

**GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE  
18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012**

**PRESENT** – Councillor Nutt (in the Chair) Councillors L. Haszeldine, C.L.B. Hughes, B. Jones, D. Jones, Lee, Newall, Stenson, and J. Vasey. (9)

**APOLOGIES** – Councillors Lawton, J. Lyonette, Thistlethwaite and L. Vasey. (4)

**L16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

**L17. MINUTES** – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Licensing Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2012.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes be approved.

**L18. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF LICENSING FOR PREMISES TO BE APPROVED AS A VENUE FOR MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS – ST. GEORGE HOTEL, DURHAM TEES VALLEY AIRPORT, DARLINGTON** – The report of the Proper Officer asking the Committee to consider an application received from the St. George Hotel at Durham Tees Valley Airport, Darlington for a renewal of its licence to be approved as a venue for Marriages and Civil Partnerships in accordance with the provisions of the Marriage Act 1949 (as amended by the Marriage Act 1994) and the Marriage and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005.

The Notes on the requirements before an application can be granted, the standard conditions to be applied by the Local Authority in accordance with those Regulations and a copy of the application were appended to the submitted report. The application to renew the licence has no change to the designation of areas or levels for occupancy and no objections have been received.

**RESOLVED** – That the St. George Hotel be approved as a venue for the solemnisation of Marriages and Civil Partnerships in respect of the venue subject to the standard licence conditions and the maximum number of persons permitted to occupy ceremony rooms on the occasion of Civil Marriages or Civil Partnerships as outlined in accordance with the Fire Officer's recommendations.

**L19. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF LICENCE FOR PREMISES TO BE APPROVED AS A VENUE FOR MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS – ROCKLIFFE HALL HOTEL, DARLINGTON** – The report of the Proper Officer asking the Committee to consider an application received from Rockcliffe Hall Hotel, Darlington for a renewal of its licence to be approved as a venue for Marriages and Civil Partnerships in accordance with the provisions of the Marriage Act 1949 (as amended by the Marriage Act 1994) and the Marriage and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005.

The Notes on the requirements before an application can be granted, the standard conditions to be applied by the Local Authority in accordance with those Regulations and a copy of the application were appended to the submitted report. The application to renew the licence has no change to the designation of areas or levels for occupancy and no objections have been received.

Discussion ensued that the reports stated that the applicants had confirmed that a fire risk assessment and disability risk assessment had been carried out and Members queried whether Officers undertake checks to clarify this. Reference was also made to the responsibility of the Fire Officer regarding the room occupancies and whether they visit each room in each venue to assess the numbers.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That Rockliffe Hall Hotel be approved as a venue for the solemnisation of Marriages and Civil Partnerships in respect of the venue subject to the standard licence conditions and the maximum number of persons permitted to occupy ceremony rooms on the occasion of Civil Marriages or Civil Partnerships as outlined in accordance with the Fire Officer’s recommendations.

(b) That following Members discussion a report be considered at the next meeting of the General Licensing Committee outlining how the Council checks that a Fire Risk Assessment and a Disability Risk assessment has been carried out and what the responsibilities are of the Fire Service regarding the room occupancies.