

Licensing Panel

Monday, 11 December 2023

10.00 am

Present:

Cllr Baljit Hayre (Chair)

Councillors: Lee Croxton
Frank Wardle

Emily Lane-Blackwell	Assistant Licensing Manager
Kyle Rogers	Legal Advisor to the Panel
Mrs Yasotha Selvarajah Thusyanthan	Applicant, Dover Local
Mr Thusyanthan Thiyagarajah	Company Director, Dover Local
Mr Jeyarajah Sivaramakrishnan	Dover Local
Karen Gingles	Committee Services Officer (Minutes)

4. Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received from the objector.

5. To declare any interest Members may have in the applications being considered. When declaring an interest a Member must state what their interest is.

No declarations of interest were made.

6. Consideration of an application for a new premises licence for Dover Local, 44 Dover Road East, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0RG

The Licensing Panel were asked to consider an application for a new premises licence for Dover Local, 44 Dover Road East, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0RG, following receipt of an objection by a member of public.

The panel were informed that the application had been received on 26 October 2023 for sale by retail of alcohol for consumption off the premises only, with the licensable hours as follows:

- Sunday to Thursday 06:00 to 23:00
- Friday and Saturday 06:00 to 00:00

The Assistant Licensing Manager informed the panel that the applicant had been requested to describe the steps they intended to take to promote the four licensing objectives. These steps would be added to the premises licence as clear and enforceable conditions. The panel could choose to amend these conditions. The range of conditions offered were highlighted in page 20 & 21 of the report.

The Panel were updated that during the 28-day consultation period, there had been no objections from Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue, Environmental protection and Commercial (food and safety) team. However, an objection had been received from a member of the public with concerns about the late hour and disturbance from late night drinkers in the area. This objection could be found in appendix B of the report.

The Applicant addressed the Panel and summarised why they should be granted the new premise licence and addressed the objector's concerns.

The Chair opened the Panel to allow questions from Councillors:

- The Panel referred to the floor plan and queried whether the drink displays could be seen from a window and if so, suggested a poster be displayed to obscure the view. The applicant advised there was a window, and a poster would be placed to cover it.
- The Panel asked for clarification on the current terms for the premises to sell alcohol and around the planning permission required for the proposed activities. The Assistant Licensing Manager explained this was a brand-new alcohol licence application, which the panel could determine. Planning permission would need to be sought to change the use of the premises to sell alcohol.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20am to deliberate.

The meeting re-convened at 10:32am.

Determination

The Chair advised that,

The Panel had carefully considered the application before it; and in doing so, had taken into account the written application and the objection received, the applicant's supplementary information, the representations of the applicant at the hearing today and the absence of representations from any responsible authority; save the report produced by the Licensing authority.

The Panel had carefully considered those representations (both written and oral) and applied the law and licensing principles in determining this application.

The Panel were satisfied that the objections raised could be allayed by the conditions proposed.

The decision of the Panel was to grant the application subject to the following amendment:

The operating hours shall be between 6:00am to 11:00pm, Monday to Sunday.

The Panel were satisfied that a reduction of one hour was necessary and proportionate and would prevent public nuisance.

Close of meeting

The meeting ended at 10:35am