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SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL  
LICENSING (LICENSING AND GAMBLING) SUB-COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 NOVEMBER 2024

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Present: Councillors M Bunday, Kenny and Whitbread

Apologies:

24. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

RESOLVED that Councillor M Bunday as Chair of the Licensing Committee would be Chair for the purposes of this meeting.

25. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 02 October 2024 were approved as an accurate record.

26. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - LEGAL ADVICE**

27. **LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE- APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE- AFRO HEIGHTS**

All parties will receive formal written confirmation of the decision and reasons. This hearing was held as a hybrid hearing with all attendees attending virtually using Microsoft Teams.

The Sub-Committee has considered very carefully the application for a grant of a premises licence for Afro Heights 19 Onslow Road Southampton SO14 0JD as submitted.

It has given due regard to the Licensing Act 2003, the Licensing Objectives, statutory guidance and the adopted statement of Licensing Policy. The Human Rights Act 1998, The Equality Act 2010 and The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Section 17 have been taken onto account.

The Sub-Committee made its decision on the basis of all of the evidence submitted, both in writing and given orally at the Hearing. The Sub-Committee considered evidence from the applicant, and the written objection.

The Sub-Committee noted that none of the Responsible Authorities had made representations and that conditions had been agreed between the Police, Environmental Health and the applicant, to be added to the licence, should the application be granted.

Having considered all the above, the Sub-Committee agreed to grant the licence in accordance with the application covering the supply by retail of alcohol during the following hours:

**Monday 07:00 - 21:00**

**Tuesday 07:00 - 21:00**

**Wednesday 07:00 - 21:00**

**Thursday 07:00 - 21:00**

**Friday 07:00 - 21:00**

**Saturday 07:00 - 21:00**

**Sunday 07:00 - 21:00**

The licence will be subject to conditions as set out in an email from Claudia Barbera of Environmental Health to Licensing dated 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 and in an email from PC Lee Scott to the Applicant dated 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

**Reasons:**

The Sub-Committee considered that the premises was within the Bevois Valley Cumulative Impact area. Advice was given that this removed the presumption of grant, and the application could only be granted if the Sub-Committee was satisfied that the premises would not add to the issues in the cumulative impact area.

The Applicant made it clear that he intended to sell limited alcohol alongside the specialist nature of the food products on sale. Additionally, the opening hours of 0700 to 2100 were reasonable and an earlier closing time than other premises in the area. In those circumstances the Sub-Committee was satisfied that the premises would not adversely impact the area, and the application could be granted.

The written objection raised concerns of an increase in crime and disorder if the application was granted. The Sub-Committee was reminded that the Police are to be regarded as experts on crime and disorder and had raised no objection. In addition, the Sub -Committee was advised that it could not take into account speculation which the objection clearly was as the premises was not currently selling alcohol.

Members of the public should be assured that there is a general right to review a premises licence which can be brought by residents or responsible authorities, where there is evidence that the objectives are not being met. In the event that the premises causes issues of concern the licence, in its entirety, can be considered at that stage where the evidence supports it.

There is a right of appeal for any party to the Magistrates' Court. All parties will receive written notification of the decision with reasons which will set out that right in full.