NOTICE OF MEETING

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE

At: Committee Room 3A, Guildhall, Swansea

On: Friday, 12 June 2015

Time: 9.50 am

AGENDA

Page No.

- 1 Apologies for Absence.
- 2 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interest.

1 - 2

3 Minutes: 3 - 27

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Statutory Licensing Committee held on:

- 22 August, 2014;
- 6 February, 2015;
- 6 March, 2015; and
- 19 May, 2015.

And the Statutory Licensing Sub Committee held on:

- 24 April, 2014; and
- 29 April, 2014.

4 Terms of Reference (For Information).

28

Patrick Arran

Head of Legal, Democratic Services & Procurement

Friday, 5 June 2015

Contact: Democratic Services - Tel: (01792) 637292

STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE (12)

Councillors

Labour Councillors: 8

Ann M Cook	V Mandy Evans
David W Cole	Paul Lloyd
Jan P Curtice	Penny M Matthews
Phil Downing	Hazel M Morris

Liberal Democrat Councillors: 2

Cheryl L Philpott T Huw Rees

Independent Councillor: 1

Keith E Marsh	
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Conservative Councillor: 1

Anthony C S Colburn	

Others:

Lynda Anthony	Divisional Licensing Officer 4 Copies
Lyndsay Thomas	Legal
Police	
Public Relations Office	
Fire Service	
Democratic Services	
Archives	

Total Copies needed – 25

Agenda Item 2

Disclosures of Interest

To receive Disclosures of Interest from Councillors and Officers

Councillors

Councillors Interests are made in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea. You must disclose orally to the meeting the existence and nature of that interest.

NOTE: You are requested to identify the Agenda Item / Minute No. / Planning Application No. and Subject Matter to which that interest relates and to enter all declared interests on the sheet provided for that purpose at the meeting.

- 1. If you have a **Personal Interest** as set out in **Paragraph 10** of the Code, you **MAY STAY, SPEAK AND VOTE** unless it is also a Prejudicial Interest.
- 2. If you have a Personal Interest which is also a **Prejudicial Interest** as set out in **Paragraph 12** of the Code, then subject to point 3 below, you **MUST WITHDRAW** from the meeting (unless you have obtained a dispensation from the Authority's Standards Committee)
- Where you have a Prejudicial Interest you may attend the meeting but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise. In such a case, you must withdraw from the meeting immediately after the period for making representations, answering questions, or giving evidence relating to the business has ended, and in any event before further consideration of the business begins, whether or not the public are allowed to remain in attendance for such consideration (Paragraph 14 of the Code).
- 4. Where you have agreement from the Monitoring Officer that the information relating to your Personal Interest is sensitive information, as set out in Paragraph 16 of the Code of Conduct, your obligation to disclose such information is replaced with an obligation to disclose the existence of a personal interest and to confirm that the Monitoring Officer has agreed that the nature of such personal interest is sensitive information.
- 5. If you are relying on a **grant of a dispensation** by the Standards Committee, you must, before the matter is under consideration:
 - i) Disclose orally both the interest concerned and the existence of the dispensation; and
 - ii) Before or immediately after the close of the meeting give written notification to the Authority containing:

- a) Details of the prejudicial interest;
- b) Details of the business to which the prejudicial interest relates:
- c) Details of, and the date on which, the dispensation was granted; and
- d) Your signature

Officers

Financial Interests

- 1. If an Officer has a financial interest in any matter which arises for decision at any meeting to which the Officer is reporting or at which the Officer is in attendance involving any member of the Council and /or any third party the Officer shall declare an interest in that matter and take no part in the consideration or determination of the matter and shall withdraw from the meeting while that matter is considered. Any such declaration made in a meeting of a constitutional body shall be recorded in the minutes of that meeting. No Officer shall make a report to a meeting for a decision to be made on any matter in which s/he has a financial interest.
- 2. A "financial interest" is defined as any interest affecting the financial position of the Officer, either to his/her benefit or to his/her detriment. It also includes an interest on the same basis for any member of the Officers family or a close friend and any company firm or business from which an Officer or a member of his/her family receives any remuneration. There is no financial interest for an Officer where a decision on a report affects all of the Officers of the Council or all of the officers in a Department or Service.

MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE

HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM 1 CIVIC CENTRE SWANSEA ON FRIDAY, 22 AUGUST 2014 AT 9.45 AM

PRESENT: Councillor P M Matthews (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)
A C S Colburn	P Lloyd	B G Owen
D W Cole	K E Marsh	T H Rees
P Downing	H M Morris	

8 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A S Lewis and C E Lloyd.

9 <u>DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST.</u>

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

10 **MINUTES**:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Statutory Licensing Committee held on 20 June, 2014 be approved as a correct record.

11 LICENSING ACT 2003 - DELEGATION TO SUB COMMITTEES.

The Divisional Officer, Licensing and Food Safety presented the report of the Director of Place.

The report detailed the Licensing Act 2003 provisions for the delegation of functions to Sub Committees.

She stated that in compliance with the Act the Statutory Licensing Committee had been established to discharge the Authority's licensing functions. A licensing committee may also establish sub committees and arrange for the discharge of any of its functions by the sub-committees (subject to certain restrictions)

RESOLVED;

1. To establish a Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee which will comprise of three members of the Statutory Licensing Committee;

- 2. That the Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee will discharge any licensing functions on behalf of the Statutory Licensing Committee;
- 3. That the above does not prevent the discharge of any of those functions delegated to the Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee by the Statutory Licensing Committee where it is deemed appropriate.

The meeting ended at 9.55am

<u>CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA</u>

MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE

HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CIVIC CENTRE, SWANSEA ON FRIDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2015 AT 9.50 AM

PRESENT: P M Matthews (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)
A C S Colburn D W Cole A M Cook P Downing	P Lloyd K E Marsh H M Morris	B G Owen C L Philpott T H Rees

Officers:

R Jenkins - Licensing Officer
R Jones - Transportation
Y Lewis - Senior Licensing Officer
C Swain - Group Leader, Transportation
L Thomas - Senior Lawyer
S Woon - Democratic Services Officer

12 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

No apologies for absence were received.

13 <u>DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST.</u>

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

14 MINUTES:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Statutory Licensing Sub Committee held on:

- 5 September, 2014 (Café Nisse);
- 5 September, 2014 (La Viva);
- 17 September, 2014;
- 2 October, 2014; and
- 19 December, 2014.

be APPROVED as correct records.

The meeting ended at 9.55 am

MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE

HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CIVIC CENTRE, SWANSEA ON FRIDAY, 6 MARCH 2015 AT 9.55 AM

PRESENT: Councillor P M Matthews (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)
A C S Colburn	V M Evans	B G Owen
D W Cole	P Lloyd	C L Philpott
A M Cook	K E Marsh	T H Rees
P Downing	H M Morris	

15 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor P Downing.

16 <u>DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST.</u>

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea no interests were declared.

17 **MINUTES**:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Statutory Licensing Sub Committees held on 15 January, 2015 and 23 January, 2015 be approved a correct records.

18 <u>LICENSING ACT 2003 - THE LEGISLATIVE REFORM (ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING) ORDER 2014 - FOR INFORMATION.</u>

The Divisional Officer Licensing, Food and Safety presented a report on the Licensing Act 2003 – The Legislative Reform (Entertainment Licensing) Order 2014 and detailed the changes contained therein.

RESOLVED that the report be **NOTED**.

The meeting ended at 9.58 am

MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM 5, GUILDHALL, SWANSEA ON FRIDAY, 24 APRIL 2015 AT 10.00 AM

PRESENT: Councillor P M Matthews (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s) Councillor(s)

A C S Colburn H M Morris

7 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

No apologies for absence were received.

8 <u>DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST.</u>

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

9 <u>LICENSING ACT 2003 - SECTION 34 - APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES</u> <u>LICENCE - COSTCUTTER EXPRESS, COSTCUTTER SERVICE STATION, 362-</u> 364 GOWER ROAD, KILLAY, SWANSEA. SA2 7AE.

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting and requested that the Senior Lawyer outline the procedure to be adopted by the Committee in considering the application.

The Licensing Officer, reported on the application to vary a Premises Licence in respect of Costcutter Express, Costcutter Service Station, 362-364 Gower Road, Killay, Swansea, SA2 7AE. He referred to the Licensing Objectives, policy considerations and the guidance from the Home Office. Specific reference was made to existing premises licence at Appendix A, the application at Appendix B, the location plan of the premises at Appendix C, the conditions consistent with the operating schedule at Appendix D and representations made by Other Persons, which included Ward Members, at Appendix E.

A representation had been received from South Wales Police on 31 March 2015. South Wales Police requested that additional conditions were added to the Operating Schedule. The Applicant had agreed to amend the Operating Schedule and South Wales Police withdrew the representation and made no further representations.

Councillor M H Jones, Ward Councillor and Local Resident, further amplified her written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance.

She advised that not everyone had written to object or make representations, however, there was a great deal of unhappiness about the application.

She detailed the location of the premises in a residential area on a corner plot with a garage workshop to the side. She stated that outline planning permission for two dwellings existed which could result in the premises being surrounded by premises who shared access in the future.

She questioned the hours sought to sell alcohol and deemed it unreasonable. She stated that current managers were no problem and managed the premises well. She referred to difficulties in the past, when alcohol was being sold at the premises in the absence of a licence. She referred to the hours of operation of the local supermarkets who open at 7 am. She stated that she had no problem with the application for late night refreshment.

She stated that conditions on a licence were difficult to enforce and urged the Sub Committee to refuse the application.

In response to a Member question, Councillor M H Jones referred to past problems at the premises where the Police had been called on a number of occasions. Problems were in relation to noise nuisance (cars with windows down and blaring music), litter, individuals falling in hedges and roaming gangs. She stated that the current managers were good.

In response to a question from the Senior Lawyer, Councillor M H Jones stated that she could not answer whether the current managers would be able to control any potential problems if the licence was extended by 1 hour.

Mr Boyle, Local Resident, further amplified his written representations objecting to the application and highlighted their concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. He stated that there had been incidents during the 15 years he had lived at his property where windows had been smashed by gangs in a drunken state. He referred to noise nuisance at 2.00 to 3.00 am.

Councillor J W Jones, Ward Member and Local Resident, further amplified his written representations objecting to the application and highlighted his concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. He referred to the premises responsibilities ceasing as soon as individuals left the premises. He referred to individuals being dropped at the premises by taxi to buy alcohol and those individuals who would be attracted to walk along the road to buy alcohol from the premises when the other licenced premises had closed. Whilst local residents supported the garage, they had a right to reasonable standard of living.

In response to a Member question, Councillor J W Jones stated that problems in the past had consisted of individuals smashing bottles, shouting and stopping at the garage to buy extra alcohol which had created a disturbance. He further stated that

he did have evidence of people going into the garage to buy alcohol, drinking outside and being a nuisance.

Councillor M H Jones further added that individuals use the electric junction box outside the garage as a table and throw empty bottles behind.

Mrs Jones, Local Resident, further amplified her written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. Mrs Jones referred to problems with taxis and stated that the area was well served with public houses and supermarkets. She stated she was community minded and wished to support neighbours.

Mr Mitchener, representing the Applicant, stated that the licence had been operational for over a decade. He referred to representations made by Mr Boyle regarding noise nuisance at 2.00 to 3.00 am in the morning when the garage is closed at midnight and the current licence is until 23.00. He referred to problems in the past tense as Murco had changed the management 6 years ago (it was noted that the Company is no longer Murco and had been trading as St Albans Operating Company since October 2014).

He stated that the current manager had no plans to leave.

The premises can trade 24 hours, but had chosen to trade from 6 am until midnight in the last 6 months.

No problems or complaints had been reported to the Manager. The premises are able to sell alcohol with limited hours on Christmas Day and Good Friday and there had been no representations regarding this. He referred to the conditions required by the Police which had been accepted by the Applicant. He also referred to the lack of representations from Environmental Health.

He stated that he would answer the issues raised by the representations received.

Councillor M H Jones had no issue with late night refreshments and could not provide evidence of problems. Councillor M H Jones' reference to planning consent was merely supposition that there would be problems.

Representations made by Mr and Mrs Russell contained no detail/evidence of problems and merely confirmed that the garage was quiet at night. The representations were unfounded to suggest that the garage would attract problems.

With regard to reference to need, the premises was not in a cumulative impact zone and therefore need was not an issue.

He stated that the Police were the professionals in providing advice and information and had a key role and good relationships with the premises.

He referred to the sincere concerns of the residents. However, he stated that these concerns must relate to current licensing activity and must not be based on fear or

concern about the future. He reiterated that the Police and Environmental Health had no problems with the application.

With regard to litter and anti social behaviour, these matters are the responsibility of the individual concerned.

In relation to customer profiles, he stated the ability to sell alcohol at 6.00 could be for the benefit of shift workers or fishermen.

He stated that the Applicant was fully aware of his responsibilities and strived to ensure provision of waste bins and notices asking customers to leave the premises quietly. All staff had received individual training at three monthly intervals to coincide with the retail calendar and had taken a written test to evidence their understanding and responsibilities. The training went beyond Police recommended best practice with four different elements and was a fully comprehensive training format.

He referred to the provision of CCTV as a result of the request made by the Police.

In response to a Member question, Mr Mitchener stated that the reference to staff being trained to deal with situations referred to staff refusals which was the biggest area of confrontation and was comprehensively covered in the training regime.

In response to a Member questions, Mr Mitchener stated that the Licensing Act allowed for a premises to apply for the hours they are open and there was not rational reason why an individual could not buy a bottle of wine at 6 am.

Councillor M H Jones referred to Christmas Day and Good Friday opening and the fact that there was no mention of this in the email or statutory notice. She reiterated her concerns regarding the location of the premises in a residential area.

The Licensing Officer stated that there was a legal requirement to advertise an outline of the application in the local press and in the vicinity. The notice stated that the application could be viewed at the Civic Centre. Copies were sent to the Responsible Authorities.

The Senior Lawyer reiterated the legal requirements with regard to the notice of application and the need to provide specifics was not a requirement of the Notice.

In summary, Mr Mitchener stated that the application was incredibly emotive, however, the Sub Committee could only deal with issues that were relevant and attributable as opposed to what might happen in the future. He stated that there was no evidence against the granting of the application and in the past six years there had been no problems with alcohol. He made reference to the Thwaites Case and stated that the Applicant would deal with problems, should they arise, in the future.

It was **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the hearing in accordance with paragraph 14 of the Licensing Act (Hearings) Regulations 2005, to enable the Sub-Committee to take legal advice.

(CLOSED SESSION)

Members discussed the issues relating to the application.

(OPEN SESSION)

The Lawyer advising the Sub-Committee gave a comprehensive overview of the legal advice tendered.

The Chair indicated that the Sub-Committee had considered the application and representations made and the needs and interests of all parties in terms of the Council's Statements of Licensing Policy, statutory guidance and the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

The Sub-Committee **RESOLVED** that the application be **GRANTED**.

Reasons for Decision

The Sub Committee granted the application as it considered that:

- a. the evidence of previous disturbances were historic;
- b. the closing time of the premises were broadly in line with the other licensed premises in the vicinity;
- c. the current manager was demonstrating an efficient standard in respect of promoting the Licensing Objectives; and
- d. Residents do have the review mechanism should problems be experienced in the future.

The meeting ended at 11.32 am

MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL, SWANSEA ON WEDNESDAY, 29 APRIL 2015 AT 10.00 AM

PRESENT: Councillor P M Matthews (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s) Councillor(s)

A M Cook K E Marsh

Officers:

L Thomas - Senior Lawyer

L Anthony - Senior Licensing Officer

B Walker - Licensing Officer

S Woon - Democratic Services Officer

Other Persons:

Mrs J Williams Local Resident Mr Hopkins Local Resident Mr Lewis - Local Resident Mrs Morgan Local Resident Mrs Jones Local Resident Mr/Mrs? Evans - Local Resident Mrs C Williams - Local Resident - Local Resident Mr Mann Mrs Scott Local Resident

Morgan's Hotels, Somerset Place, Swansea, SA1 1RR:

Mr Gallagher - General Manager

Ms A Mountford - Food and Beverage Manager

10 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

No apologies for absence were received.

11 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

12 <u>LICENSING ACT 2003 - SECTION 17 - APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES</u> LICENCE - MORGANS HOTELS, SOMERSET PLACE, SWANSEA, SA1 1RR.

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting and requested that the Senior Lawyer outline the procedure to be adopted by the Sub Committee in considering the application.

The Senior Lawyer provided a comprehensive overview of the procedure to be adopted by the Sub Committee when considering the application.

The Licensing Officer reported on the application for a Premises Licence in respect of Morgan's Hotels, Somerset Place, Swansea, SA1 1RR. She referred to the Licensing Objectives, policy considerations and the guidance from the Home Office. Specific reference was made to application for a premises licence at Appendix A, the location plan of the premises at Appendix B, conditions consistent with the operating schedule at Appendix C and the representations made by Other Persons at Appendix D.

A representation had been received from South Wales Police on 27 March 2015. The representation related to a discrepancy in the operation schedule conditions and five additional conditions to be attached to the operating schedule. The Applicant had agreed to amend the Operating Schedule and South Wales Police have made no further representations and had withdrawn the representation. The revised Operating Schedule was detailed at Appendix C.

34 representations have been received from Other Persons. A copy of their representations was attached at Appendix D. The representations related to the prevention of public nuisance.

Mrs J Williams, Local Resident, speaking on behalf of herself other residents, further amplified the written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance.

She stated that it was getting unbearable to live next door to Morgan's Hotel and despite making many complaints nothing had been done. She alleged that Morgan's Hotel existing License had been abused, with late customers and music until 02.00 hours in the external decking area. She stated that both herself and other residents could not sleep with the constant noise between 11.00 and 02.00 hours which was affecting residents' health. None of the properties benefitted from double glazing and the external decking area was 1 foot away from where she sleeps. Staff at Morgan's Hotel had been contacted on many occasions and Residents felt that as Morgan's Hotel had a Licence there was nothing that residents could do. Residents grandchildren were not able to stay overnight due to the bad language and vomiting. Mr Morgan had purchased all the properties around the Residents and it was becoming unbearable, even patrons staying in the Hotel were complaining about the noise. An extension of the licence would encourage patrons in Wind Street to drink in Morgan's Hotel. In her opinion, since Morgan's applied to extend the licence it had been heaven, and Residents could hear the birds.

In response to Member questions, Mrs J Williams stated that:

- she had complained to Morgan's Hotel and had a meeting with Staff at the Hotel, Pollution Control Officers and the Police Licensing Officer. The outcome of that meeting had resulted in an agreement to sound proof and close windows. However, this did not happen. Subsequently, Pollution Control Officers had taken no action. There appeared to be a high turnover of staff at Morgan's Hotel and therefore there was no consistency when Residents contacted the Hotel to complain. Additionally, when residents had attempted to phone the Hotel to complain there had been no reply as the telephone simply 'rangs out'.
- Morgan's Hotel had not abided with their current licence and appeared to extend their hours to suit themselves.
- Residents' had witnessed vomiting, sexual activity and damage to cars. Windows were closed throughout the year.
- Gwalia (as the Landlord) had been contacted by Residents and had advised residents to contact the Hotel and Pollution Control Officers directly. Residents had requested that Gwalia write to the Council and this had been the first time Gwalia had been formally involved;
- the noise was audible despite residents doors and windows being closed as the noise penetrated through the building. The noise was primarily throughout the weekend and occasionally mid week.
- The transfer of glass bottles to bins had previously taken place every morning and the Council had stated that there was nothing that could be done to eleviate this.
- individuals causing the anti social problems were patrons of Morgan's Hotel and she had witnessed them coming through the gate at the bottom of the external drinking area.

The Divisional Officer Licensing, Food and Safety detailed the number of complaints logged by Pollution Control since 2002.

In response to a Member questions, Mrs J Williams confirmed the number of complaints to Pollution Control as 12. However, she reiterated that Mr Hobbs (former Pollution Control Officer) had told her something would be done about the noise.

Mr Hopkins, Local Resident, further amplified his written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. He expressed concerns in relation to noise nuisance. He stated that he resided some distance from the Hotel in a property that benefitted from double glazing yet the music still penetrated the building. He reported that he was unable to open windows during the Summer months. He referred to special events held at the Hotel when the car park opposite the Hotel was used and the street was blocked off. He stated that he had reported loud music and sale of alcohol which was way beyond the current

licence and strongly objected to the granting of the licence. He referred to the use of CCTV in outdoor areas of the Hotel where alcohol was served.

In response to a Member questions, Mr Hopkins stated that:

- he had informed the Police and Morgan's Hotel when the road had been blocked. The Manager had stated that the Hotel had an event licence to do this. He had reported the road closure to the Highways agency, however, no action was taken as the complaint was made after the event had finished. Pollution Control Officers had requested that he evidence all incidents of noise nuisance and they would do something next time. However, there had been a breakdown in the system and nothing had been done; and
- Neither he, nor the other Residents were aware of their rights to seek a review of the premises licence.

Mr Lewis, Local Resident, further amplified his written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. He stated that he had previously run a public house and was aware of his rights in relation to objecting to a licence. He queried why staff could not empty their glass bins in the designated area in the Strand. He stated that patrons were climbing over walls, engaging in sexual activity on the patio tables and chairs, banging on windows, throwing glass bottles over the walls and using bad language. He referred to Residents grandchildren being unable to stay with grandparents due to the bad language. He reported that live music continues until at least 12.30 hours where other public houses in the area cease at 11.00 hours.

In response to a Member question Mr Lewis stated that glass bins were emptied at 06.00 hours and were kept in smoking area. He stated that Morgan's Hotel had not adhered to the conditions of their licence.

Mrs S P Morgan, Local Resident, further amplified her written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. She stated that everything that has been said previously by Residents was correct. She stated that she had lived there for 30 years and initially Morgan's Hotel was destined to bring prosperity to the area but this had simply resulted in noise nuisance. She reported that her grandchildren did not want to stay with her and clothes had been stolen from the washing line. Individuals had entered her garden area and urinated by the washing line.

In response to a Member question, Mrs S P Morgan confirmed that she had phoned the Police to complain.

Mrs B Jones, Local Resident, further amplified her written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. She stated that she had lived in the area for 23 years and it had been lovely. However, grandchildren were not allowed to stay due to the noise and bad language.

Mrs Nicollile, Local Resident, further amplified her written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. She referred to the distance between the nearest flat and drinking area and enquired whether a site visit had been undertaken. She stated that she agreed with everything that had been stated by Residents.

Mrs/Mr? L M Evans, Local Resident, further amplified her/his written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. He/She stated that she agreed with everything that has been said and had nothing further to add.

Mrs C Williams, Local Resident, further amplified her written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. She stated that she agreed with everything that has been said and that the area was now an extension of Wind Street. She reported that Morgan's Hotel had added to crime, chaos and negativity to her quality of life. She urged the Members to visit the area to understand proximity of the Hotel and properties.

The Chair stated that Officers had visited the area and provided feedback to Members.

In response to a Member question, Mrs C Williams stated that she had stayed at Morgan's Hotel and had spoken to patrons at the Hotel who had complained about the noise. She referred to negative comments on Trip Advisor regarding the noise at Morgan's Hotel.

The Lawyer advising the Committee referred to the Hearing Regulations in relation to the introduction of new information. She stated that the Applicant must be in agreement prior to further information being submitted to ensure a fair hearing.

Mr Mann, Local Resident, further amplified his written representations objecting to the application and highlighted his concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. He stated that he had suffered noise nuisance from Morgan's Hotel which had been ongoing for a long time.

The Lawyer advising the Committee confirmed that all representations had been read and taken into account in respect of the decision making process.

Mr M Gallaher, General Manager, Morgan's Hotel, stated that he had been in post for 15 months. He referred to the newly appointed Food and Beverage Manager, Ms A Mountford who had recently re-joined the employment of the Hotel after a break.

He confirmed that this was his first dealing with the Local Residents, none of whom had spoken to him personally. He referred to the role of the Night Porters at the Hotel, many of whom had been there since the establishment of the Hotel. The Night Porters were very mature and would report any issues, should they arise.

However, there had been no comments from Night Porters over last 14 months. Furthermore, no complaints had been received by the Food and Beverage Manager over the last 15 months.

He provided a profile of the clientelle Morgan's Hotel was aiming to attract, with a pricing structure on the higher end of the market. He detailed the cost of the average room which was not attractive to Stag or Hen parties. He detailed the cost of the Wedding packages which ranged from £15,000-£16,000. A pint of beer/lager at Morgan's Hotel cost £4.90 a pint as opposed to £2.20 in Wind Street.

He stated that Morgan's Hotel was a popular venue which had grown year on year. The windows in the bar area could not open, however, the premises benefitted from air conditioning. As a listed building certain modifications cannot be made, such as double glazing.

He referred to the external drinking area which benefited from an automatic locking door, accessible to residents with the use of their room access cards. The door to the external drinking area was locked at 10.30 hours and only available to residents. He stated that the area was monitored closely as there are 4 rooms over looking the area. He reported that no complaints of noise had been received in respect of the external drinking area and highlighted his duty of care to the residents, many of whom had paid £200 for a room.

He referred to the historic problems experienced by Local Residents with regards to removal of glass. It was noted that, since 1st April, 2015, the contract for waste removal had been awarded to Veolia and Local Residents would have noticed a reduction in noise during this period. He confirmed that staff do not move glass before 8 am and do not empty until 11.00.

He stated that guests were not allowed access through the gate in the external drinking area and any one caught trying to do so would be barred. He highlighted that the premises is on the entranceway to SA1 and, as such, the area was used as a thoroughfare from Wind Street to SA1.

In response to Member guestions, Mr Gallaher stated that:

- he had received no contact or concerns from Local Residents in the last 15 months;
- he was not aware of any road closures as a result of event days when the car park opposite the premises would be utilised;
- he worked 4 days Monday to Friday and one day over the weekend, Saturday or Sunday, 7 am for 5-6 hours, Saturday and Sunday, 6pm until 11 pm or Sunday 7 until 11 am. Saturdays and sometimes Sundays. He did not reside at the Hotel, however any issues are reported through the Night Porter. He detailed the management structure at the Hotel and confirmed that the Food and Beverage Manager was the Designated Persons.
- he had no knowledge of any problems that the residents state they had experienced. He detailed the complaints system for residential and non residential customers;

- Potential customers were targeted via mass marketing which was determined by pricing structure. He was not aware of potential customers not staying at the Hotel because of any reports of anti-social behaviour. He referred to the positive trip advisor reviews and the number of high profile revisiting customers;
- The Hotel enjoyed 87% occupancy and is a successful 4 star graded premises, branded with the top 50 in Wales. The Hotel employed excellent staff who followed procedure and guidelines especially in relation to age verification and not serving intoxicated individuals.

Ms A Scott, Gwalia Neighbourhood Housing Officer, accompanied by Hannah??? (former Neighbourhood Housing Officer) further amplified her written representations objecting to the application and highlighted her concerns in relation to the undermining of the Statutory Licensing Objectives in relation to the prevention of public nuisance. She referred to a number of complaints from residents in Somerset Place regarding the behaviour of patrons of Morgan's Hotel. Complaints had been in relation to anti social behaviour, urinating, vomiting, sexual activity, unlawful use of the car park by Morgan's Customers and noise nuisance in the beer Garden. She stated that she represented Gwalia as Landlord and expressed her concerns about the residents, many of whom were vulnerable. Additionally, Gwalia were concerned about the future letting of properties in Somerset Place.

In response to a question from the Senior Lawyer, Ms Scott stated that she had not contacted the General Manager at Morgan's Hotel or sought independent legal advice. However, Ms Scott stated that she had spoken to her Senior Manager at Gwalia Housing who stated that any evidence would need to be supplied and presented by the residents.

In response to a Member question, Ms Scott stated that she was unaware of the time of the gate being installed but would make enquiries. She further stated that her predecessor did not have evidence of the problems experienced by residents but was aware of their concerns.

In response to a Resident question, Ms A Mountford stated that she had previously worked in Morgan's Hotel 8 years ago and had returned in March 2015. She apologised for any previous experiences Local Residents may have had and stated that she had not been aware of any complaints until her recent conversation with the Licensing Officer.

She stated that she adopted a disciplined management style. She detailed her working hours which were every Friday, Saturday and events.

She stated that Mr Morgan had no plans for bars and to create a new Wind Street. She referred to the football events, and stated that there was not a massive clientele on these days as the price dictates that they go to Wind Street.

Fancy dress, is not tolerated and potential patrons are refused entry. There are strict guidelines regarding emptying bottle bins, and they are not moved until after 11 am to coincide with the check out for residents.

Whilst the hotel had a licenced until 01.00 on Friday, the Hotel did not stay open late. The application for the extra half hour will only be used by the Hotel when it is required. Music is stopped at 11.45. She could not vouch for incidents that may have happened prior to her appointment but stated that she would listen and act on complaints.

In response to a Resident Question, the Ms A Mountford stated that a Challenge 21 Scheme was operational and tills are programmed so that staff can include reasons for sales refusals.

In response to a Residents question, both the General Manager and Food and Beverage Manager stated their respective qualifications.

In response to a Residents question, the General Manager stated that there was always a Manager on site and he was not aware of people who are there until 2 am. The external drinking area benefitted from CCTV 24 hours a day, however, this does not cover the gate.

In response to a Residents question, the General Manager detailed the types of events at the premises.

In response to a Member question, the General Manager detailed the rationale for the request for late night refreshment.

The Lawyer advising the Committee detailed the activities that had been deregulated under the Licensing Act. She stated that licensed premises would ask for broad base of what may be required in the future, however, on a daily basis the extra hours would not be used. The Licensing Act was not a panacea to people parking on your land.

In conclusion, the General Manager stated that the concerns of residents had been brought to his attention, and he apologised to Local Residents for previous issues. He detailed his plans for Morgan's Hotel in relation to their, mission statement and pricing strategy. He stated that he would attend local community meetings and was happy to assist convening these meetings in the Hotel. He stated that alcohol does change mind sets and he could not be responsible for individuals' behaviour when outside the building. He referred to the thoroughfare of individuals exiting Wind Street to SA1 and stated he could not take responsibility for every drunken act. The Chair stated that Members had agreed to undertake a site visit to the premises and that the Sub Committee would be reconvened at 3 p.m. in the afternoon. Members adjourned to undertake a site visit to Morgan's Hotel.

It was **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the hearing in accordance with paragraph 14 of the Licensing Act (Hearings) Regulations 2005, to enable the Sub-Committee to take legal advice.

(CLOSED SESSION)

Members discussed the issues relating to the application.

(OPEN SESSION)

The Lawyer advising the Sub-Committee gave a comprehensive overview of the legal advice tendered. She stated that the Sub-Committee had undertaken a site visit and considered the application, representations made and the needs and interests of all parties in terms of the Council's Statements of Licensing Policy, statutory guidance and the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

The Sub-Committee **RESOLVED** that the application be **GRANTED** with the following modifications to the Application and Conditions:

Licensable Activities:

Plays (indoors only)

Monday - Sunday 18.00 - 23.00 hours

Live Music (indoors only)

Monday – Sunday 11.00 – 00.00 hours Beaujolais Day 11.00 – 01.00 hours New Years Eve 18.00 – 01.00 hours Boxing Day 18.00 – 01.00 hours

Recorded Music (indoors only)

Sunday to Thursday 08:00 hours - 00:00 hours Friday & Saturday 08.00 hours - 00:00 hours Beaujolais Day 08.00 hours - 01.00 hours Boxing Day 08.00 hours - 01.00 hours New Years Eve 08.00 hours - 01.00 hours.

Performance of Dance (indoors only)

Monday – Sunday 18.00 hours – 23.00 hours.

Late Night Refreshment (indoors)

Sunday to Thursday 23:00hours – 01.00 hours Friday and Saturday 23:00hours - 02:00 hours

Supply of Alcohol (on and off the premises)

Sunday to Thursday 11:00hours - 00:30hours Friday & Saturday 11:00hours - 01:30hours Beaujolais Day 11.00 hours - 01.00 hours Boxing Day 11.00 hours - 01.00 hours New Years Eve 11.00 hours - 01.00 hours.

Hours the Premises are Open to The Public

Sunday to Thursday 08:00hours – 01.00 hours Friday and Saturday 08:00hours - 02:00 hours Beaujolais Day 08.00 hours – 02.00 hours Boxing Day 08.00 hours – 02.00 hours New Years Eve 08.00 hours – 02.00 hours.

Conditions:

- 1. SIA licensed door staff to be employed when regulated entertainment is provided on the following days: Beaujolais Day, the two Fridays prior to Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Years Eve. The exception to this being when the whole premises has been hired for the exclusion use by a private party and there will be no admittance to the general public, in which case the requirement for SIA Door Staff can be withdrawn with the consent of the Police Licensing Officer and Council Licensing Officer as long as the notice is given in writing at least 14 days prior to the event.
- 2. A register of door supervisors (Safer Swansea Partnership Register or like detailed bound numerical register), to be maintained at all times at the premises. Such register to include the name, registration number, contact details of the member of door staff along with the date, time on duty and time off duty. Full details of the agency supplying the staff to be enforced and the register to be available for inspection on request of an authorised officer.
- 3. The sale of Alcohol and Late Night Refreshment will only be sold by means of a 'bill to room' facility after the hours the premises close to the public to ensure that they are only sold to residents.
- 4. Area identified on the plan as external drinking area (External Drinking Area) to be cleared of all customers by 22.30* hours.
- 5. External drinking area to be regularly supervised by staff from the premises when in use. Supervision levels to be agreed in writing between the Licence holder and the Licensing Authority, copies are to be kept on the file at the authority and premises.
- 6. No glass or glass bottles are to be taken outside the premises and suitable non glass drinking receptacles are to be used in the External Drinking Area.
- 7. CCTV will be provided in the form of a recordable system, capable of providing pictures or evidential quality in all lighting columns particularly facial recognition. Cameras shall encompass all ingress and egress to the premises, fire exits all areas where the public have access and any external drinking areas to include the gate in the External Drinking Area. Equipment must be maintained in good working order, the system must continually record whilst the premises is open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain at the premises. Recordings must be correctly times and date stamped, recordings must be kept in date order, number sequentially and kept for a period of 31 days and handed to a Police Officer/Local Authority Officer on demand. The Premises Licence Holder must ensure that all times a Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) or appointed member of staff is capable and competent at downloading CCTV footage in a recordable format either disc or VHS to a Police Officer/Local Authority Officer on demand. The Recording equipment and tapes/discs shall be kept in a secure environment under the control of the DPS or other responsible named individual. An operational daily log report must be maintained, endorsed by signature, indicating the system has been checked and is compliant. In the event of any failings the actions taken are to be recorded. In the event of a technical failure of the CCTV equipment, the Premises Licence Holder/DPS must repor th4e failure to the Police/Local Authority.
- 8. Premises is participate in Police led initiatives to target drug misuse at the venue. Participation to include full co-operation with South Wales Police led drug itemiser and drug search operations.

- 9. No drinking shall take place on the highway at the front of the premises other than by customers who are seated within the area identified on the plan covered by a pavement café licence. This area is to utilise non glass drinking receptacles.
- 10. Managers/supervisors of the premises to attend the fully participate in the City Centre Pub and Club Watch Scheme as agreed with the Licensing Authority. Agreement to be in writing between the Licence Holder and Licensing Authority and copies are to be kept on file at the authority and premises.
- 11. Premises to actively participate in the City Centre Exclusion Order Scheme in accordance with the operating procedure of the Scheme.
- 12. Premises shall have an adequate system of counting persons in and out to ensure that the customer levels in all areas do not exceed the agreed limit.
- 13. Speakers shall not be located in the entrance lobby or outside.
- 14. No adult entertainment to take place at the premises.
- 15. Notices shall be prominent clear and legible and (amended by cttee)displayed in the designated smoking areas shown on the plan and the area covered by the pavement café licence requesting patrons to respect the needs of local residents and use the area quietly.
- 16. Notices shall be prominent clear and legible and(amended by cttee) displayed at all exits request patrons to respect the needs of local residents and leave the area quietly.
- 17. A Challenge 25 proof of age scheme shall be operated at the premises where the only acceptable forms of identification shall bear their photograph, date of birth and holographic mark.
- 18. A log shall be kept detailing all refused sales of alcohol. The log should include the date and time of the refused sale and the name of the member of staff who refused the sale. The log shall be available for inspection at the premises by the police or an authorised officer of the Council at all times whilst the premises are open.
- 19. Premises to keep up to date records available for inspection of staff training in respect of age related sales.
- 20. Notices shall be clearly displayed in the premises to emphasise to customers the prohibition of providing sales of alcohol to persons under the age of eighteen years.
- 21. The premises shall not dispose, move or empty bins of glass bottles between the hours of 23.00 hours to 08.00 hours.
- 22. During periods of all live and recorded music, windows and doors in the restaurant, café bar and lower bar shall be kept closed at all times except for access and egress.
- 23. A dedicated telephone number of the Duty Manager to be provided to all local residents. The number is to have a record facility and messages are to be checked daily.
- 24. During periods of live entertainment a staff member form the premises will monitor around the vicinity of the premises to ensure that no noise is escaping from the premises. A log shall be kept with a record of every time the staff member monitors the vicinity including the name of the person doing the walk the time and date and any incidents of note. The log shall be available for inspection at the premises by an authorised officer.

Reasons for Decision

The Sub Committee, having regard to the relevant parts of Statutory Guidance the Council's statement of Licensing Policy and of the Licencing Act 2003 and having considered all the relevant representations made and heard from other persons and the representatives of the applicant, formed the view that granting the application would not undermine the Licensing Objectives.

The Sub Committee considered the issues which had been the subject of the relevant representations could be dealt with by way of amended and additional conditions to the licence.

The Sub Committee noted that even though there were a number of recorded complaints made by local residents no action had been taken by the responsible authorities or the residents themselves to deal with the alleged crime and disorder and public nuisance arising as a result of the operation of the premises under its existing licence. Whatever the decision today the existing licence would continue the Sub Committee being unable to take any action.

In addition in the absence of evidence from Gwalia Housing the owners of the adjoining land and the other persons that they had made complaints to them, the Sub Committee accepted the position of the representatives of the applicant Mr Mark Gallagher and Ms Angharad Mountford both relatively new in post were unaware of the issues.

The Committee also noted that TEN's used by the Applicant had not been opposed by either the Police or Environmental Health and no representations has been made by the Environment Health. The Sub Committee considered that as South Wales Police had withdrawn their representation they were satisfied the granting of the licence would not undermine the licencing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder. The committee formed the view that as Environmental Health, who had had complaints made to them, did not make any representations that department did not consider a grant would undermine the licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance.

The applicant's representatives, Miss Mountford and Mr Gallagher assurances that now they were now on notice of potential issues with the operation of the premises were accepted by committee and the committee were confident any complaints would be properly dealt with. The conditions 5, 7, 23,24 as modified would facilitate better dialogue between the residents and the applicant if any issues arose and ensure the premises would have records of any incidents reported .

The Committee did not take account of the car parking and trespassing issues raised by the residents as that was a matter for the residents and/or the landowners, (Gwalia) to take up with those persons. As for alleged road closures Mr Gallagher assured the Sub Committee that this would not be done without the appropriate authorisation and in fact had not been done in the past although use of the car park for special occasions meant staff and patrons would be crossing the road. Advice was given to the residents as to how to report any obstruction to the highway.

There was no evidence that the public nuisance caused to the residents in their garden or outside the premises was solely caused by the applicant's patrons or was

linked to the operation of the premises. The premises could not be responsible for public nuisance caused by persons off the premises and who were beyond the direct control of those with responsibility for managing and controlling the premises .Somerset Place and, although to a lesser extent, Pier Street are thoroughfares between Wind Street and SA1 and therefore persons in the applicant's premises were unlikely to be solely responsible for the public nuisance and crime and disorder being alleged by the residents outside the premises.

The Sub Committee undertook a site visit and it was evident access to the residents gardens could be achieved direct form Pier Street and Somerset Place.

The Sub Committee also took into account the presence of other licensed premises in the vicinity, being the Queens, Schooner (any others mentioned?) whose patrons may be responsible for any disturbance and activities in the vicinity of the applicant.

In accordance with the Council's policy and the guidance, the Sub Committee accepted licensing is not the primary mechanism for general control of public nuisance and antisocial behaviour away from the licensed premises.

The Sub Committee were mindful that the applicant was located outside the cumulative impact area and the Council's policy is permissive subject to the promotion of the Licensing Objectives.

Members relied on the fact that the guidance recommends that the Sub Committee should not duplicate the regimes that deal with issues unless those regimes have been found not to work in any given circumstances. As there had been no action by Environmental Health, the Police and no action had been taken by the residents with regard to reviewing the existing licence, the Sub Committee was not satisfied that those regimes would not work if used.

The Sub Committee felt after hearing from the applicant's representative, Mr Gallagher, that external glass collections had been changed and would be now only once a week. Therefore the committee's view was it could address the complaints made with regard to glass bottles inside the premises by the addition of a condition. There would be no emptying of glass bottles between 23.00 and 08.00 which would prevent that form of nuisance.

Ms Angharad Mountford advised the Sub Committee that glass bottle collections internally were not done until after 11.00 in any event as residents were in the area where the glass bottles were collated and could not be disturbed.

The Members heard that there was considerable nuisance caused by the use of the external drinking area. Due to the proximity of the residents homes and garden to the external drinking area the committee accepted that was potential for public nuisance being caused by the use of the external drinking area. The Sub Committee considered that by reducing the hours the external drinking area could be used and ensuring those areas were monitored during those hours and after it was closed would ensure that guests of the premises would not continue any nuisance after the public were excluded from the premises. It was accepted that certain guests would have to have to go across the external drinking area in order to gain access to

their rooms. The extension of the CCTV to the gate at the end of the external drinking area would also enable the premises to monitor the behaviour of its patrons and deal with any patrons attempting to climb over the wall into the residents' gardens.

The Sub Committee also accepted there was potential for noise from recorded and live music in the premises in light of the proximity of the premises to the residents' homes so the reduction in hours sought, the requirement for doors and windows to be closed, and staff monitoring the external vicinity of the premises while there is entertainment on would ensure any noise escape would be limited and dealt with appropriately if it did occur.

The meeting ended at 3.30 pm

MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE

HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL, SWANSEA ON TUESDAY, 19 MAY 2015 AT 5.15 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)	Councillor(s)
A C S Colburn	P Downing	H M Morris
D W Cole	P Lloyd	C L Philpott
A M Cook	K E Marsh	T H Rees
J P Curtice	P M Matthews	V M Evans

1 TO SUSPEND COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 "CHAIR OF MEETINGS" IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE PRESIDING MEMBER TO PRESIDE OVER THE UNDER MENTIONED AGENDA ITEMS.

RESOLVED that Procedure Rule 12 be suspended in order to allow the Chair of Council to preside over this meeting.

(COUNCILLOR D W W THOMAS PRESIDED)

2 TO ELECT A CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015-2016.

RESOLVED that Councillor P M Matthews be elected Chair for the 2015-2016 Municipal Year.

(COUNCILLOR P M MATTHEWS PRESIDED)

3 TO ELECT A VICE CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015-2016.

RESOLVED that Councillor P Downing be elected Vice-Chair for the 2015-2016 Municipal Year.

4 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

No apologies for absence were received.

5 <u>DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS.</u>

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

The meeting ended at 5.30 pm

Agenda Item 4

Terms of Reference - Statutory Licensing Committee

- 1. To determine all matters regulated by the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005 in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme of Delegation in the Council's Constitution and the Council's Statements of Licensing Policy.
- 2. All Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 functions and matters will be considered by the Statutory Licensing Committee or Statutory Licensing Sub Committee as deemed necessary, exercising plenary powers meeting on such specific occasions as necessary.
- 3. The Statutory Licensing Committee shall be empowered to do anything which is necessarily incidental to the exercise of the delegated function and all delegations and or authorisations shall be construed accordingly unless they are expressly limited otherwise in order to facilitate the determination of any matters considered by them.
- 4. The Statutory Licensing Committee or Statutory Licensing Sub Committee as deemed necessary shall be empowered to adopt or modify any such rules of procedure in order to facilitate the determination of any matters considered by them.

Note: All members of this Committee must have been trained by the Authority prior to them being permitted to take part in the meeting.