Licensing Sub- Committee Hearing

16th May 2014

Members of the Panel:	Councillors Morris (Chair), Ainslie and Tempest
Application Premises:	23 Jesmond Road
Officers present:	Ian Harrison, Principal Trading Standards & Licensing Officer Tony Macnab, Solicitor Jo Stubbs, Democratic Services Officer
Applicant:	Mrs Jasdeep Kaur
Objectors:	None present

Decision:

The Licensing Sub-Committee considered an application from Mrs Jasdeep Kaur for a premises licence to authorise the sale of alcohol (off sales) from 9:00 am until 10:00pm Mondays to Sundays.

The Licensing Authority had received objections from three local residents. In addition a petition objecting to the application, signed by 21 residents, had been received. The objections related to all four of the licensing objectives. Among the issues specifically raised by the objectors were the potential for traffic related accidents, particularly due to the premises close proximity to Jesmond Road primary school, anti-social behaviour problems, children attempting to purchase alcohol and noise from the shop shutters when closing at night.

A number of conditions had been agreed by the applicant following discussions with Trading Standards and the Police. These conditions are designed to reduce the possibility of sales of alcohol to children and included the installation of a CCTV system, the adoption of a Challenge 25 policy and other training requirements aimed at preventing under-age sales. As a result of this there had been no objections to the application made by Trading Standards or the Police

Mrs Kaur presented her application. She indicated that she wished to be able to provide a service to the local community. Mrs Kaur confirmed that there would be at least two members of staff in the premises and that all staff would be fully trained in the operation of the CCTV system and awareness of underage sales. Members noted that the premises were up for let. Mrs Kaur confirmed that while she would run the shop initially her long term plan was to lease the premises. The Principal Trading Standards and Licensing Officer advised that any future leaseholder would become the licence holder of the premises meaning Mrs Kaur would not be legally responsible for the day to day running of the premises. In these circumstances the Licensing Team would visit the licence holder during their first month in charge and advise them of the conditions binding on them. This was standard practice.

The Licensing Sub-Committee considered the application and representations put forward by the Applicant and the written representations received by way of objection.

The Licensing Sub-Committee considered that the representations did not disclose convincing grounds and evidence to demonstrate that the licensing objectives would be undermined if the application was granted. In the circumstances the application was granted in its entirety.

CHAIR