
CENTRAL LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE 30.01.09

Present: Councillor Eryl Jones-Williams, (Chairman)
Councillors Peter Read and W. Gareth Roberts

Also present: Amlyn ab Iorwerth and Barbara Owen (Committee Officer)

Representing the Police: Mr Ian Williams, Police Licensing Co-ordinator; Constable Paul Tunnah

Applicants: Mr and Mrs R & M Williams (owners of Pen y Bont)

Objectors: Mr J Atkinson; Mr E Gregory; Mr D. Livingstone; Mrs A Jones; Mrs B Williams.

Apologies: Cllr. Glyn Roberts (Local Member)

1. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declaration of personal interest had been received from any member present.

2. APPLICATION TO VARY THE PREMISES LICENCE OF TAFARN PEN Y BONT, SARN MELLTEYRN

The Licensing Manager submitted his report, providing details of an application received by the owner of the Pen y Bont public house, Sarn Mellteyrn to remove a condition imposed on the current licence to install a CCTV camera outside the premises along with extending the hours when live music, recorded music and dancing could be permitted within the premises up until 00.30hours every day of the week. The Licensing Manager noted, for information, that the condition requesting the installation of security cameras in the premises had been added at the request of the applicant.

It was reported that the Police had responded to this application by noting that only two public nuisance complaints had been received and the evidence was insufficient to object to the application to extend the hours and the Police did not object to remove the condition regarding the CCTV camera. Several letters had been received from local residents objecting to the application for extending the hours on the grounds of additional noise disturbing the peace and creating a public nuisance and also anti-social behaviour as a consequence of the effect of alcohol on customers of the public house. They also objected to removal of the condition to install security cameras.

When considering the application, the Sub-committee followed the following procedure:

An opportunity was given to members of the Sub-committee to ask questions of the Council's representative.

The applicant was given an opportunity to ask questions of the Council's representative.

The applicant was given an opportunity to elaborate on his application and then call witnesses.

Members of the Sub-committee were invited to ask questions of the applicant.

Each consultee was invited to support any written observations.

Members of the Sub-committee were invited to ask questions of the consultees.

The Council's representative and the applicant were given an opportunity to summarise their case.

In support of the observations submitted in writing, the objectors reported:-

- they had complained to the police frequently about the noise and anti-social behaviour caused by customers of the public house.
- whilst the public house used to be a quiet local pub, it was at times now very noisy, with music being heard clearly above the noise of the television in a nearby house.
- the Police did not visit the premises following every complaint.
- there had been no response from the Licensing Enforcement officers as a consequence of a complaint made to that Department.
- a number of customers had been seen drinking outside the Pen y Bont and then leaving their glasses.

In response to the allegations, the following observations were submitted:

- The Police had received two formal complaints.
- In relation to the allegation that a youth had broken into the property of one objector, there was no evidence that he had been drinking at the Pen y Bont prior to the alleged incident.
- No drinking after hours was permitted in the pub.
- There was an invitation for an Environmental Health officer to listen to the music and measure the noise level.
- A disco was only held ten times annually at the pub.
- Every effort was made to clear any litter as soon as possible.
- The cost of a CCTV was seen to be too high, in view of the small number of events held.

The application was discussed, giving specific attention to the observations of everyone present and the following observations were made:-

- By ensuring that customers went to the rear of the premises to smoke, perhaps that would encourage them to use the pub's toilets rather than using neighbours' gardens.
- The installation of CCTV cameras would be advantageous to the owners to manage the outside of the premises.
- It was suggested that approving an additional fifteen minutes on the licence would answer the applicant's request.
- It was agreed that it would have to be a requirement that any camera would have to be acceptable by the Police and comply with the conditions of the current licence.

RESOLVED: in addition to the conditions included in the current premises licence:

- i) to allow customers to smoke only at the rear of the property after 23.00hours**
- ii) to allow live music, recorded music and dancing from 11.00 until 00.15hours, Mondays to Sundays.**
- iii) a digital CCTV camera is to be installed within three months outside the property, both at the front and at the rear and must work to the satisfaction of the Police and the Local Authority.**

The meeting commenced at 10:30a.m. and concluded at 11.40a.m.