

Minutes of Licensing

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 14 June 2022, starting at 6.30 pm
Present: Councillor S Brunskill (Chair)

Councillors:

J Alcock	D O'Rourke
S Farmer	S O'Rourke
G Hibbert	J Rogerson
S Hore	G Scott
A Humpheys	R Walsh
R Newmark	

In attendance: Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Solicitor

92 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for the meeting were received from Councillors R Bennett, I Brown and S Rainford.

93 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

94 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY, OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interests.

95 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

96 DRINKS SPIKING AND LICENSED PREMISES

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing Committee about a letter circulated to local authorities by the Home Office regarding the spiking of drinks and advising Committee of the steps taken by the Council regarding this issue.

Members were reminded of numerous reports in the press and media regarding an apparent increase in the spiking of drinks in late 2021.

The report included an open letter sent on 1 April 2022 by the Minister of State for Crime, Policing and Probation which was circulated to local authority licencing committees.

The report explained the offences and their maximum penalties in relation to drinks spiking, and the reclassification of a drug being used to spike drinks and its consequential change in maximum sentencing and imprisonment.

The Council had distributed documents prepared by Lancashire Constabulary and a local security company providing information and guidance for premises to licenced premises and at relevant meetings.

Information and advice for residents in relation to this issue had also been posted on the Council's website on 16 December 2021.

There had been reports of drink spiking in the Ribble Valley but no patterns or repeat premises had been identified.

Committee discussed potential ways in which members of the public could protect themselves in respect of this issue.

97 MINUTES OF ESAG MEETING

Committee received the minutes of the Ribble Valley Event Safety Advisory Group held on 12 May 2022.

98 LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE TRAINING FOR MEMBERS

Members were provided training with an overview of the Licensing Act 2003.

99 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from representatives on outside bodies.

100 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items under this heading.

The meeting closed at 6.37 pm

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact the committee clerk, Rebecca Tait rebecca.tait@ribblevalley.gov.uk.