

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

MINUTES OF THE ALCOHOL AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE (B) Tuesday, 14 September 2010 at 10.00 am

PRESENT: Councillor Chohan (Chair), Councillor and Councillors HM Patel

Also Present: Councillors Cheese

Apologies were received from: Councillors Sneddon

1. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests (if any)

None.

2. Application by the Metropolitan Police to Review the Premises Licence for 'North West 10 Club (AKA Dreams)' (71-73 High Street, Harlesden, London, NW10 4NS) pursuant to the Licensing Act 2003

Alan Howarth (Licensing Manager, Brent)

Relevant Authority Making a Representation

Sergeant Adrian Adolphus (Metropolitan Police, Wembley) Nick Mortimer (Licensing Officer Metropolitan Police, Wembley).

Premises Licence Holder

Kola Williams (Premises Licence Holder Representative)
Deione Miles, Designated Premises Supervisor, (DPS) attended in support.

At the start of the review hearing, the Police requested a short adjournment to enable them to hold a pre-meeting discussion with the DPS and her representative.

Alan Howarth (Health Safety and Licensing Manager) introduced the grounds for review as set out by the police in their application for review. He added that the premises were the subject of an expedited review on 19 August 2010 for the suspension of the premises licence which members endorsed pending a full review hearing. He added that in hearing the full review members should satisfy themselves that the following four licensing objectives had been met:

- Prevention of crime and disorder.
- Prevention of public nuisance.
- Prevention of harm to children.
- Maintenance of public safety.

Alan Howarth then went on to outline the options available to the Sub-Committee including making amendment/s to the conditions, removal of the DPS, suspension of the licence for up to 3 months or its revocation.

Relevant Authority Making a Representation

Sergeant Adolphus (Metropolitan Police, Wembley) started by drawing members' attention to the catalogue of incidents as detailed in the report. He then produced a paper from Councillor Beswick, Harlesden Ward Member and the Lead Member for Crime Prevention & Public Safety which set out his concerns for the operation of Dreams Night Club. Members noted that although residents were dissatisfied with the Club as its operation had increased the level of crime and disorder, public nuisance and public safety in the Harlesden area, they were afraid to make formal complaints for fear of retribution. Councillor Beswick's submission added that in view of the catalogue of incidents, Dreams Night Club had failed to satisfy the four main licensing objectives in its failure to prevent crime and disorder, public nuisance harm to children and public safety.

Sergeant Adolphus continued that since the expedited hearing, he had had two constructive meetings with the DPS and Mr Kola Williams and was satisfied that there was a need for such a club for the youth in Harlesden. In view of that he recommended the restoration of the licence subject to conditions copy of which he had circulated at the meeting.

Questioning by the Appellant

At this point the DPS or her representative had no questions.

Case for the Appellant

Mr Kola Williams, the DPS representative circulated copies of testimonials from the Crown Prosecution Service about his contribution in ensuring the success of a national conference entitled Gangs and Youth Violence as well as from Brent & Harrow Education Business Service (BHEBS) thanking Mr Williams for the tremendous support he had given the organisation in its work experience programme. He referred to the list of conditions tabled by the police and whilst he was generally satisfied with them, he felt that the condition for a maximum capacity of 100 requested by the police would be difficult to comply with particularly in respect of the Club's cultural events which attracted a number of young persons.

Decision

At this point, the DPS, her representative and the responsible authority were requested to leave the room to allow the Sub-Committee to discuss the relevant issues concerning the application.

Having considered the application by the Metropolitan Police to Review the Premises Licence for 'North West 10 Club (AKA Dreams' 71-73 High Street, Harlesden, London NW10 4NS ("the premises") pursuant to the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 the Sub-Committee resolved that the licence be restored subject to the following amended conditions

Hours reduced to stop licensable activity at midnight Sunday to Thursday and 02.00 hours Friday and Saturday with an additional 30 minutes "drinking up time".

Under 18 dances to be strictly over 15 and to take place between 6.00pm till midnight and no alcohol consumption at such events.

To install an electronic scanning system (ID Scan or similar) approved by the Police and the Council to be used on events, to be implemented within 6 months to the satisfaction of the Police and the Council. A suitable membership scheme shall be implemented prior to acquiring the electronic scan.

To comply strictly with existing conditions, in particular, the capacity limit of 100 including staff on the grounds of health and safety.

- 2. Staff and door supervisors shall at all times wear clothing that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV.
- There shall be a minimum of 2 door supervisors present at all times (one of which should be female) employed from one hour before the start of any club event and 30 minutes after the end of the event.
- 7 CCTV shall be installed to Home Office standards and maintained in a good working condition and recordings including the dance hall and entrances shall be kept for 31 days and shall be made available to the Police and Licensing Officers on demand.
- All drinks shall be served in plastic vessels at all times.
- 11. Where glass bottles are used, the contents shall be decanted into plastic vessels at all times.
- After 23.00 hours the outside smoking area shall be limited to 15 persons and shall be suitably supervised at all times.
- Suitable and sufficient fire fighting equipment shall be installed and properly maintained in accordance with the appropriate fire regulations.
- No person shall be permitted to sit on the floor, on stairs or in the gangways and passageways at all times.
- Amplified music shall be set at a level so as not to cause a nuisance or disturbance to local residents.
- Notices clearly stating the licensee's policy towards the admission of children shall be displayed at the entrance of the premises at all times.

The following conditions currently on the license (number 210131) be removed as they are either no longer required or have been superseded by the new conditions as amended; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12,16, 17 and 21.

The Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee (B) accepted the evidence submitted by the police concerning crime and disorder associated with the premises, including incidences of violent assaults, some of these assaults involving

weapons. In restoring the licence, it was felt that due to the seriousness and frequency of the incidents associated with the premises, the appropriate course of action in all the circumstances of the case was to reduce the hours of licensable hours on the grounds of crime and disorder.

The meeting closed at 11.40 am

B CHOHAN Chair