

COUNCIL
6th January, 2005

PRESENT - The Mayor; Councillors Armstrong, Baldwin, Copeland, Dixon, Flowers, Harker, Mrs. Hart, Hartley, Haszeldine, Heaney, Holmes, Hughes, Johnson, B. Jones, Mrs. Jones, S.J. Jones, Lawton, Lewis, Lister, Long, D. Lyonette, J. Lyonette, Maddison, Maybrey, McEwan, Newall, Nutt, Richmond, F.S. Robson, S. Robson, Ruck, A.J. Scott, Mrs. Scott, Stenson, Vasey-Smith, J.C. Vasey, L. Vasey, G.B. Walker, Wallis and Williams.

APOLOGIES - Councillor Mrs. Brown, Burt, Bristow, Foster, Hutchinson, Lee, Reynolds, Roberts, Swift and Thistlethwaite.

ABSENT - Councillors Stamford-Bewlay and Wilson.

63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

64. IMPLEMENTING THE LICENSING ACT 2003 – The Director of Development and Environment submitted a report (previously circulated) on the progress in implementing the Licensing Act 2003 and seeking approval of the proposed Licensing Policy and the changes required to the Council’s Constitution (also previously circulated).

The submitted report outlined the representations received following consultation meetings held with interested stakeholders and statutory consultees; the draft regulations on proposals for Committee hearings and the potential workload associated with the transition period as estimated by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS); and the consultation on fees for licences, certificates and notices, which it was envisaged would be linked to Non-Domestic Rates. Particular reference was also made to the Council’s regard for public safety and the prevention of nuisance and crime and disorder, which was reflected through the Policy.

RESOLVED – (a) That the amendments to this Council’s Constitution be approved.

(b) That the Licensing Policy be approved.

REASONS – (a) To ensure that the new duties and responsibilities placed on the Council by the Licensing Act 2003 can be effectively administered.

(b) To ensure that there is a policy framework within which the Licensing Panel can make decisions on applications under the Act.

THE COMMON SEAL of THE)
COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH)
OF DARLINGTON was hereunto affixed)
this Twenty seventh day of January)
two thousand and three in the presence of :-)

Mayor

Borough Solicitor