

RUNNYMEDE BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

HEARING DECISION NOTICE

Applicant: Punch Taverns plc

Premises: The Station House, 21 Station Road, Addlestone, Surrey

Hearing Date: 15 August 2005

Sub Committee: Councillors Mrs J Norman, Miss R E Haylor and J R Whitely

This was an application for:

- 1) Conversion of the existing Justices Licence, and
- 2) Variation

The variation applied for was to:

- 1) Extend hours until midnight on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays with an additional hour following every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday each May Bank Holiday, Spring/Whitsun Bank Holiday and every August Bank Holiday weekend; a further additional hour into the morning following every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday for the Easter Bank Holiday weekend; a further additional hour every Christmas Eve; a further additional hour every Boxing Day and to reflect existing New Year's Eve/Day hours with an additional 30 minutes drinking up time after the last permitted sale of alcohol.
- 2) The provision of regulated entertainment being recorded music, karaoke and live music limited to no more than 2 entertainers.

The Applicant was represented by Melissa Murphy of Counsel together with Mr Paul Douglas Blythe, the licensee and Mr Cowling, the Business Relationship Manager for the Applicant.

Three letters of representation had been received from persons living in the neighbourhood of the premises.

There were no attendances.

No representations were received from any of the Responsible Authorities. The Sub Committee heard that the Station House is a small one bar public house situated in Station Road, Addlestone. It adjoins but is not in a residential area. There are three other public houses in close proximity, these being the Crouch Oak, the George and The Holly Tree. The representations concerned noise and anti social behaviour late at night from persons passing along Crouch Oak Lane. There was no evidence that these persons were connected with or had come from the Station House. The Committee considered the representations, and, given that the representations were not supported by those making them and could not be tested, gave to them such weight as they thought they warranted.

That said, the main concern for the Sub Committee was that of public nuisance. The Sub Committee were satisfied with the measures proposed by the Applicant for dealing with public nuisance and for noise emanating from the premises. The Sub Committee accepted the submission of Miss Murphy that the application was within the Authority's own policy and also Government guidance. It was further accepted that should the management of the Station House fall short of what is expected of a responsible licensee then the licence could be put back before the Sub Committee for review.

The Sub Committee heard from Miss Murphy that the licensee proposed to keep doors and windows closed after 11 p.m., not to allow drinking in the outside areas after 11 p.m. and would place appropriate signage at the exits to the premises requesting patrons leaving to respect neighbours. It was argued that the 30 minute drinking up time would hopefully achieve a staggering of departures and the Committee noted that the public house had an agreement with a local taxi company but many patrons in any event came and left on foot.

Mr Blyth confirmed that he attended Pub Watch. He further confirmed that the juke box is in the position marked CIG on the plan attached to the application, that there were 5 speakers in all and that live music, if provided, would most likely be in the same room as the juke box. He confirmed that the bay window did not

open although windows other than the bay are openable but are not opened at present as they are painted shut.

Having considered the application, the representations made by interested parties and the submissions of the Applicant, the Committee's decision was as follows:

- 1) Application for conversion approved
- 2) Application for variation approved subject to the following conditions:
 - a) doors and windows to be kept closed after 11 p.m.
 - b) no music to be provided in the outside drinking areas at any time.
 - c) no drinking in the outside areas after 11 p.m.
 - d) a notice to be displayed at the exits to the premises to be in such form as agreed by the Senior Licensing Officer.
 - e) live music, Karaoke and the juke box to be provided in the room to the front of the premises marked with CIG and AWP on the premises plan and the premises plan to be marked up accordingly and a copy to be attached to the Decision Notice.

Reasons for the imposition of conditions:

The conditions are imposed for the prevention of public nuisance.