

LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

Minutes of the reconvened meeting held on 17 February 2022 at 2.00 pm in Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

This meeting is the continuation of the adjourned meeting that took place on 9 December 2021.

Present: Councillors Bambridge, Rogers and Wright.

In Attendance: Councillors Dexter, Shrubbs and Yates.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPLICATION FOR A FULL REVIEW OF THE LICENCE FOR FAITH IN STRANGERS, 17 ETHELBERG CRESCENT, MARGATE.

Also present:

Thanet Council
Representatives: Ms Brock, Technical Support Team Manager, TDC.
Ms Phillips, Principal Litigation Solicitor, TDC.
Ms Berry, Senior Environmental Health Practitioner, TDC.
Mr Ranatunga, Solicitor representing TDC Environmental Health Dept, Cornerstone Barristers.

Faith in Strangers
Representatives: Ms Clover, Solicitor, Kings Chambers.
Mr Randle, Premises Owner.
Mr Duffy, Premises Owner.
Mr Forde, Music Venue Trust.
Councillor Yates.

Residents who
Submitted
Representations: Mr Rees-Gay, Solicitor, Wood Wurh.
Ms Pritchard – Resident.
Ms Wilson – Resident.
Ms/Mr Ryan – Resident.
Ms Deal – Resident.
Ms Davies – Resident.
Ms Thompson - to read a statement from Ms Walker – Resident.
Mr Mackinlay MP representing Ms Bryant and Ms Cox – Residents.

Ms Phillips, Principal Litigation Solicitor made the introductory remarks by advising of the meeting procedure for the discussion of this item.

The Technical Support Team Manager introduced the item.

Mr Ratnatunga addressed the Sub-Committee.

Mr Rees-Gay asked Mr Ratnatunga questions.

Ms Pritchard asked Mr Ratnatunga questions.

Mr Mackinlay MP asked Mr Ratnatunga questions.

Ms Clover asked Mr Ratnatunga questions.

Mr Rees-Gay addressed the Sub-Committee.

Ms Deal addressed the Sub-Committee.

Ms Pritchard addressed the Sub-Committee.

Ms Wilson addressed the Sub-Committee.

Mr Mackinlay MP addressed the Sub-Committee.

Ms Davis addressed the Sub-Committee.

Ms Ryan addressed the Sub-Committee.

Ms Thompson addressed the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee asked Mr Rees-Gay and the residents who submitted representations questions.

Ms Clover addressed the Sub-Committee.

Mr Randle addressed the Sub-Committee.

Mr Duffy addressed the Sub-Committee.

Councillor Yates addressed the Sub-Committee.

Mr Rees-Gay asked Ms Clover and those representing Faith in Strangers questions.

Mr Mackinlay MP asked Ms Clover and those representing Faith in Strangers questions.

The Sub-Committee asked Ms Clover and those representing Faith in Strangers questions.

Mr Rees-Gay provided the Sub-Committee with his final comments.

The residents who made representations provided the Sub-Committee with their final comments.

Ms Clover provided the Sub-Committee with her final comments.

Mr Randle and Mr Duffy provided the Sub-Committee with their final comments.

The Sub-Committee agreed the following:

'In the application for a full review of the Licence for Faith In Strangers 17 Ethelbert Crescent Margate. Having considered documentation and representations made to the Sub-Committee on the 17th February received from:

1. The Licensing Technical Support Team Manager - Ms Brock
2. The Environmental Department – Mr Ranatunga
3. The interested parties - Members of the public, Mr Mackinlay MP, Residents and their representative Mr Rees-Gay.
4. Faith in Strangers – Ms Clover, Mr Randle, Mr Duffy, Mr Forde and Councillor Yates)

The Sub-committee considered the steps which may be taken further to Section 52 (4) which are:

- (a) to modify the conditions of the licence;
- (b) to exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
- (c) to remove the designated premises supervisor;
- (d) to suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
- (e) to revoke the licence;

These steps may be taken further to an application to review which has been made by a responsible authority or any other person. On this occasion the application to review the licence of Faith in Strangers has been withdrawn and the Sub-Committee accept the withdrawal having been assisted by the representations of Mr Ranatunga for the Environmental Health Department.

The Sub-Committee have been greatly assisted by the representations made by the residents and their representative, however in the absence of an application by another person in accordance with Section 51, the Sub-Committee are unable to take the steps as provided in Section 52(4).

The representations have enabled the Sub-Committee to give proper consideration to the reasons given for the withdrawal. The application to review is withdrawn and therefore there can be no review of the licence further to this hearing today.

The Committee recognises the competing interests of all the parties which include; to add to the local economy; and the well-being of the residents in their peaceful enjoyment of their premises; and the Sub-Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Steps be taken for all the parties to collaborate in achieving a resolution to the sound proofing issues in the premises.

2. The relevant authority or other party should make an application for a review if it is deemed appropriate based on the evidence.'

Meeting concluded : 6.10 pm