

**Licensing Committee**10 September 2007  
(10.00am to 10.55am)

**Present:** Councillors Blencowe, Boyce, Dixon (Chair), Downham, C Rosenstiel, Slatter, Smith, Stuart and Upstone

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL****07/Lic/05 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2007 were confirmed as a correct record.

**07/Lic/06 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bailey and Benstead.

**07/Lic/07 Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**07/Lic/08 Gambling Act 2005 – Hearings Procedure**

The Licensing Officer advised the Committee that the proposed Procedure had been written following both the requirements of the Act and LACORS Guidance. The Procedure was similar to that used by the Committee when determining licensing applications.

In response to questions about Preliminary Matters (A2), the Licensing Officer stated that there was provision in the paperwork to indicate likely attendance of interested parties or whether they were to be represented. The Licensing Officer was aware prior to the Committee date and the Clerk should pass on this information to the Committee prior to the hearing itself. However, it was still recommended that the Chair asked all persons present to introduce themselves and what their interest is.

Members of the Committee asked questions on rights of access to view representations made (on an application). The Council's solicitor undertook to provide a 'bullet point' guide for members on what the Committee might expect or be asked by interested parties at a Hearing. The Committee noted that refresher training would be offered to consider the issues raised in discussing the Hearings Procedure and which had been encountered by members during the many Licensing Sub-Committees. Cllr Blencowe asked officers to look at how, and at what point during the preliminaries, a Sub-Committee could 'discount' irrelevant representations

(and make it known that this was the case), which would be helpful for all parties concerned. The Head of Environmental Services undertook to look into this.

**Resolved**

To approve the Procedure to be followed at hearings of Gambling Act 2005 matters as set out in the Licensing Officer's report

CHAIR