

## LICENSING HEARING

Minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2022 commencing at 10.30 am

Present: Cllr. Pett (Chairman)  
Cllrs. Hunter and Layland

Also Present Applicant  
Respondent

Cllr Bonin (SDC)  
Cllr Waterton (SDC)  
Cllr Osborne-Jackson (SDC)

Susan Lindsey - Senior Licensing Officer (SDC)  
David Lagzdins - Senior Solicitor (SDC)  
Charlotte Sinclair - Democratic Services Team Leader (SDC)  
Elle Jones - Democratic Services Officer (SDC)  
Andy Binnie - Democratic Services Officer (SDC)

5. Appointment of Chairman

Resolved: That Cllr Pett be appointed Chairman of the meeting.

6. Declarations of interest

There were none.

7. Application for Review of Prmises Licence: Qissa, 4 Carlton Parage, St. John's Hill, Sevenoaks TN13 3NZ

Resolved: That, under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting when considering Appendix A of the following report, on the grounds that likely disclosure of exempt information is involved as defined by Schedule 12A, paragraph 7 (Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime).

The Hearing gave consideration to the report by the Senior Licensing Officer giving details of a review application which had been submitted by Home Office Immigration Enforcement in relation to Qissa, 4 Carlton Parade, St Johns Hill, Sevenoaks, TN13 3NZ.

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The Hearing heard from the Applicant who updated the Committee on some additional information following the publication of the Agenda papers. The Sub-Committee asked questions of clarification.

The Hearing heard from the Respondent who explained that she had let the property out, had not been involved with the running of the premises directly and had not been the employer. She advised that the restaurant had since closed and the previous tenant of the business was no longer there. The Sub-Committee asked questions of clarification.

At 11am the Hearing Members withdrew to consider the issues raised, accompanied by the Council's Legal Advisor, and Clerk to the Hearing for the purposes of providing advice only

At 11.27am the Hearing Members, Council's Legal Advisor and Clerk to the Hearing Returned to the Council Chamber.

The Chairman confirmed that the full detailed decision would be made and provided to the interested parties thereafter by the notice of determination. He advised the Hearing that the Sub-Committee had come to the conclusion that the breach of the Licensing objectives, and the Council's Licensing Policy was clear and that there was no alternative but to revoke the premises licence in respect of Qissa.

By the Respondent's own admission the Premises Licence Holder had failed to meet the lawful expectations of both Premises Licence Holder and a Designated Premises Supervisor in respect of employing people not entitled to work in the UK in the relevant filed.

Resolved: That the Licence be revoked, with the full reasoning as detailed in the Notice of Determination as attached an appendix to these minutes.

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 11.30am

CHAIRMAN