[maximum 5 minutes per Representor]*.
14. The Chair will invite the Committee Members to ask questions of each Representor (or their representative) and/or their witnesses after each presentation.

15. The Chair will invite the Representors (or their representative) in the following order to summarise their case [*maximum 5 minutes each party*]
  - (i) Police
  - (ii) Other Responsible Authorities
  - (iii) Ward Councillors
  - (iv) Interested Parties
16. The Chair will invite the Applicant (or their representative) to summarise their case [*maximum 5 minutes*].
17. The Chair will provide the Sub-Committee with a final opportunity to seek clarification from any of the parties on any points raised, or seek advice from the Licensing Officer on policy, or from the Legal Advisor (*if present*) on law and jurisdiction.
18. When all the evidence has been heard, the Chair will declare the hearing closed and ask the Licensing Officer, the Applicant and Representors (or their representatives) plus any witnesses present to leave the committee room and wait in reception while the Sub-Committee considers the evidence.

#### **Procedure after the Hearing**

19. If the Sub-Committee wish to seek further clarification on the evidence given, the Democracy Officer will invite all parties back into the committee room.
20. If possible, and for all hearings under:-
  - section 35 or 39 which is in respect of an application made at the same time as an application for conversion of an existing licence under paragraph 2 of Schedule 8 (determination of application under section 34 or 37)
  - section 85 which is in respect of an application made at the same time as an application for conversion of an existing club certificate under paragraph 14 of Schedule 8 (determination of application under section 85)
  - section 105(2)(a) (counter notice following police objection to temporary event notice)
  - section 167(5)(a) (review of premises licence following closure order)
  - paragraph 4(3)(a) of Schedule 8 (determination of application for conversion of existing licence)
  - paragraph 16(3)(a) of Schedule 8 (determination of application for conversion of existing club certificate)
  - paragraph 26(3)(a) of Schedule 8 (determination of application by holder of a justices' licence for grant of personal licence)

the Sub-Committee will make a decision on conclusion of the hearing and only the Democracy Officer and the Legal Advisor to the Sub-Committee (*if present*) will remain in the room with the Committee Members. These officers

will not comment on the merits of the application, but will be present to provide advice on legal and procedural points and to record the decision.

21. If the decision has been made, all the parties will be invited back into the committee room by the Democracy Officer. The Chair will announce the decision including reasons together with, if appropriate, details of any conditions to be attached to the grant of the licence. This decision will then be communicated in writing to the Applicant and Representors within 3 working days of the hearing. There can be no further questions or statements.
22. For all other hearings not listed above, if the Sub-Committee is unable to make a decision on the day of the hearing, the decision will be made within 5 working days beginning with the day or the last day on which the hearing was held. The Democracy Officer will inform the parties that they are no longer required and the decision will be communicated in writing to the Applicant and Representors within 3 working days of the decision being made.
23. The notification will include information about the rights of appeal against the determination made.

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- Applicant
- Representors & the relevant Responsible Authorities

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**Licensing Act 2003 Sub Committee****18 January 2010**

Report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services

**Section 52(2) review of premise licence for Ziggys, 53-55 Micklegate, York, YO1 6LJ****Summary**

1. This report seeks Members determination of an application for a review of a premise licence, which has been made under the Licensing Act 2003.
2. Name of applicant: Helen Howlett, Senior Environmental Protection Officer, City of York Council.
3. Summary of review: This application to review relates to the following licensing objective. Prevention of public nuisance.
4. A copy of the review application is attached at Annex 1 and is summarised as follows: This application for review is based on a number of complaints received regarding this premise over the last year which undermine the prevention of public nuisance licensing objectives. It is accompanied by a summary report of investigation and actions taken, letters and legal notices.
5. A copy of the premises licence is attached at Annex 2. Which resulted from the conversion of an existing licence. A variation application was received on 3 February 2006 to increase the hours for the provision of regulated entertainment and supply of alcohol. This was granted following mediation between the applicant and Environmental Protection Unit on 20 April 2006.

**Background**

6. The applicant, in the capacity of 'responsible authority', has requested a review of the premises licence.
7. Members are reminded that a representation is only "relevant" if it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives. This is in accordance with S52(7) and (8) of the Act.
8. A local resident is supporting the application listed at Annex 3. A copy of their representation is attached at Annex 4. They live within the vicinity of the premise and their address is indicated on the map attached at Annex 5.

### **Other Relevant Information**

9. There are no planning implications in relation to this application.
10. North Yorkshire Police have recently had issues with the use of unlicensed door staff at the premise, a letter and correspondence is attached at Annex 6.
11. The Licensing Unit has visited the premise on a number of occasions during 2009 to discuss the operation of the premise and complaints. On 2 April a full inspection was carried out with the premise licence holder and designated premise supervisor, no issues were identified. On 3 July a joint visit was carried out with the Environmental Protection Unit as legal notices in respect of noise nuisance had been served. This visit was arranged with the premise licence holder, the cause of the noise issues were discussed and the licence holder stated that he would relocate the speakers adjacent to the newly installed double rear fire exit doors in the basement away from the doors, the DJ stand would also be relocated further away from the doors and noise seals would be fitted to the doors. On 28 August an unannounced evening enforcement visit was carried out with North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service during the visit Officers checked that works discussed at the 3 July visit have been carried out, the speakers and DJ stand had been relocated. On 20 October a joint visit was carried out with North Yorkshire Police to discuss the unlicensed door staff issue (see para 10) and allegations of overcrowding, (ensuing correspondence is attached at Annex 6), this visit was arranged with the premise licence holder.

### **Consultation**

12. Consultation was carried out by the Applicant and Licensing Authority in accordance with S51(3) of the Act and Regulation 42, Part 4, paragraphs 29 and 38 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates) Regulations 2005, which concern the notification of a review and the advertisement of review by licensing authority. Copies of the application were served on all responsible authorities and the premise licence holder. Notice of the application was displayed on the premises and within the Guildhall and 9 St Leonard Place reception areas.
13. As a result of the consultation a representation has been received from a local resident. An email representation was also received from a second local resident, at the time of preparing this report a hard signed copy of this representation had not been received.
14. All procedural aspects of this review application have been complied with.

### **Options**

15. By virtue of S52(4) of the Act, the Committee have the following options available to them in making their decision:-

16. Option 1: To modify the conditions of the licence (ie to alter, omit or add any new condition including a requirement to display a notice explaining the outcome of this review).
17. Option 2: To exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence.
16. Option 3: To remove the designated premises supervisor.
18. Option 4: To suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months.
19. Option 5: To revoke the licence.
20. Members are also reminded of the option to issue a 'yellow card', ie a warning as to future conduct which may accompany options 1 – 4.

### **Analysis**

21. The following could be the result of any decision made this Sub Committee:-
22. Option 1: This decision could be appealed at Magistrates Court by the premises licence holder, the review applicant or any of the representors.
23. Option 2: This decision could be appealed at Magistrates Court by the premises licence holder, the review applicant or any of the representors.
24. Option 3: This decision could be appealed at Magistrates Court by the premises licence holder, the review applicant or any of the representors.
25. Option 4: This decision could be appealed by the premises licence holder.
26. Option 5: This decision could be appealed by the premises licence holder.

### **Corporate Strategy**

27. The Licensing Act 2003 has 4 objectives the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.
28. The promotion of the licensing objectives will support the Council's strategy to make York a safer city with low crime rates and high opinions of the city's safety record in sustainable city objectives.

### **Implications**

29.
  - **Financial** - N/A
  - **Human Resources (HR)** – N/A

- **Equalities** – N/A
- **Legal** – This decision could be appealed at Magistrates Court by the applicant or any of the representors.
- **Crime and Disorder** - The Committee is reminded of their duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the crime and disorder implications of their decisions and the authority's responsibility to co-operate in the reduction of crime and disorder in the city.
- **Information Technology (IT)** – N/A
- **Property** – N/A
- **Other** – none

### **Risk Management**

30. All Members of the Licensing Act 2003 Committee have received full training on the Act and the regulations governing hearings. They are aware that any decision made which is unreasonable or unlawful could be open to challenge resulting in loss of image, reputation and potential financial penalty.
31. The report details the options available to the panel in determining the application and recommends that a decision be reached. There are no risks involved with this recommendation.

### **Recommendations**

32. Members determine the application.

Reason: To address the representations received as required by the Licensing Act 2003.

### **Contact Details**

**Contact Details Author:**

John Lacy  
Licensing Manger

Ext: 1593

**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**

Andy Hudson  
Assistant Director  
Neighbourhood Services

Ext: 1814

**Report Approved**  **Date** 05/01/10

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)**

Head of Legal & Democratic Legal Services

**Ward affected: Guildhall**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Background Papers:**

- Annex 1** - Copy of review application
- Annex 2** - Copy of existing premises licence
- Annex 3** - Details Interested Party making representation
- Annex 4** - Representation from Interested Party
- Annex 5** - Map of area indicating address of Interested Parties
- Annex 6** - Letter from North Yorkshire Police
- Annex 7** - Legislation and Policy Considerations

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