

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022</b>
<b>Heading:</b>	<b>APPLICATION TO REVIEW A CLUB PREMISES CERTIFICATE: HUCKNALL LIBERAL CLUB, 12 WEST STREET, HUCKNALL, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, NG15 7BW</b>
<b>Executive Lead Member:</b>	<b>DEPUTY LEADER – OUTWARD FOCUS</b>
<b>Ward/s:</b>	<b>HUCKNALL CENTRAL</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Subject to Call-In:</b>	<b>NO</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

For Members to consider evidence produced at a public hearing taking into account the details contained within this report and any representations made at this meeting for an application to Review a Club Premises Certificate in relation to Hucknall Liberal Club; and to determine the application by taking such of the steps set out below as the Committee considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

## **Recommendation(s)**

Members having regard to the application and any relevant representations, take such of the following steps (**if any**) as they consider appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives:

- a) to modify the conditions of the Club Premises Certificate;**
- b) to exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the Club Premises certificate;**
- c) to suspend the Club Premises Certificate for a period not exceeding three months;**
- e) to revoke the Club Premises Certificate.**

and for this purpose the conditions of the Certificate are modified if any of them are altered or omitted or any new condition is added.

Where the Sub-Committee decide to take a step mentioned in (a) or (b) above, it may provide that the modification or exclusion is to have effect for only such period (not exceeding three months) as it may specify.

Otherwise the modification of conditions or the exclusion of a licensable activity will be permanent.

## **Reasons for Recommendation(s)**

Members must consider all evidence offered at the Hearing and make an unbiased decision on the evidence offered. In making any decision, Members must also have regard to the Home Office statutory guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (which can be found online at):

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/705588/Revised\\_guidance\\_issued\\_under\\_section\\_182\\_of\\_the\\_Licensing\\_Act\\_2003\\_\\_April\\_2018\\_.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705588/Revised_guidance_issued_under_section_182_of_the_Licensing_Act_2003__April_2018_.pdf)

and the Council's own Statement of Licensing Policy (which can be found online at):  
<https://www.ashfield.gov.uk/media/5265/statement-of-licensing-policy-2019-2024.pdf>

## **Alternative Options Considered**

None

## **Detailed Information**

The Licensing Act 2003 came in to force in September 2005. It passed the powers to the Local Authority to licence premises for any of the following licensable activities :

- **The sale by retail of alcohol;**
- **The supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club or to the order of a member of the club;**
- **The provision of regulated entertainment; and**
- **The provision of late night refreshment.**

The licensing objectives are:

- **The prevention of crime and disorder;**
- **Public safety;**
- **The prevention of public nuisance; and**
- **The protection of children from harm.**

Each objective is of equal importance. There are no other statutory licensing objectives, so that the promotion of the four objectives is a paramount consideration at all times. However, the legislation also supports a number of other key aims and purposes. These are vitally important and should be principal aims for everyone involved in licensing work.

Section 51 of the 2003 Act, allows interested persons, and responsible authorities, to make representations in favour or against the review of a premises licence / club premises certificate. All review applications must be determined by a Licensing Committee or Sub-Committee Hearing.

## **Other Relevant Considerations**

The Sub-Committee is reminded of its responsibilities under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (to co-operate in the reduction of crime and disorder in the Ashfield District) and the Human Rights Act (which guarantees the right to a fair hearing for all parties in the determination of their civil rights, and also provides for the protection of property, which may include licences in existence, and the protection of private and family life) when considering the fair balance between the interests of the all parties to this Hearing.

Any decision taken by the Sub-Committee must be necessary and proportionate to the objectives being pursued.

Members are reminded that whenever they make a decision under the Licensing Act 2003, they have a duty to act with a view to promoting the licensing objectives.

When considering any representations, only those issues relating to the four licensing objectives should be considered and appropriate weight given to the importance and relevance of each representation.

Members should note that the applicant or persons making representations have the right of appeal against the decision made by the Sub-Committee.

### Summary of Application

On 5<sup>th</sup> September, the Licensing Authority received an application from Amanda Stevenson to review the Club Premises Certificate for the Hucknall Liberal Club, 12 West Street, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire, NG15 7BW following an accumulation of alleged incidents that she believes show that the Club have failed to uphold the licensing objectives of:

- **The prevention of public nuisance**
- **The promotion of public safety**
- **The protection of children from harm**

and that these incidents relate to a failure by those responsible for the establishment to comply with the conditions attached to the current Club Premises Certificate.

The application submitted by Mrs Stevenson is attached at **Appendix A**.

Prior to Mrs Stevenson submitting her Review application, a timeline of incidents and actions taken by both Mrs Stevenson, the Hucknall Liberal Club, and the Licensing Enforcement Officer is provided below, in order that all parties to this Hearing have sight at what the concerns raised have been, and what steps have been taken to try and overcome these concerns.

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>FROM:</b>	<b>CONTENT:</b>	<b>FOUND AT:</b>
<b>23.05.2022</b>	Mrs Stevenson	Allegation of loud music emanating from Club on night of 19.05.2022, and that when visited Club to request volume be turned down, felt that person she made request to did not care about the concern raised.	<b>APPENDIX B</b>
<b>23.05.2022</b>	Licensing Team	Issue of Stage 1 Noise Advisory Letter informing club of complaint, and seeking details as to steps that are being taken and will be taken to prevent further disturbances.	<b>APPENDIX C</b>
<b>06.06.2022</b>	Hucknall Liberal Club	Response detailing Mrs Stevenson entering the Club on 19.05.2022 requesting music be turned down, and other occasion since 19.05.2022 of Mrs Stevenson entering the Club making further requests for the volume levels of amplified music to be reduced. Details provided of extensive steps in place to ascertain if any amplified entertainments may cause a disturbance.	<b>APPENDIX D</b>

<b>06.06.2022</b>	Licensing Team	Response provided to Club thanking them for details of steps being taken, but highlighting areas that require addressing to adequately prevent potential further noise disturbances.	<b>APPENDIX E</b>
<b>15.07.2022</b>	Mrs Stevenson	Allegation of loud music on 14.07.2022 causing a disturbance.	<b>APPENDIX F</b>
<b>27.07.2022</b>	Hucknall Liberal Club	Response to Licensing Officer (email sent re: 14.07.2022 disturbance) stating that no calls had been received from Mrs Stevenson regarding any disturbances since first occurrence.	<b>APPENDIX G</b>
<b>09.08.2022</b>	Licensing Team	Meeting convened by Licensing Enforcement Officer with Mrs Stevenson and the Club to establish procedure should amplified entertainments continue to cause a nuisance to Mrs Stevenson. Actions agreed by all parties.	<b>APPENDIX H</b>
<b>28.08.2022</b>	Mrs Stevenson	Further allegations of noise from 2 previous weekends. Sent to an individual Officer who was on leave and had left an “out of office” response requesting any emails be forwarded to <b>licensing@ashfield.gov.uk</b> – email was not forwarded by Mrs Stevenson, and therefore not seen until the Officer returned to work on 05.09.2022. In light of the Review application being submitted, this further allegation of noise disturbances can be discussed at the Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing.	<b>APPENDIX I</b>
<b>29.08.2022</b>	Mrs Stevenson	Review Application sent to an individual Officer who was on leave and had left an “out of office” response requesting any emails be forwarded to <b>licensing@ashfield.gov.uk</b> – email was not forwarded by Mrs Stevenson. Therefore Review Application was officially received by the Licensing Authority on 05.09.2022 when the Officer who was on leave returned to work.	

The Club Premises Certificate currently in force is attached at **Appendix J** to assist all parties; and a map detailing the general location of the premises is attached at **Appendix K**.

During the 28 day representation period the Licensing Team received no representations from Interested Parties in support of the Review application.

## **Implications**

### **Corporate Plan:**

Licensing Act 2003 is a statutory duty of the Council.

Ensuring that Premises and Clubs operate with the correct Licence, having regard to the Council’s Statement of Licensing Policy on alcohol, regulated entertainment, and late refreshment licensing, will contribute towards the reduction of crime and disorder within the district and to improve community safety and environmental quality.

**Legal:**

Legal advice will be given at the hearing.

**Finance:**

No financial implications for the Council.

This report is effective from 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and has the following financial implications:

<b>Budget Area</b>	<b>Implication</b>
General Fund – Revenue Budget	None
General Fund – Capital Programme	None
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	None
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	None

**Risk:**

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
It is important that due process is followed in considering this application to ensure that the correct decision is reached which could not be challenged on the grounds that the specified procedures have not been followed.	The hearing has been organised to ensure that due process is followed, with appropriate support from the Council's legal representative to ensure this.

**Human Resources:**

There are no direct HR implications contained within this report

**Environmental/Sustainability**

Statutory requirement of the Licensing Act 2003, there no diversity or equality implications.

**Equalities:**

There are no equalities implications contained within this report.

**Other Implications:**

None

**Reason(s) for Urgency**

Not applicable

**Reason(s) for Exemption**

Not applicable

**Background Papers**

**Appendix A:** Review Application

**Appendix B:** Noise Complaint relating to 19.05.2022

**Appendix C:** Stage 1 Noise Advisory Letter issued 23.05.2022

**Appendix D:** Response from Hucknall Liberal Club 06.06.2022

**Appendix E:** Response to Hucknall Liberal Club 06.06.2022

**Appendix F:** Noise Complaint relating to 14.07.2022

**Appendix G:** Response from Hucknall Liberal Club 27.07.2022

**Appendix H:** Summary of meeting held with all parties 09.08.2022

**Appendix I:** Club Premises Certificate

**Appendix J:** Local Map

## **Report Author and Contact Officer**

**Julian Alison**  
**Licensing Manager**  
**julian.alison@ashfield.gov.uk**  
**01623 457364**

## **Sponsoring Director**

**Robert Docherty**  
**DIRECTOR OF PLACE & COMMUNITIES**  
**robert.docherty@ashfield.gov.uk**  
**01623 457183**