
CENTRAL LICENSING COMMITTEE, 15.09.14

Present: Councillor Eryl Jones-Williams (Chairman)
Councillor Huw Edwards (Vice-chairman)

Councillors Eddie Dogan, Annwen Hughes, Louise Hughes, Dilwyn Lloyd, W.Tudor Owen, Angela Russell, Ann Williams, Elfed W Williams

Also Present: Siôn Huws (Senior Solicitor), Sheryl Le Bon Jones (Licensing Manager) and Lowri Haf Evans (Member Support and Scrutiny Officer)

1) WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman, Councillor Eryl Jones-Williams, welcomed everyone to the Committee. Apologies were received from Councillors Llywarch Bowen Jones and Peter Read

2) DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of personal interest were received from any members present.

3) URGENT ITEMS

None to note

4) MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting of this committee held on 23 June 2014 as a true record.

In terms of Members' attendance, it was noted that there had been an empty seat (Plaid Cymru) on the committee for several months and that the attendance of some other Members of the Committee was poor.

It was noted that committee membership was the Political Groups' responsibility and therefore it was suggested that the Members discussed the matter amongst their respective Political Groups. It was also suggested that the Chairman discussed the matter with the Chairman of the Democratic Services Committee and the Members Support Officer to refer the matter forward to the Head of Democratic Services.

5) MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES

For information purposes the minutes of the meetings of the Central Licensing Sub-committee held on 9.7.2014, 14.7.2014 and 16.7.2014 were submitted.

6) PROPOSED FEES AND CHARGES 2014/15 – PUBLIC PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

The report was not presented as it was not relevant to the 2003 Licensing Act and 2005 Gambling Act.

7) CENTRAL LICENSING COMMITTEE AND GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP

A report was presented by the Senior Solicitor detailing the Committee's dissatisfaction in the last meeting regarding the ability to elect one member as Chairman on both the Central Licensing Committee and the General Licensing Committee.

While setting the background, it was noted that the Central Licensing Committee had been established to deal with issues under the 2003 Licensing Act and the 2005 Gambling Act. It was a statutory requirement to establish this committee and it was not possible to consider any other issue.

As a result the General Committee was established to make decisions on other matters. Constitutionally they were two different committees that held separate meetings. Nevertheless, the Council had decided that both committees would include the same 15 members as noted in the Constitution.

As a general rule, it was noted in the Constitution that the same member could not be Chairman of more than one Committee. Under the current Constitution, it was necessary to appoint two different members to chair the committees.

Members of the Committee expressed, as was the case in the previous meeting (23.6.2014), that the same member should be allowed to chair both committees. This meant that it would be necessary to amend the Council's Constitution only for these Committees, by presenting recommendations to the Council's next meeting for approval.

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO RECOMMEND TO THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL, (9.10.14) TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION (Part 4/Procedure Rules/10 Para 1,2 and 5) ONLY FOR BOTH LICENSING COMMITTEES.

The meeting commenced at 10:00am and concluded at 10:15am