

Minutes

of a meeting of the

Licensing Acts Committee

held on Thursday 21 November 2024
at 6.00 pm in Meeting Room 1, Abbey
House, Abbey Close, Abingdon,
OX14 3JE

Open to the public, including the press

Present in the meeting room:

Councillors: Pieter-Paul Barker, Peter Dragonetti (Chair), Ali Gordon-Creed, Sam James-Lawrie, Katharine Keats-Rohan and Anne-Marie Simpson

Officers: Emily Barry (Democratic Services Officer)

Remote attendance:

Officers: Laura Driscoll (Licensing Team Leader) and Diane Foster (Licensing and Community Safety Manager)

8 Election of a chair

In the absence of the chair and vice chair of the Licensing Acts Committee the democratic services officer called for nominations for a chair for the meeting.

A motion, moved and seconded, to elect Councillor Peter Dragonetti as the chair for the meeting was carried on being put to the vote.

RESOLVED: to elect Councillor Peter Dragonetti as the chair for the meeting

9 Chair's announcements

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, outlined the procedure to be followed and advised on emergency evacuation arrangements.

10 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mike Giles, Axel Macdonald, Zia Mohammed and Jo Robb.

11 Minutes

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2024 as a correct record and agree that the Chair sign these as such.

12 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

13 Urgent business

There was no urgent business.

14 Public participation

There were no registered speakers.

15 Review of Joint Gambling Policy

The licensing team leader introduced the report and highlighted the recommendations to Council which were being sought. She informed the committee that following a four week consultation in August, to which there was only one, blank response, the policy had been updated with minor amendments.

Members enquired if it was unusual to only have one response to a consultation. The licensing team leader advised that this was an uncontroversial area of licensing in the district and therefore this was not surprising.

A motion, moved and seconded, to accept the officer recommendations and too recommend Council adopt a 'no casino' resolution was carried on being put to the vote.

Members noted that the policy had not changed drastically and as the district was not designated to have a casino it made to sense to make this recommendation to Council.

RESOLVED:

- a) to recommend to Council
 - i) adopt the proposed Joint Gambling Policy
 - ii) authorise the Head of Communities to make minor editorial changes to the Joint Gambling Policy.
 - iii) authorise the Head of Communities to publish the Joint Gambling Policy in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006.

- b) To recommend Council adopt a 'no casino' resolution under section 166 (1) of the Gambling Act 2005, meaning that any application for a casino would not be considered.

The meeting closed at 6.08 pm

