

## LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

At a meeting of this Sub-Committee held on  
4 April 2012

(Present) Councillors Roberts, Shields and Taylor

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### 13 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

- \* Resolved that Councillor Shields be appointed as Chairman for this meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Councillor Shields here took the Chair.

### 14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

No Declarations of Interest from Members were made.

### 15 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

- \* Resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item for the reason stated:

<u>Minute</u>	<u>Reason (Under the Local Government Act 1972)</u>
16	Information relating to an individual (Para 1 of Schedule 12A)

### 16 LICENSING ACT 2003 APPLICATION FOR SUMMARY REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCE IMPERIAL BAR AND DANCE FLOOR, 18-22 ORMSKIRK STREET, ST HELENS

On the 14 March 2012, a certificate and application for Summary Review had been received from Superintendent Fox of Merseyside Police in respect of the Premises known as Imperial Bar and Dance Floor, 18-22 Ormskirk Street, St Helens.

The certificate stated that, in the opinion of the police, the premises was associated with both serious crime and disorder. In accordance with Licensing Act 2003, within 48 hours of receipt of the application the licensing authority must determine whether it was necessary to take interim steps pending the determination of the review applied for.

On the 16 March 2012, the Licensing-Sub Committee considered the submission made by Superintendent Fox of Merseyside Police. The Sub-Committee resolved that on the balance of probabilities it was satisfied that the premises were undermining the prevention of crime and disorder licensing objective. As a result, the Sub-Committee decided to take the following interim steps:-

- 1) To remove the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) from the premises licence, and;
- 2) Suspend the premises licence.

The decision took immediate effect pending determination of the full review of the premise licence on 11 April 2012.

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On the 3 April 2012, a representation had been received on behalf of the Premises Licence Holder for the Imperial Bar and Dance Floor following the Sub-Committee's interim steps imposed on 16 March 2012.

The Licensing and Land Charges Officer tabled a further written representation from Merseyside Police dated 4 April 2012 and the decision letter sent to the Designated Premises Supervisor following the Sub-Committee held on 16 March 2012 for Members information.

Present at the meeting was a representative from Merseyside Police, the Premises Licence Holder and their Solicitor.

The Premises Licence Holder's Solicitor presented their case after which the representative from Merseyside Police presented their case. Members had the opportunity to question both parties regarding their submissions.

The representative from Merseyside Police and the Premises Licence Holder's Solicitor summarised their respective cases, then all parties left the meeting whilst the Sub-Committee considered the matter further.

- \* **Resolved that, on the balance of probabilities, the Interim Steps remain in place until the full review of the premises licence on the 11 April 2012. The reasons for the decision were due to the evidence presented by Merseyside Police relating to their concerns about the appointment of a new DPS and the risk that further serious crime and disorder could occur at the premises over the busy Easter weekend.**

The parties were then recalled to the meeting and informed of the Sub-Committee's decision. They were advised that a decision letter confirming the grounds of the Sub-Committee's decision would be forwarded to all parties in due course.