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SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL  
LICENSING (LICENSING AND GAMBLING) SUB-COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2024

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Present: Councillors Mrs Blatchford, Bunday and Laurent

Apologies: Councillors

32. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

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

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

Resolved that, the Sub-Committee would move into private session in order to receive legal advice when determining the application. The parties to the hearing, press and public, unless otherwise excluded by the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005, would be invited to return immediately following that private session at which time the decision would be announced.

34. **LICENSING APPLICATION- WISDOM OF RAGNAR, BENHAMS FARMHOUSE, WITTS HILL, SOUTHAMPTON, SO18 4QN**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Service Director – Communities, Culture and Homes for an application for a premises licence in respect of a New Premises Licence - WISDOM OF RAGNAR, BENHAMS FARMHOUSE, WITTS HILL, SOUTHAMPTON SO18 4QN.

The applicant and his representative were present and with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

Decision:

Wisdom of Ragnar, Benhams Farmhouse, Witts Hill, Southampton, SO18 4QN.

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 the grant of a premises licence for Wisdom of Ragnar, Benhams Farmhouse, Witts Hill, Southampton, SO18 4QN 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 were all considered.

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's representative, Mr Daly, and the written representation opposing the application.

The Sub-Committee noted that none of the Responsible Authorities had made representations, and they are therefore deemed to approve the application. Legal advice was received that the responsible authorities are to be regarded as Experts in their respective fields.

Having considered all the above, the Sub-Committee agreed to grant the licence in accordance with the application covering the following licensable activities during the following hours:

**Supply by retail of alcohol**

**09:00 - 17:00 Monday to Sunday**

**Reasons:**

The Sub-Committee has noted the concerns raised in the objection regarding noise but also noted that there had been no representation from Environmental Health. The Committee was reminded that it was not allowed to take into account speculation and as this is a new application any concerns about noise are speculative.

The Committee was further reminded that the legislation provides for a presumption of grant of an application for a premises licence, unless the application could not promote the licensing objectives with appropriate conditions. No evidence was provided to suggest the objectives could not be upheld.

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 is not run as represented at the hearing and 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.