

Chair - Councillor A M Loughran

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

Councillors:

P A Leason

J Thorley

Officers in attendance:-

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| L Taylor-Grime | - | Principal Solicitor Contentious Litigation |
| J Wallace | - | Licensing and Enviro-Crime Group Manager |
| K McKinney | - | Senior Licensing and Enviro-Crime Officer |
| J Dean | - | Democratic Services Officer |
| J Allen | - | Democratic Services Officer |

Also in attendance:-

Sergeant J Finn - Staffordshire Police

Licensing Officer R Jarman - Staffordshire Police

Mr A Hussain - Agent

Mr G Abbas - Applicant

LSC5 Application for a Premises Licence: Peppers, 3 Bridge Street, Stafford, ST16 2HJ.

Considered the report of the Licensing Manager in relation to an application for a Premises Licence for Peppers, 3 Bridge Street, Stafford, ST16 2HJ.

On 16 October 2023 the Council received an application for a Premises Licence for Peppers, 3 Bridge Street, Stafford, ST16 2HJ.

The application is for a Late-Night Refreshment Licence to operate from 23:00hrs - 05:00hrs on Fridays and Saturdays and on Bank Holidays. However the application states that the premises will only be open to the public from 16:30hrs - 23:00hrs. In view of the apparent contradiction, it is assumed that the Late-Night Refreshment licence is for deliveries only.

The Premises Licence Applicant is Mr Ghulam Abbas; he is the Brother-in-law of the previous Licence Holder, Mr Khateeb Khan

A representation has been received during the consultation period from the Staffordshire Police Licensing Unit, citing issues relating to two of the

Council's Licensing objectives: the Prevention of Crime and Disorder; and Public Nuisance and Public Safety.

The documents relating to this application including the application for the Premises Licence and the representation from Staffordshire Police Licensing Unit were attached as a confidential appendix to the report.

J Wallace attended the meeting on behalf of the Interim Head of Regulatory Services and introduced the report for Members.

Sgt J Finn and LO Richard Jarman outlined their case in support of the refusal of the Premises Licence together with CCTV footage.

The applicant was given the opportunity to question the Police and the Licensing Manager.

Mr Hussain outlined the Licence Applicant's case.

All parties were given the opportunity to question the applicant.

The Police were duly given the opportunity to sum up their case.

The applicant was subsequently given the opportunity to sum up their case.

The Sub Committee then considered the matter in private.

All participants were invited back into the meeting to hear the decision reached by the Committee.

RESOLVED:- that the application for the premises licence be refused.

REASONS:-

1. Mr Abbas has been involved with the business since approximately 12 January 2023 and has knowledge of the previous issues of the business.
2. Mr Abbas took ownership of the business on 11 September 2023 and made the application before the Committee on 16 October 2023 for a late-night refreshment licence for delivery only which made reference to complying with the licensing objectives.
3. Since 16 October 2023 there have been a number of occasions, as demonstrated by Staffordshire Police, that Peppers has traded after the 23:00 hours deadline. This shows a lack of understanding of the licensing objectives and conditions. There has been no demonstration of attempts to comply with the licensing requirements, or engagement with Staffordshire Police to address the issues with the provision of food outside of the specified hours. Mr Abbas has not demonstrated an understanding of the situation.

CHAIR