

# GENERAL PURPOSES LICENSING COMMITTEE

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2008**

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** The Chair (Councillor Sareva), Councillors Brundin, Christian, Cook (Vice Chair), Goddard, Keen, Lygo and Williams.

Councillors McManners and Sinclair attended as substitutes for Councillors Turner and Cook respectively.

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Lois Stock and Daniel Smith (Legal and Democratic Services), Tony Payne (Environmental Development – Licensing) and Kevin Keating (Environmental Development – Street Trading).

## **8. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Rae Humberstone

## **9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Sareva declared a personal interest that, depending on circumstances, might also be a prejudicial interest, in the work of the Committee generally as the holder of a Security Industry Association door supervisors' licence

Councillor Cook declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 (Allocation of a street trading consent, St Giles – minute 11 refers) as an occasional customer of various kebab vans, and in agenda item 5 (Confirmation of an annual street trading consent – minute 12 refers) as a member of Hertford College.

## **10 MINUTES**

Resolved to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the General Purposes Licensing Committee held on 16th January and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

## **11. ALLOCATION OF STREET TRADING CONSENT FOR A VACANT SITE AT ST GILES, OXFORD.**

The Head of Environmental Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended).

Daniel Smith (Legal) informed the Committee that there was no procedure prescribed by law for the consideration of this matter, and there was no right of appeal once the pitch had been allocated. Provided that the 3 competing applicants were given a fair hearing, the Committee could adopt any means it saw fit to allocate

the pitch. Kevin Keating (Environmental Development – Street Trading) confirmed that each applicant had completed the required application form, and that each had been informed that they may be granted a short period of time in which to address the Committee.

Councillor Goddard was keen for applications of this type to be measured against an agreed set of criteria. It was agreed that suitable criteria should be considered at a future meeting in order to deal with this situation should it arise in the future. The Chair suggested that on this occasion each applicant should be heard, after which the Committee could decide how best to advance this issue.

It was therefore decided that following a short introduction from the Street Trading Officer, each of the 3 applicants would be given 5 minutes in which to make their presentation, followed by questions from Councillors. Each would be heard separately without the presence of the other applicants, in an order to be determined by the drawing of lots. Having heard from each applicant, the Committee would then consider the applications. The Committee felt that it was in the public interest that the deliberations concerning the award of the vacant pitch should be held in private.

Following the drawing of lots, each applicant presented their case and answered questions from the Committee in the following order:-

1. Mr William Pouget (on behalf of Mr Robert Pouget);
2. Mr Nevzat Can;
3. Mr and Mrs Soulaiman Aidi.

Resolved :-

- (1) To grant the street trading consent to Mr Robert Pouget, as the Committee wished to encourage new and alternative food options, and felt that traditional kebab vans were already well catered for in the St Giles area;
- (2) That the following criteria could be considered in future:-
  - (a) Range of food to be offered;
  - (b) Training and management of the staff;
  - (c) Food hygiene certificate and/or training;
  - (d) Dealing with the social consequences of litter and possible disturbance.

## **12. CONFIRMATION OF ANNUAL STREET TRADING CONSENT FOR MR KHALED AL-QADI, TRADING FROM CATTE STREETS/RADCLIFFE SQUARE, OXFORD.**

The Head of Environmental Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended). Kevin Keating presented this report to the Committee.

A short discussion took place concerning the siting and aesthetic appearance of the proposed stall. Kevin Keating pointed out that Catte Street was a consent street, whereas New College Lane was not, and that it would be possible for officers to control the appearance of the stall.

Resolved to confirm that the Street Trading Consent issued to Mr Khaled Al-Qadi to sell Oxford University clothing and souvenirs for an initial period of three months from Catte Street (at the junction of Radcliffe Square) would be extended to allow him to trade from this site by issuing him Annual Street Trading Consent.

## **11 FEES AND CHARGES**

The Head of Environmental Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended). Tony Payne presented the report to the Committee, and asked that the contents of the letters from the Adult Industry Trade Association and Simply Pleasure Ltd be considered.

He pointed out that the fees mentioned in the report were set within the budget and approved by Council, rather than determined by Executive Board.

Resolved:-

- (1) To note the licence fees set by statute;
- (2) To agree the licence fees set by the Council for 2008/2009 as laid out in this report;
- (3) That having considered the letters in connection with the level of fees for sex establishments from the Adult Industry Trade Association and Simply Pleasure, it was decided not to recommend to Council that licence fees for sex establishments were changed at this time.

## **12. REGULATORS' COMPLIANCE CODE**

The Head of Environmental Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended).

Resolved to:-

- (1) Note the introduction of the Statutory Code of Practice for Regulators;
- (2) Note the amendment of the Environmental Development Service's Enforcement Policy to comply with its requirements;

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Resolved to note the following dates:-

28<sup>th</sup> October 2008

3<sup>RD</sup> February 2009

14<sup>th</sup> May 2009

The meeting started at 5.30pm and ended at 7.05pm