

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Licensing & Enforcement Committee

Held at Knowle, Sidmouth on Monday, 19 September 2005

Present:

Councillors:

R H H Cross (Chairman)
Mrs C E Drew (Vice Chairman)

Mrs M Boote
D J Cox
J H Glanvill
M J L Green
Mrs M L Hardy
D R H Hull

Mrs A E Liverton
Ms S M Merritt
R Mudge
Mrs F Newth
T R Reeves

The meeting started at 9.35 am and ended at 10.52 am.

***4 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Licensing & Enforcement Committee held on 7 March 2005, were confirmed and signed as a true record.

***5 Quarterly progress report on Licensing Act 2003 Implementation**

Consideration was given to the report of the Licensing Manager and Head of Legal and Member Services which gave an up date on the district council's progress regarding the implementation of the Licensing Act 2003 and the new responsibilities placed on the authority. Members noted that Officers were very pleased with the progress made by the authority and the way in which hearings were being conducted. It was noted that the highest number of applications, as predicted, had been received after 27 June 2005. Members noted that the authority was doing all it could to ensure that all premises operated legally after the 24 November when the new Act came into force. It was noted that around forty applications were yet to be received from premises. A deadline of 24 September had been given to allow for these late applicants to be submitted to ensure that they would trade legally when the new act was in force. Members were concerned by the level of applications yet to be received. However it was felt that the authority should continue to encourage and assist premises where possible to complete the application process.

RESOLVED

that the Committee meet on 21 November 2005 to discuss action to be taken over any premises which have not submitted applications in line with the Licensing Act 2003.

*6 **Licensing Act 2003 – Hearings and related paperwork**

Consideration was given to the verbal report of the Head of Legal and Member Services who circulated examples of papers used by the Licensing Sub Committees during hearings. Members were very pleased with the support provided by Licensing and Member Services Officers for the hearings. However, there was concern expressed that Members might not be receiving all details of complaints received. Members were concerned over the way in which some interested parties calls may have been dealt with in the past and were not sure of how complaints were dealt with or logged. Members requested that a more formal method of providing information to the committee be investigated.

- RESOLVED**
- 1) that the information and methods of report and call logging provided supplied by Environmental Health be investigated.
 - 2) that a more formal method of presenting such information as that above from Environmental Health be investigated.

Chairman Date