

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LICENSING COMMITTEE**

HELD ON THURSDAY, 9TH OCTOBER, 2008

Present: Councillor E. Bell (Chair)
Councillors S. Bishop, B. Burn, A. Burnip,
A. Collinson, J. Haggan, Mrs. A. Naylor,
G. Pinkney and R.J. Todd

Apologies: Councillor D. Raine and C. Walker

1. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on 20th December, 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were confirmed.
2. **DETAILS OF CHANGES TO AMENDED LICENSING POLICY UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003 FOLLOWING REVISION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATES GUIDANCE UNDER SECTION 182 OF THE ACT**

Consideration was given to the report of the Principal Environmental Health Officer - Licensing which informed Members of the changes made to the Authority's Licensing Policy in light of the revised guidance of the Secretary of State under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and changes in legislation, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

As Licensing policies were to be reviewed every three years, or as required, the revised guidance was taken into account in the review of the Authority's policy in February 2008. The report detailed the changes made to the previous policy to take account of the new guidance and changes in legislation since its adoption.

The revised policy was adopted in April 2008 and would be applicable until 1st April, 2009 when the new Durham County Council authority would supercede this Authority. At that time the Licensing Committee to the new Authority would operate under the policy adopted by Durham County Council.

The new policy was appended to the report and changes from the original policy were highlighted in red for ease of reference. The Principal Environmental Health Officer - Licensing proceeded to take Members through the new policy and explained in detail the amendments.

A Member referred to smoking areas of licensing establishments and queried if they were bound in the conditions to clean the area. The Principal Environmental Health Officer - Licensing explained that cigarette ends were a litter issue and licensing could only enforce it if the license came back for a variation and was included in the operating schedule. There was a problem throughout the District where people from public houses were using footpaths that did not belong to them. This would need to be dealt with by the Enforcement Section. Most of the premises whose frontage area was on a public highway used stub-it boxes on the walls.

The Chair thanked the Officers and Ranj Matharu, the Legal Advisor for her expert advice to the Licensing Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.