

LICENSING ACT 2003 SUB COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 20 September 2023

PRESENT – Councillors Kane, Lawley and K Nicholson

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Colin Dobson (Licensing Manager), Brian Murray (Assistant Licensing Manager), Amy Wennington (Principal Lawyer (Litigation)), David Welsh (Business Fire Safety Officer) and Hannah Miller (Democratic Officer)

LS9 ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED – That Councillor K Nicholson be elected as Chair for the purpose of this Sub-Committee.

LS10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

LS11 APPLICATION FOR PREMISES LICENCE - 14-15 POST HOUSE WYND, DARLINGTON

The Group Director of Services submitted a report (previously circulated) to give consideration to an application for a Premises Licence following representations made by the fire service, based on the grounds that it undermines the public safety objective.

Present at the meeting were Colin Dobson, Licensing Manager; Brian Murray, Assistant Licensing Manager; Amy Wennington, Lawyer; David Welsh, Business Fire Safety Officer; and the applicant Abubakor Raju accompanied by Adam Siddiqui and Ray Uddin Qureshi.

The Licensing Manager introduced the application for a premises licence. Members listened to the representations made by the applicant in relation to action taken to address the contraventions of the Regulatory Reform (fire safety) Order 2005.

Members also listened carefully to the representations made by the Fire Safety Officer on the grounds of public safety. Members were informed that all contraventions had been addressed, excluding the fire risk assessment which was due to be completed the day following this Committee meeting.

The Sub-Committee considered the views in accordance with guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and in accordance with the relevant sections of the Council's Licensing Policy; Section 10 in relation to public safety.

After careful consideration Members agreed that the application be rejected as not all of the fire safety requirement had been complied with.

RESOLVED – That the premises licence application be rejected.