

Chair - Councillor A P Edgeller

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

M Phillips

R M Sutherland

Also present:-

- Councillor J K Price

Officers in attendance:-

Mr G Finn

- Senior Legal Officer

Mrs J Wallace

- Licensing Officer

Mr R Simpson

- Head of Operations

Mr A Bailey

- Scrutiny Officer

Also present:-

Mrs V Cooper

- Community Safety Lead, Stafford Borough  
Council

**LSC5 Application for the Variation of a Premises Licence**

Considered the report of the Licensing Officer in relation to an application for the variation of a Premises Licence at Greengate Off Licence, 23C Greengate Street, Stafford, ST16 2HS.

On 5 November 2019 the Council received an application from Greengate Off Licence to vary the Premises Licence to extend the operating hours from 23:00 hours to 02:00 hours each day under Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003. The application was made by Mr Sathasivam Sivaruban, the Premises Licence holder and Designated Premises Supervisor of Greengate Street Off Licence, Greengate Street Stafford ST16 2HS. On 2 December 2019 the Council received a relevant representation from the Partnerships Office at Stafford Borough Council. On 3 December 2019 the Council received two further relevant representations from Trading Standards and Staffordshire Police.

Mrs J Wallace attended the meeting on behalf of the Head of Operations and introduced the report for Members, highlighting the fact that Staffordshire Police had formally withdrawn their representations prior to the meeting.

Mrs V Cooper outlined her case in objection to the application for the variation of the premises licence.

All parties were given the opportunity to question Mrs Cooper.

Mrs Cooper was then given the opportunity to sum up her case.

The Sub Committee then considered the matter in private.

*Recording of the meeting was paused and then restarted when all parties were back in the room.*

All parties were invited back in to the room for the Sub Committee's decision.

RESOLVED:- that having considered the matters set out in the report and the representations made by the parties in attendance, and also having due regard to the statutory guidance and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy, the Sub-Committee refuse the application for a variation as applied for.

#### **Reasons for Decision**

- (i) The Applicant was not present at the hearing to support his application. The Committee was therefore unable to establish the reasons why an extension of the hours of operation of the premises to 2:00am would not undermine the licensing objectives.
- (ii) The Committee shared the concerns raised that there had been several incidents reported of alcohol being sold from the premises to persons who had already been drinking, and further that those persons were drinking within the town centre.
- (iii) The Committee believed that extending the opening hours to 2:00am as proposed would undermine all four of the licensing objectives. The Committee was of the view that there was no good reason or justification for this extension to be granted.

CHAIR