

LICENSING ACT 2003 SUB-COMMITTEE
Thursday, 18 July 2019

***PRESENT** – Councillors, Akhtar (Chair), Batan and Pearson.*

***OFFICERS** – Jack Henriques, Donna Riding, Janet White, Shannon Gardiner*

RESOLUTIONS

1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no apologies received.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

3 Application for Premises Licence - Heron Foods

The Sub-Committee considered an application for a premises licence in respect of Heron Foods Ltd, Shadsworth Enterprise Hub, Rothesay Road, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB1 2JA. The application sought was to permit the sale of alcohol Monday to Saturday 8AM. to 8PM. and Sunday 10AM to 4PM. Additional conditions have been agreed with responsible authorities.

The Committee were informed that Heron Foods Ltd was already a convenience store selling frozen foods. The store wanted to sell a small selection of alcohol such as, wine, beer and pre-mixed cocktails. The alcohol would be stored in 3 cabinets in view of the tills and out of sight from the street or passing public.

The sister companies sold alcohol and Heron Foods Ltd in Shadsworth wanted to move on from frozen foods. It was noted that there had not been any enforcement involvement at the sites that sold alcohol. There had been no evidence that the licensing objectives had been misused.

Objections and representations had been received during the consultation period. Representations received from residents from MP Kate Hollern, Together Housing Group and a 99 signature petition. The objections had been raised under the prevention of crime and disorder, public nuisance and protection of children objectives.

The local residents attended the hearing and stated the reasons for their objections. It was noted that anti-social behaviour was a concern within the area and that another shop selling alcohol would increase the crime rate which the residents were trying to improve.

Litter was also another concern to the residents which had already been increased in the vicinity of the shop. It was noted that there were smashed bottles around the Hub which had a large footfall including children which could be dangerous.

The crime rate in the area had increased which the residents wanted to reduce due to the recent negativity on the news. The residents informed the committee that underage drinking would be intensified also.

RESOLVED –

The Panel has heard the representations of all parties and note that the objections that tend to centre on the crime and disorder objective. In particular, there have been complaints that there would be increased drug and drink related anti-social behaviour and littering arising from increased footfall at the premises if alcohol were to be sold.

The Panel have noted that there has been no objection from the police. They have also noted that there have not been any reviews or reprimands from the police in connection with any of the licensed properties operated by Heron of which there are many.

With regard to the concern as to the increased footfall the panel noted that there are only 3 cabinets with the premises that will contain alcohol. Whilst the panel took the view that the number of cabinets containing alcohol could increase at a later date, there were of the opinion that most of the sales of alcohol would be to existing customers.

Accordingly, the Panel concluded that there was not sufficient concern arising from antisocial behaviour and littering that would justify the refusal of the application. The application for a premises licence in respect of Heron Foods Ltd and Shadsworth Enterprise Hub Blackburn is therefore granted.

Signed:

Date:

Chair of the meeting
at which the minutes were confirmed