

## GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE

22 NOVEMBER 2016

**PRESENT** – Councillor Kane (in the Chair); Councillors L. Haszeldine, C. Hughes, Lawton, Lee and Newall (6)

**APOLOGIES** – Councillors B Jones, D. Jones, Nutt and Stenson. (4)

**OFFICERS** – Julie Richings, Principal Licensing Officer; David Burrell, Private Sector Housing and Licensing Manager; Amy Wennington, Lawyer; and Allison Hill, Democratic Officer.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE** – Sgt. C. Dickenson and PCSO M. McAllister, Durham Constabulary.

**L18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

**L19. MINUTES** – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Committee held on 25 October 2016.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

**L20. MINUTES** – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of the General Licensing Sub-Committee held on 25 October 2016.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

**L21. APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF LICENCE FOR PREMISES APPROVED AS A VENUE FOR MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS – THE DEVONPORT HOTEL, MIDDLETON ONE ROW, MIDDLETON ST GEORGE** – The Assistant Director of Law and Governance and Proper Officer for the Registration Service submitted a report (previously circulated) to give consideration to an application received from The Devonport Hotel for a 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), the Marriage and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005 and the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013.

The submitted report gave a summary of The Devonport Hotel as an approved venue and detailed the areas within the hotel to be approved to allow ceremonies.

The submitted report also detailed accessibility considerations for wheelchair users in the Huntsman Suite, the Courtyard View Suite and the outside courtyard adjacent and proposed a condition on the licence that all couples shall be made aware of the restriction for wheelchair user guests at the time of booking.

With regard to the outside courtyard it was also highlighted within the submitted report that the outside courtyard can only be considered for approval as a ceremony room once an appropriate gazebo has been constructed and the hotel had been advised that a report to this Committee to vary its licence will be required to accommodate this additional place before weddings can take place.

**RESOLVED** – That approval be granted for The Devonport Hotel, Middleton One Row as an approved venue for the solemnisation of Marriages and Civil Partnerships in respect of the venue subject to the standard licence conditions and that the maximum number of persons permitted to occupy ceremony rooms on the occasion of Civil Marriages or Civil Partnerships should be as outlined in the submitted report.