

LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

12 APRIL 2019

Present: Councillor Mackie(Chairperson)
Councillors Jacobsen and Kelloway

54 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

55 : APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE - CARDIFF INTERNATIONAL WHITE WATER

Present:

Applicants Steven Burkitt-Harrington, Event Consultant
Ben Longhurst, Manager

Interested Others: Greg Clark, Jean Foxhall, Paul Foxhall – local residents

The Application

An application for the grant of a Premises Licence was received from Cardiff Council Economic Development (CIWW) in respect of Cardiff International White Water, Watkiss Way, Cardiff.

The applicant applied for the following:

(1) In respect of the following licensable activities:

- (i) The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises.
- (ii) The provision of regulated entertainment in the form of films (indoors and outdoors), indoor sporting events, live music (indoors and outdoors) and recorded music (indoors and outdoors).

(2) Description of Premises (as stated by applicant):

“Cardiff International White Water is a purpose built Outdoor Activity Centre in the heart of Cardiff Bay. Under normal operating conditions the centre operates a small café and catering facility to refresh attendees using the centre, nearby residents and also cater for meetings and small events held at the centre. In addition the centre plays host to major sporting and outdoor activity events which attract larger numbers of attendees from time to time”

(3) Unless otherwise indicated the premises may be open to the public during the following hours and for any hours consequential to the non-standard timings:

Monday to Sunday: 08:00 to 23:30 hours

New Year's Eve: Until 01:00 hours on New Year's Day

(4) To provide licensable activities during the following hours:

- (i) The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption on the premises:
Monday to Sunday: 11:00 to 23:00 hours
New Year's Eve: 11:00 to 01:00 hours
- (ii) The provision of regulated entertainment in the form of films (indoors and outdoors) and indoor sporting events:
Monday to Sunday: 08:00 to 23:00 hours
- (iii) The provision of regulated entertainment in the form of live music and recorded music (both indoors and outdoors):
Monday to Sunday: 08:00 to 23:00 hours
New Year's Eve: 08:00 to 01:00 hours

At the commencement of the meeting officers sought to clarify what the capacity of the licensable area was. The applicant stated that the capacity was 6,000 persons and that the size of any audience would be known in advance. Members were reminded that for live and recorded music any event with less than 500 people in attendance is unregulated (between 08:00 and 23:00). Any indoor sporting event with less than 1000 people in attendance would also be unregulated. Any conditions on the premises licence would therefore not be applicable for such events.

The Licensing Officer advised those present the applicants had accepted the conditions set out in the representations received from both South Wales Police and Pollution Control. The application would therefore be amended accordingly.

Other Persons Representations

The Sub Committee received representations from a number of local residents. Greg Clark raised concerns of having young people and alcohol in close proximity. There have been a number of incidents in Penarth Marina and the River Ely and with the addition of live music and alcohol there was a danger that such incidents would be exacerbated.

Jean Foxhall raised concerns regarding general noise from CCIW. She considered that fundamentally the facility was constructed in the wrong place as any noise, including ordinary conversations, can clearly be heard in the apartments opposite. When activities are taking place at the premises then live music and more people would make noise problems worse, in particular live music until 2300 hours. Mrs Foxhall also had safety concerns combining alcohol and children.

Paul Foxhall share the concerns expressed previously. Mr Foxhall stated that he could cope with the number of events that were currently taking place. However the licence would permit events to take place year-round. Mr Foxhall advised that he has always found Ben Longhurst, the current manager, to be very considerate to residents. However, another manager may manage events differently and may not be so considered.

Applicants Representations

Stephen Burkitt-Harrington presented the application. Members were advised that the application seemed straightforward. The CCIW already has a premises licence which was awarded to the current tenants in the café. The application sought to reapply to put the premises licence in CCIW's name. This would put any licensable activity taking place under the control of the CCIW management.

Members were advised that events have been taking place at the premises for 9 years. The Manager has always made efforts to engage with local residents and local residents are always considered, for example when siting PA systems.

Stephen Burkitt-Harrington stated that he has personally worked in partnership with CCIW as an events director since 2012/13. During that time the venue has successfully hosted 2 work cup events and it has been recognised as a centre of excellence in its field. Events are always well managed and the centre has a responsibility to ensure that events are sustainable and that will continue. However, there is currently no intention to increase the number of events taking place. The licence applied for would allow for some flexibility.

Ben Longhurst addressed the Sub Committee. Members were advised that CCIW has sold alcohol for 9 years and they have an exemplary safety record. No consumption of alcohol is allowed pre-rafting. Some patrons will have a drink after taking part in activities, but they are not encouraged to stay on site drinking all day. Consumption is confined to the café area and balcony. For event days, this would be extended to the patio area. Responding to a question from a Member of the Sub Committee, Ben Longhurst confirmed that there would be no drinking near the water as the water is securely fenced-off and completely enclosed.

Members were advised that the Paddlefest event is held once a year. Live music is provided until around 1700 hours and recorded music after that. The band is sited underneath the balcony, however this arrangement may be reviewed as a number of residential properties have recently been constructed adjacent to the venue. In the past staff have patrolled the external area and monitored noise breakout with sound meters. Members were reminded that it has been agreed that noise breakout should not exceed 65db at the nearest residential property, if the licence were to be granted. During the UK slalom event there is some commentary during races. There has also been one outdoor cinema screening which was finished by 2100 hours.

CCIW has no immediate plans to increase the number of events held. Ben Longhurst advised that residents are given notice of any events that are proposed – approximately 1 month in advance.

RESOLVED – That the Sub-Committee, having considered all the information; and in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003, the Section 182 Guidance and the Licensing Authority's own Statement of Licensing Policy, the Sub Committee GRANTED the application, subject to the conditions agreed.

56 : URGENT ITEMS (IF ANY)

No urgent items were presented.

The meeting terminated at 11.15 am