

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the
MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE
held in the Committee Room I, Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxon on
Tuesday 29 September 2015 at 10:30am

PRESENT

Councillors: N A MacRae MBE (Chairman); S J Good (Vice-Chairman); M A Barrett,
H B Eaglestone, E H James, R A Langridge, Ms E P R Leffman and Mrs L E C Little

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 19 December 2013, 4 June 2014 and 20 May 2015 be approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J M Doughty and Mr G Saul

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members or Officers in matters to be considered at the meeting.

8. PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC

No submissions were received from the public in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure.

9. GAMBLING ACT 2005: REVIEW OF GAMBLING LICENSING POLICY STATEMENT

The Committee received and considered the report of the Shared Head of Public Protection. Together with the Council's draft Revised Gambling Act 2005 Policy Statement.

The Council's Licensing Officer advised that the amendments proposed reflected the Gambling Commission's "Guidance to Licensing Authorities" which required Operators of new licensed premises or existing premises in respect of which there have been significant changes to prepare a risk assessment for their business taking into account the nature and characteristics of the locality. In addition, the revised policy took account of changes to maximum stakes and prizes permitted in relation to gaming machines.

Members noted that during the consultation period, responses had been received from the Thames Valley Police and the Witney Town Council, both of which expressed support for the draft.

RECOMMENDED

- (a) That the Licensing Committee approves the recommended amendments and makes a recommendation to Council in relation to the adoption of the Council's Gambling Act 2005 Licensing Policy Statement, attached as Appendix A; and

- (b) That the Shared Head of Public Protection be authorised, following consultation with the Chairman of the Council’s Licensing Committee, to make any necessary amendments to the Gambling Act 2005 Licensing Policy Statement prior to it being published on 31 January 2016 which are required for clarification and consistency; and
- (c) That the Council continues to adopt a “no- casino resolution” for inclusion in the published Gambling Act 2005 Licensing Policy Statement
- (d) That the revised Gambling Act 2005 Licensing Policy Statement be included in the Council’s Policy Framework, as set out in Article 4 of the Constitution.

The meeting closed at 10:33am

CHAIRMAN