



**LICENSING PANEL
2 MAY 2018
2.00 - 2.30 PM**

Present:

Councillor Clifton Thompson (Chair)
Councillor Michael Brossard
Councillor Ms Moira Gaw

Also Present:

Charlie Fletcher, Licensing Officer
Donald Adams, Legal Officer
Lizzie Rich, Clerk
Craig Baylis, Applicant's agent
Alex Ford, Operations Manager Oakman Inns

30. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Brossard declared that he had been invited to a pre-opening event at The Royal Forester's, but would not be attending.

31. The Procedure for Hearings at Licensing Panels

The procedure for hearings at Licensing Panels was noted by all parties.

32. Application for new premises licence for The Royal Foresters, London Road, Ascot, SL5 8DR

Following the hearing of the application for a New Premises Licence in respect of the above premises by the Licensing Panel on 2 May 2018, I write to formally advise you of the Panel's decision.

The Panel carefully considered all the information presented, both written and oral, from:

- the Licensing Officer who outlined the issues;
- the Applicant,
- the Interested Parties;

together with reference to the appropriate Licensing objectives, the Council's own Licensing Policy and the Secretary of State's guidance. At the conclusion of the proceedings all participants present confirmed that they had been given the opportunity to say all they wished to say.

The Panel noted that there had been a representation from Trading Standards, which had since been settled following the agreement of an additional condition to implement staff training and a refusals register.

The Panel decided that granting the licence would not have an adverse impact on the promotion of the four licensing objectives, and agreed to grant the Licence. The Licensing Team will send you a copy of the licence in due course.

Reasons

The Panel received and noted written submission from local residents who had made representations. However, as the new premises licence as applied for had requested an earlier finish to the hours of the supply of alcohol on five out of seven days of the week (Monday to Thursday inclusive and Sunday), when compared to the conditions of the current licence, the Panel were minded that the new premises would be different to the old. The current licence as granted to Greene King Retailing permitted the sale by retail of alcohol from 10:00 to 00:30 Monday to Sunday, but the new application for this new premises licence requested supply of alcohol from 08:00 to 00.00 Monday to Thursday, 8:00 to 01:00 on Friday and Saturday, and 08:00 to 23:00 on Sundays.

The applicant also commented on measures they had taken to ensure the premises avoided public nuisance. The Panel noted that the nature of the business was going to be towards high-end quality within this particular business type sector, with a business model geared towards a 60 / 40% split in favour of food sales, with no alcohol price discounting to customers envisaged and that the premises would also function as a hotel. It was expected that the outside areas on the premises would be cleared by 23:00 each night. All tables would be served by waiting staff, which would include constant supervision of outside tables. Parking had been increased by 15 spaces. The designated smoking area would be located at the front of the property, at the furthest point from the homes of those who had made representations.

Late Night Refreshment would constitute snack food for hotel guests following the closure of the kitchen at 22:30 on most nights.

The Panel noted that no representations been received by the Police with regards to this application.

The Panel also noted that the licensing regime contains a provision of seeking a review if there were breaches of the licence and the licensing objectives were not met, this mechanism rather than denying the granting of a new licence is the appropriate decision under the Licensing Act.

In summary, the Panel granted the licence as applied for with the mandatory conditions and additional condition set out by Trading Standards. There was no evidence of a breach or potential breach of the Licensing Objectives. Those who made representations were reminded that should issues arise from the premises related to the Licensing Objectives, they should bring the matter to the attention of Licensing Officers.

The Panel's decision is binding upon the applicant and the Licensing Authority.