

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a **MEETING** of the **LICENSING COMMITTEE** held on Thursday
5 December 2013 at 10.30am

Present

Councillors: T G Hughes (Chairman), Mrs E M Andrews, M D Binks, R J Chesterton, Mrs F J Colthorpe, D R Coren, N V Davey, A V G Griffiths, M R Lee, M A Lucas and E G Luxton.

Also Present

Officers: P N Williams (Head of Environmental Services), G Pratt (Solicitor), T Keating (Licensing Officer) and S Lees (Member Services Officer).

10. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

11. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – 25 JULY 2013**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2013 were approved as a correct record and **SIGNED** by the Chairman.

12. **THIRD REVIEW OF THE LICENSING POLICY UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

The Committee had before it a report * from the Head of Environmental Services. The Council, as a licensing authority, must adopt a statement of licensing principles or licensing policy that sets out how it carries out its duties under the Act. That policy must now be reviewed every five years. The report before the Committee brought forward the third review of that document.

The Chairman brought to Members attention the consultation that had taken place and stated that he felt the licensing authority's response to each of the representations made had been sensible and appropriate.

Discussion took place regarding:

- A recent meeting to do with enforcement issues where it was mentioned that District Councillors were the 'eyes' and 'ears' of the licensing authority therefore they had more knowledge of their specific areas than officers;
- The difficulties faced by Planning and Licensing Committees when certain premises had submitted applications in both areas;
- The licensing authority acting as a responsible authority and applying to review a premises licence in this capacity. This occurred in relation to a premises in Crediton and the hearing was held earlier in the year.

RECOMMENDED to the Council that the draft policy as amended be adopted.

(Proposed Cllr D R Coren and seconded by Cllr M R Lee)

Note: * Report previously circulated, copy attached to signed minutes

(The meeting ended at 11.00am)

CHAIRMAN