

CITY OF NOTTINGHAM

LICENSING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **24 MARCH 2003** at the
Council House from 11.00 am to 1.15 pm

Councillor Cresswell (Chair)
Councillor Grocock (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Casson
Councillor Greensmith
Councillor Jackson
Councillor Mittenshaw-Hodge

indicates present at meeting

65 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Casson.

66 60 GOOSEGATE, HOCKLEY - APPLICATION FOR SEX ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Development and Environmental Services, copies of which had been circulated.

The Committee met to determine whether a sex establishment licence should be granted to Bright Light Leisure Ltd of 203 Parkers House, 48 Regent Street, Cambridge, under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 in respect of premises at 60 Goosegate, Nottingham.

Mr M Lewis, a Director of the applicant company, accepted the Committee's invitation to attend the meeting and was represented by Ms N Khalique, of Counsel who presented the case on behalf of the applicant.

Mr T Coulson, Service Manager (Food and Licensing), Development and Environmental Services Department, was in attendance and presented the report.

Ms Khalique, Mr Lewis and Mr Coulson, having made their submissions and comments and been available for questioning, withdrew from the meeting.

In reaching its decision, the Committee had regard to:-

- (a) the legislative framework for the granting of sex establishment licences;

- (b) eleven letters of objection to the application, received by the Licensing Section, the content of which had been referred to, and commented on, by Ms Khalique;
- (c) the comments of the Director of Development and Environmental Services Department, both verbal and contained within the report (incorporating the comments of the statutory consultees);
- (d) submissions by the applicant and his representative regarding the application;

RESOLVED that the application of Bright Light Leisure Ltd of 203 Parkers House, 48 Regent Street, Cambridge, for a sex establishment licence for premises at 60 Goosegate, Nottingham be refused under paragraphs 12(3)(c) and (d) of Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 for the following reasons:-

- (a) the grant of such a licence would be inappropriate, having regard to the use to which the premises in the vicinity are put. The committee was aware of the existence of a very large licensed sex establishment at 30-32 Goosegate and felt that it was inappropriate to have two such establishments in such close proximity;**
- (b) the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality was equal to that which was appropriate for the locality. The committee considered the relevant locality to be the area bounded by Weekday Cross, High Pavement, Bellar Gate, Cranbrook Street, Lower Parliament Street (to its junction with George Street), George Street and Fletcher Gate. The character of this area is mixed, including various entertainment venues, considerable residential premises and retail establishments;**
- (c) whilst the committee noted what had been said about the application premises catering for a niche market, they felt that the existing licensed premises at 30-32 Goosegate would cater for this market as well. The committee was of the view that some weight should be given to the objections received and that there was a need to give careful consideration to balancing the various needs of those who work in, resort to and reside in the locality. Having carried out that exercise, the committee was of the view that the appropriate number of sex establishments for this locality was one.**