

Agenda Item No: 1 - Summary of Report

Licence Reference 17/03682/LAPRE

**Report To: LICENSING SUB – COMMITTEE
(UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003)**

Date: 24 NOVEMBER 2017
**Report Title: PARS SUPERMARKET
69 BANK STREET
MAIDSTONE
KENT
ME14 1SN**

**Application for: A premises licence to be varied under the
Licensing Act 2003**

Report Author: Lorraine Neale

- Summary:**
1. The Applicant – Mr Mohammed Taher Hatami
 2. Type of authorisation applied for: To vary a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003. (Appendix A)
 3. Licensable Activities and hours:

| | | Current Hours | | Hours: New Application | |
|----|---|---------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| M) | Supply of alcohol (On & Off the premises) | Mon – Sat | 07:00-23:00 | Sun-Wed Thurs-Sat | 08:00-02:00 08:00-04:00 |
| O) | Opening Hours | Mon – Sat | 07:00-23:00 | Sun-Wed Thurs-Sat | 08:00-02:00 08:00-04:00 |

Affected Wards: High Street

Recommendations: **The Committee is asked to determine the application and decide whether to vary the premises licence.**

Policy Overview: The decision should be made with regard to the Secretary of State's Guidance and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003. Where the decision departs from Policy or Guidance the departure must be directed solely at the attainment of the licensing objectives, and that such departure be supported by proper reasons.

Financial Implications: Costs associated with processing the application are taken from licensing fee income.

Other Material Implications: **HUMAN RIGHTS:** In considering this application it is appropriate to consider the rights of both the applicant and other parties, such as “**responsible authorities**” and/or “**other persons**” (objectors). The procedure for determining licences has a prescribed format to ensure fair representation of the relevant facts by all parties.

LEGAL: Under the Licensing Act 2003 the **Licensing Authority** has a duty to exercise licensing control of relevant premises.

Background Papers: Licensing Act 2003
DCMS Guidance Documents issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 as amended
Maidstone Borough Council Statement of Licensing Policy

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Agenda Item No. 1

Report Title: Pars Supermarket, 69 Bank Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1SN

Application to: Vary a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003.

Purpose of the Report

The report advises Members of an application to vary a Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003,(Appendix A), made by Mr Mohammed Taher Hatami for Pars Supermarket, 69 Bank Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1SN in respect of which 1 response was received from a Responsible Authority (Appendix C).

Issue to be Decided

The purpose of this section is to enable all Members to recognise immediately what they are being asked to consider.

Members are asked to determine whether to :

Grant the application as applied for,

or

Grant the application and modify conditions of the licence, or

Reject all or part of the application

Background

1. The relevant sections are Part 3 S13 and 34 – 36 of The Licensing Act 2003 and section 4 of The Licensing Act 2003 in particular the Licensing Objectives:
 - The prevention of crime and disorder;
 - Public Safety
 - The prevention of public nuisance; and
 - The protection of children from harm
2. The application has been correctly advertised in the local press and notices displayed on the premises for the required period.
3. There was 1 representation received from a responsible authority
4. There was no response received from other persons.
5. The table below illustrates the relevant responses which have been received

| Responsible Authority /Interested Party | Licensing Objective | Associated Documents | Appendix |
|---|--|----------------------|----------|
| Objections | | | |
| Police | Crime & Disorder Public Safety Public nuisance | Letter | C |

The Police believe that an increase in the premises trading hours to the requested terminal hours will undermine the licensing objectives of prevention of crime & disorder, public safety and the prevention of public nuisance. It is believed it will lead to an increase in the number of incidents of crime and disorder as the safety check of monitoring people as they consume alcohol as a result of off sales will not be there. The presence of late night refreshment premises and the potential ability to purchase alcohol until these late hours will encourage people to congregate and continue to party on the street and delay their exit from town which will lead to assaults, disturbances and accidents.

Kent County Council Trading Standards (KCC TS) made representation which was received on 26.10.2017 (Appendix D), requesting that the following conditions be attached to the licence.

1. The Challenge 25 proof of age scheme shall be operated at the premises. All customers who appear under the age of 25 will be challenged to prove that they are over 18 when attempting to purchase alcohol. Acceptable forms of ID include a photo driving licence, passport, or home office approved identity card bearing the holographic 'PASS' mark. If the person seeking alcohol is unable to produce an acceptable form of identification, no sale or supply of alcohol shall be made to or for that person.
2. All staff shall be trained in the law about the sale of alcohol. Such training will include challenging every individual who appears to be under 25 years of age and to refuse service where individuals cannot produce acceptable means of identification, acceptable forms of ID and using the refusal register. Such training (including any refresher training) will be logged and provided not less than every twelve months. The training log will be made available for inspection by Police and authorised persons.
3. A refusals log must be kept at the premises, and made immediately available on request to the police or an authorised person. The refusals log is to be inspected on a monthly basis by the DPS and noted in the log and a record made in the log of any actions that appear to be needed to protect young people from harm. The log must record all refused sales of alcohol and include the following:
 - a) the identity of the member of staff who refused the sale
 - b) the date and time of the refusal
 - c) the alcohol requested and reason for refusal
 - d) description of the person refused alcohol
4. Posters of A4 size shall be displayed conspicuously on the premises in customer facing areas:
 - a) 'Challenge 25' to advise potential purchasers that suitable proof of age will be required for all purchasers who appear to be under 25.
 - b) 'Proxy purchasing' intended to warn adults not to buy alcohol for those under 18 years-of-age.

The applicant Mr Mohammed Taher Hatami has agreed to the KCC TS conditions forming part of the operating schedule and therefore KCC TS have withdrawn their representation. Appendix E

The current licence is attached as Appendix F. The current licence holder is the applicant.

6. The current licence hours are as per the licence attached at appendix F and set out at 3 of the summary above. The operating schedule offers no new conditions and some conditions already on the licence are superseded by the KCC TS agreed conditions.
7. **Members are advised that applications cannot be refused in whole or in part, or conditions attached to the licence unless it is appropriate to do so to promote the licensing objectives.;**
8. Relevant sections of **The Guidance issued under section 182 of The Licensing Act 2003;**

Chapters 8 (8.42 onwards) & 9 Premises Licences & Determining Applications

Chapter 10 Conditions.

Relevant policy statements contained in the Licensing Authority's Statement of Licensing Policy:

Relevant policy statements contained in **the Licensing Authority's Statement of Licensing Policy:**

17.9 CONDITIONS TO PROMOTE THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER.

Under the Act the Licensing Authority has a duty to promote the licensing objectives, and, a further duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the borough.

- 17.10 The applicant will be expected to detail in their operating schedule how they will prevent crime and disorder on and close to the premises. Such detail should reflect the licensable activities on offer, location and character of the area, the nature of the premises use and the range of customers likely to use the premises.

These may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Prevention of disorderly conduct and anti-social behaviour
- Prevention of underage drinking
- Prevention of sales of alcohol to intoxicated customers
- Prevention of drunkenness both on and in the vicinity of the premises
- Prevention of drug use and drug dealing
- Restriction to responsible drinks promotions
- Use of safety glass
- Inclusion of a wind-down time following alcohol sales period
- Adequate seating to discourage "vertical drinking"
- The offer of food and snacks or other entertainment or occupation to discourage persistent drinking

- 17.11 In busier premises the Licensing Authority would usually expect to see a short (e.g.30 mins) 'wind down' or 'drinking up' period allowed for after the cessation time of entertainment and alcohol sales as this is effective in assisting in a reduction in noise and exuberance of customers before leaving the premises.
- 17.12 Applicants will be expected to seek advice from the Police and the Licensing Authority will give appropriate weight to requests by the Police for premises to be protected by SIA registered door staff subject to the provision of relevant evidence. Where the Licensing Authority determines after consultation with the police that a premises is one that warrants additional security and monitoring it would expect applicants to include the provision of SIA approved door staff at the premises at appropriate times. Relevant premises are usually those used mainly for drinking alcohol, have later opening hours and are situated within the Town Centre night time economy area.
- 17.13 Where appropriate, applicants for licences in the Town Centre areas providing mainly alcohol, music and dancing would be expected to consider inclusion of a provision of safety glasses to prevent a risk of injury on the rare occasion that a glass may be used as a weapon.
- 17.14 The use of CCTV should be considered where appropriate or on the advice and recommendations of the Police and to a quality and standard approved by the Police for evidential purposes. Licensees will be expected to fully comply with the requirements of the Information Commissioners Office and the Data Protection Act 1998 in respect of any surveillance equipment installed at a premises.
- 17.15 In any application resulting in hearing the sub-committee will consider each application on its individual merits and determine the imposition of conditions that are appropriate to promotion of the licensing objectives.

17.16 CONDITIONS TO PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY.

The applicant will be expected to show how the physical safety of persons attending the premises will be protected and to offer any appropriate steps in the operating schedule to promote this.

- 17.17 Such steps will not replace the statutory obligation on the applicant to comply with all relevant legislation under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1973 or under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2004.
- 17.18 Applicants will be expected to have carried out the necessary risk assessments to ensure safe occupancy levels for the premises. Where a representation from the Fire Authority suggests that for the promotion of the Public Safety objective a maximum occupancy should be applied, the Licensing Authority will consider adding such a limit as a licence condition.

Where appropriate an operating schedule should specify occupancy limits for the following types of licensed premises:

- (i) High Volume Vertical Drinking e.g. premises that provide mainly stand up drinking facilities with limited seating/table space and the primary activity is the sale of alcohol
- (ii) Nightclubs
- (iii) Cinemas

- (iv) Theatres
- (v) Other premises where regulated entertainment is likely to attract a large number of people.
- (vi) Where conditions of occupancy have arisen due to representations received.

17.19 CONDITIONS TO PROMOTE THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE.

The applicant will be expected to detail any appropriate and proportionate steps to prevent nuisance and disturbance arising from the licensable activities at the premises and from the customers using the premises.

17.20 The applicant will be expected to demonstrate that they have considered the following and included steps to prevent public nuisance:

- (i) Proximity of local residents to the premises
- (ii) Licensable activities proposed and customer base
- (iii) Hours and nature of operation
- (iv) Risk and Prevention of noise leakage from the premises from equipment, customers and machinery
- (v) Prevention of noise from customers leaving the premises and customer pick up points outside premises and from the Car Park.
- (vi) Availability of public transport to and from the premises
- (vii) Delivery and collection times and locations.
- (viii) Impact of external security or general lighting on residents.
- (ix) History of management of and complaints about the premises.
- (x) Applicant's previous success in preventing Public Nuisance.
- (xi) Outcomes of discussions with the relevant Responsible Authorities.
- (xii) Impact of location, noise and contamination from outside smoking areas on neighbours and other customers
- (xiii) Collection of litter arising from the premises

17.21 Steps to prevent public nuisance may include a range of options including noise limiting devices, sound insulation, wind down periods, acoustic lobbies, management of smoking areas etc.

17.22 Steps will differ depending on the individual premises and activities and it is for the applicant to ensure that reasonable, effective and appropriate steps are included within the operating schedule.

9. Options

Legal options open to members -

Grant the variation application as applied for., or

Grant the variation and modify conditions of the licence, or

Reject all or part of the application.

Grant

Members of the Licensing Act 2003 – Licensing Sub – Committee are reminded of their duty under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the crime and disorder implications of their decisions and the Licensing Authority's responsibility to co – operate in the reduction of crime and disorder in the Borough

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1988 states:

"Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed on it, it shall be the duty of each authority to which this section applies to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those function on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can prevent, crime and disorder in its area".

12. **Implications Assessment**

The decision should be made with regard to the Secretary of State's Guidance and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003. Where the decision departs from either the Guidance or the policy clear and cogent reasons must be given. Members should be aware that if such a departure is made the risk of appeal/challenge is increased.

13. **Human Rights**

While all Convention Rights must be considered, those which are of particular relevance to the application are:

- Article 8 – Right to respect for private and family life
- Article 1 of the First Protocol – Protection of Property
- Article 6(1) – Right to Fair Hearing
- Article 10 – Freedom of Expression

The full text of each Article is given in the attached Appendices

14. **Conclusion**

Members must ensure that the application is considered on its merits, as well as against the relevant guidance, policy and statutory framework.

15. **List of Appendices**

| | |
|------------|--|
| Appendix A | Application Form |
| Appendix B | Plan of Premises |
| Appendix C | Representations – Responsible Authority |
| Appendix D | Trading Standards – representation |
| Appendix E | Applicants agreement & KCC TS withdrawal of reps |
| Appendix F | Existing Premises Licence |
| Appendix G | Plan of area |

16. Appeals

The applicant or any other person(objector) may appeal the Licensing Act 2003 Sub Committee's decision within 21 days beginning with the day on which the Appellant is notified. All/any appeals must be lodged with the Magistrates' Court. Parties should be aware that they MAY incur an Adverse Costs Order should they bring an appeal.

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| Contact: Email: | Senior Licensing Officer lorryneale@maidstone.gov.uk |
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