

Runnymede Borough CouncilOTHER APPLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE6 April 2004 at 7.40 p.m.

Members of the Sub-Committee present: Councillors D.W. Parr (Chairman), Mrs P.I. Broadhead, Mrs L.M. Gilham, P.A. Greenwood, and C. Knight.

Members of the Sub-Committee absent: None.

Councillors A. Alderson and A.J. Davis also attended the meeting.

1. NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Groups mentioned below had notified the Chief Executive Officer of their wishes that the changes listed be made to the membership of the Licensing Committee and of the Sub-Committee. The changes were for a fixed period ending on the day after the meeting and thereafter the Councillors removed would be re-appointed.

Group requesting Change	Remove from Membership	Appoint Instead
Conservative	Councillor M.J. Brown	Councillor C. Knight
Independent	Councillor B.J. Relph	Councillor Mrs L.M. Gilham

The Chief Executive Officer had given effect to these wishes in accordance with Section 16 (2) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that -

Councillor D.W. Parr be elected Chairman of the Sub-Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2003/04.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that -

Councillor B.J. Relph be elected Vice-Chairman of the Sub-Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2003/04.

4. OTHER APPLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Sub-Committee noted its terms of reference as set out below;

'to determine all applications under the remit of the Licensing Committee and requiring a hearing, other than those arising under the Licensing Act 2003'

5. APPLICATION FOR OCCASIONAL OPEN AIR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE

The Sub-Committee received for consideration an application for an Occasional Open Air Public Entertainments Licence from Mr R Jordan-Baker of the National Trust in respect of two concerts to be staged at the Long Mede, Windsor Road, Old Windsor on 24 – 25 July 2004.

The applicant, Mr Richard Jordan-Baker attended the meeting and made representations in person and the Proper Officer presented his report to the Sub-Committee. There had been one objection to the licence being granted from Mr and Mrs Lawson of Runnymede Cottage, Magna Carta Lane, Wraysbury, who had been in correspondence with the Proper Officer and their letters were considered by the Sub-Committee. A location plan was provided showing the layout of the concert area, parking provision and the position of the proposed concerts in relation to local residents.

The Sub-Committee was informed that the National Trust planned to stage two open air concerts to generate income so that the Trust might continue conservation work at the site.

It was estimated that 3,500 people might attend the concerts which would be followed each night by a choreographed firework display lasting approximately 12 – 15 minutes and terminating at 10.30 p.m.

The Trust anticipated that the site would be clear by 11.30 p.m., which allowed an hour for a staggered departure of the audience.

Members were assured that the proximity of the Magna Carta Memorial to the concert area would not present any difficulties as it would be located within the stewarded backstage area, thus allowing no access by members of the public.

The Sub-Committee questioned Mr Jordan-Baker in respect of the firework display, consultation with local residents, car parking arrangements and the potential noise nuisance of the concerts.

Mr Jordan-Baker considered that the length of the firework display was not excessive and that although, by nature, loud (i.e. 140 Decibels at the point of explosion), would not cause a significant nuisance to local residents. He also confirmed that the organiser of the display was very experienced and had arranged successful displays for the National Trust at other locations.

The Sub-Committee noted that approximately 15 letters had been sent by the National Trust to local residents in respect of the proposed concerts and that only one objection had been received which had been responded to. A public notice had also been displayed for the statutory 28 days at the site.

The Sub-Committee considered whether the proposed car parking arrangements were adequate and Mr Jordan-Baker was confident that enough provision had been made to accommodate the expected number of vehicles.

The Proper Officer presented the Sub-Committee with a chart explaining the levels of noise which could be expected at the event. It was agreed that the condition relating to noise level at the riverbank on the side adjacent to the event ground be amended from 60 to 65 Decibels for a 15 minute LEQ. This figure was in line with national guidelines for open air events.

Members noted that the nearest resident lived 344 metres away from the proposed event site. It was considered that depending on wind direction they should not be disturbed by a noise level of 65 Decibels.

Mr Jordan-Baker confirmed that if the licence were granted he would work closely with other agencies to ensure that no nuisance would be caused to local residents and that the event would be both safe and successful.

It was agreed that a multi-agency site visit would take place one month prior to the event taking place and that the National Trust would comply with the conditions set by the Council.

RESOLVED that –

- i) the application for an Occasional Open Air Public Entertainments Licence be granted subject to the conditions set out in the report and any others which Officers considered necessary;**
- ii) a noise condition of 65DB for a 15 min LEQ at the Riverbank on the side adjacent to the event ground be set;**
- iii) the Applicant be asked to give consideration to the use of fireworks with an emphasis on display rather than noise level; and**
- iv) a multi-agency site meeting take place one month prior to the event to ensure public safety and prevention of a nuisance**

(The meeting ended at 8.06 p.m.)

Chairman