



## Licensing Sub-Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on Wednesday 4 April 2012 at 10.00 am at 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Sunil Chopra  
Councillor Adele Morris  
Councillor the Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mr Mohammed Abdul Kashim, applicant  
Mr Alex Joannides, applicant's management team  
Mr Kasi Abdul, applicant's management team  
Ian Clements, Metropolitan Police Service  
P.C. Graham White, Metropolitan Police Service

**OFFICER SUPPORT:** Felix Rechtman, legal officer  
Alan Blissett, principal environmental protection officer  
Dorcas Mills, licensing officer  
Everton Roberts, constitutional officer

### 1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

Those members listed as present were confirmed as the voting members for the meeting.

### 3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no late items.

A memo from the Environmental Protection Team advising of the withdrawal of their objection was circulated at the meeting. An additional written submission from the applicant was also circulated at the meeting.

### 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

**5. THOMAS A BECKETT, 320-322 OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON SE1 5UE**

The licensing officer presented her report. She advised the sub-committee that the request relating to the Sunday extension was from midnight to 5.00am, (not 3.00pm to 5.00am as listed in the officer report).

There were no questions to the licensing officer.

The applicant addressed the sub-committee. Members asked questions of the applicant.

The police representative addressed the sub-committee. Members of the sub-committee and the applicant asked questions of the police representative.

All parties were given five minutes to sum up.

The sub-committee went into closed session at 11.37am to consider the application.

The meeting resumed at 12.30pm and the chair read out the decision as follows:

**RESOLVED:**

That a variation to the premises licence in respect of the application made by Mr Mohammed Abdul Kashim in respect of the premises known as Thomas A Beckett, 320-322 Old Kent Road, London SE1 5UE be granted in relation to on the premises sales only as follows:

- Monday to Thursday from 3.00am to 5.00am
- Friday and Saturday from 7.00am to 10.00am
- Sunday from 12.00am to 2.00am

**Reasons for decision**

This was a hearing of an application by Mohammed Kashim to vary the premises licence in respect of the premises known as Thomas A Beckett on Old Kent Road. The applicant sought to extend the hours for licensable activities from Monday to Thursday from 3.00am to 5.00am, on Friday and Saturday from 5.00am to 10.00am and on Sunday from midnight to 5.00am.

The sub-committee heard evidence from the applicant that the granting of this application will not have any adverse impact on the licensing objectives. The applicant presented evidence to the sub-committee to show that they have been managing the premises in a responsible manner and that in the last six months the way that the premises had been run improved significantly and this is supported by the information provided by the police. The applicant also submitted that they are seeking the extension of hours to cater for one-off events and that it was not their intention to utilise all the hours sought. The applicant also submitted that they have been working very close with the police in relation to a variety of issues affecting both the premises as well as the surrounding areas. The applicant also referred to statistic information from the Metropolitan Police website which clearly shows that there has not been any increase in crime and disorder in the area since

the opening of these premises in April 2011.

The sub-committee then heard from the Environmental Protection Team that they decided to withdraw their objection following a visit to the premises and that they no longer considered the premises to have adverse impact on public nuisance objective in the Act.

Next the sub-committee heard submissions from the Metropolitan Police objecting to the granting of the extension. The police relied heavily on six or seven incidents which took place in 2011 during permitted licensed hours as evidence that the granting of the application will have adverse impact on the crime and disorder objective in the Act. The main submission that the police made was in relation to extending the hours on Friday and Saturday thereby creating a 24 hour licence.

The police submitted that if such extension is granted, then the premises are likely to remain open from Friday morning to Monday morning continuously and that this will allow excessive drinking and will have adverse impact on the licensing objectives. The police accepted that they had no supporting evidence but could only speculate on the impact of the extension. The police also accepted that the current management of the premises was a responsible one.

Following the police submissions, the applicant suggested that there will be a break in the operation of the premises on Saturday and Sunday mornings between 5.30am and 7am and that they were no longer looking for a 24 hour licence in that respect as it was not their intention to run the club as a 24 hour club. The applicant further offered to reduce the application in respect of Sunday by 2-3 hours and said they would be happy to close earlier as long as some extension is given.

On the basis of all their presentations made and the concessions made by the applicant, the sub-committee decided to grant the variation as detailed above.

The sub-committee considered that the extension addressed the concerns raised by the police and is proportional under the Licensing Act. The sub-committee also noted that no local residents objected to this application. For the avoidance of any doubt the extension as far as sale and supply of alcohol is concerned, is only in relation to "on the premises sales" and not for "off the premises sales".

### **Appeal Rights**

That the licensee and any person who made relevant representations in relation to the application may appeal against the decision. Any appeal must be made to the magistrate court for the petty sessions area in which the premises are situated. Any appeal must be commenced by notice of appeal given by the appellant to the designated officer for the magistrates' court within the period of 21 days beginning with the day on which the appellant was notified by the licensing authority of the decision appealed against.

The meeting ended at 12.35pm.

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**