



## Licensing Sub-Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on Monday 2 February 2015 at 10.00 am at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Renata Hamvas (Chair)  
Councillor Adele Morris  
Councillor Charlie Smith

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Justice Kouassi, representative from the premises  
Tola Cole, representative from the premises  
Stephen Slater, legal representative  
Ian Clements, Metropolitan Police Service

**OFFICER SUPPORT:** Cynthia Barrientos, legal officer  
Dorcas Mills, licensing officer  
Andrew Weir, constitutional officer

### 1. APOLOGIES

There were none.

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

The members present were confirmed as the voting members.

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

There were none.

### 4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

**5. LICENSING ACT 2003: 56 SOCIAL CLUB, 56 PECKHAM HIGH STREET, LONDON SE15 5DP**

The licensing officer presented their report. Additional papers from the premises were circulated to all parties. Members had questions for the licensing officer.

The Metropolitan Police Service representative, the applicant for the review addressed the sub-committee. Members had questions for the police representative.

The representative from the premises and their legal representative addressed the sub-committee. Members had questions.

All parties were given five minutes for summing up.

The meeting went into closed session at 11.44am.

The meeting resumed at 2.00pm and the chair read out the decision of the sub-committee.

**RESOLVED:**

That the council's licensing sub-committee, having had regard to the application by the Metropolitan Police for a review of the premises granted under the Licensing Act 2003 to the premises known as 56 Social Club, 56 Peckham High Street, London SE15 5BA and having had regard also to all other relevant representations has decided it necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives to amend the hours that the premises is open to the public and the hours for the provision of regulated entertainment to:

<b>Licensable Activity</b>	<b>Monday to Thursday</b>	<b>Friday to Sunday</b>
Provision for regulated entertainment	10:00 to 23:00	10:00 to 03:00
Hours premises are open to the public	10:00 to 03:00	10:00 to 04:00

In addition the licensing sub-committee decided to add the following conditions to the licence:

- 1) That a CCTV system be installed at the premises, the coverage to include all public areas of the premises in addition to at least one camera to cover the external areas of the premises at the entrance to 56 Peckham High Street. The external camera shall be capable of capturing the searching of all patrons who enter the premises.
- 2) That CCTV will be recording and in operation at all times that the premises are open to the public and licensable activities are being provided. The system will be capable of storing the footage for at least 31 days and will be made available immediately to the Police or authorised officers upon request. The footage will be in a format that can be downloaded immediately onto a readable disc or storage device.
- 3) That there will be at least one person on the premises at all times that the premises

are in operation under its licence able to operate the CCTV system and capable of downloading the stored data immediately upon request

- 4) That at least two SIA registered door supervisors one of whom shall be female will be employed from 23:30 on Friday, Saturday and Sunday until the terminal hour or until the premises is clear of all patrons and/or DJs and other performers and their assistants.
- 5) That at least one of the door supervisors shall be in possession of a working hand held metal detection unit which shall be used in respect of all admissions to the premises whether members of the public, DJs, similar performers and their assistants.
- 6) That the door supervisors shall be provided with and shall use a mechanical counting device to record the number of patrons entering and leaving the premises so the capacity of the premises is known at all times and does not exceed the limit of 100 patrons.
- 7) That all SIA registered door supervisors employed to work at the venue will be supplied by an SIA accredited/approved contractor.
- 8) That there will be a personal licence holder on the premises on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at all times that the premises are open to the public.
- 9) That alcohol shall not be displayed for sale and covered from view after the terminal time for the sale of alcohol.
- 10) That Mr Justice Kouassi shall no longer be allowed to have control or involvement in the management or day to day running of the premises.

For the avoidance of doubt conditions 288, 289 and 343 are void.

### **Reasons**

The licensing sub-committee heard from the Metropolitan Police Service, the applicant for the review who stated that further to the licensing sub-committee decision of 9 January 2015, where the licence was suspended as an interim step, the officer had two meetings and a number of discussions with the premises licence holder and their representative. The officer stated that the premises licence holder, who is also the designated premises supervisor, accepted that the premises had operated in a manner that fell below that expected from a responsible premises. The licence holder advised the police that he had been out of the country for several months and had handed over responsibility for the operation of the premises to Mr Justice Kouassi.

The police stated that in the past six months the premises had been the source of a number of violence and disorder related calls. The police advised that the majority of these incidents took place around 6am.

Following discussions with the premises licence holder the police proposed a reduction in the opening hours and provision of regulated entertainment. In addition the police had proposed a number of additional conditions to the licence, which the officer believed were sufficient to promote the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder.

The licensing sub-committee noted the written representation of the environmental protection team.

The licensing sub-committee noted the written representation from the public health authority.

The licensing sub-committee heard from the representative of 56 Social Club who apologised for the events which led to the expedited review. They advised that the premises licence holder had been out of the country for several months and that Mr Justice Kouassi, who had been left in charge, had poorly managed the premises in their absence. The premises licence holder informed the sub-committee that he would be taking a more active role in the management of the premises and that Mr Kouassi would no longer have any control or management of the day to day running of the premises.

The premises licence holder explained that they had engaged with the authorities in relation to the cause of the problems, in particular issues relating to the dispersal of patrons and had agreed to the reduction in hours. They further advised that they had particularly improved their CCTV system which would also allow remote access, ensuring compliance with conditions and real time information sharing with the authorities, if required. They advised that staff would be trained to deal with difficult situations and that these training sessions would be recorded and uploaded to an application which staff would be able to access via their mobile phones, making it easy for staff to refer to.

The premises licence holder stated that they had taken steps to ensure that incidents such as the one which resulted in this review would not occur again in the future. They advised that since the incident they had applied to join the local pub watch scheme and planned to participate in the London Borough of Southwark women's safety campaign and safe night out scheme.

The premises licence holder stated that they would continue to engage with the authorities in order to ensure the premises is well run going forward and maintaining good practice.

The licensing sub-committee, having had regard to all the relevant considerations and the four licensing objectives are satisfied that the reduction in hours, the additional conditions and the premises licence holder's continued engagement with the authorities will fulfil the licensing objectives. The licensing sub-committee considered that it was appropriate and proportionate to reduce the hours as stated above and to attach these conditions in order to address the licensing objectives.

### **Appeal rights**

This decision is open to appeal by either:

- a) The applicant for the review
- b) The premises licence holder
- c) Any other person who made relevant representations in relation to the application.

Such appeal must be commenced by notice of appeal given by the appellant to the justices' clerk for the magistrates' court for the area within the period of 21 days beginning with the day on which the appellant was notified by this licensing authority of the decision.

This decision does not have effect until either:

- a) The end of the period for appealing against this decision
- b) In the event of any notice of appeal being given, until the appeal is disposed of.

In accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 and guidance issued in 2007, the interim steps agreed on 9 January 2015 must remain in effect until the time for appealing the review has expired and any appeal determined, whichever is earlier.

The meeting ended at 2.05pm.

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**