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North Devon Council
Brynsworthy Environment Centre
Barnstaple
North Devon EX31 3NP

K. Miles
Chief Executive.

LICENSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Licensing and Community Safety Committee will be held in the Barum Room - Brynsworthy on **TUESDAY, 14TH JUNE, 2022 at 10.00 am.**

(NOTE: A location plan for the Brynsworthy Environment Centre is attached to the agenda front pages. From the 7 May 2021, the law requires all councils to hold formal meetings in person. The council is also ensuring that all venues used are Covid secure and that all appropriate measures are put in place. There are a limited number of spaces available for members of the public to attend. Please check the Council's website for the latest information regarding the arrangements that are in place and the requirement to book a place 2 working days prior to the meeting [Taking part in meetings \(northdevon.gov.uk\)](https://www.northdevon.gov.uk))

Members of the Licensing and Community Safety Committee Councillor York (Chair)

Councillors Biederman, Bulled, Campbell, Cann, Chesters, Gubb, Henderson, Hunt, Pearson, D. Spear, L. Spear, Tucker and Yabsley (+ 1 Liberal Democrat Vacancy)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2022 (attached) (Pages 7 - 10)
3. Items brought forward which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered by the meeting as a matter of urgency
4. Declarations of Interests
5. To agree the agenda between Part 'A' and Part 'B' (Confidential Restricted Information)

PART 'A'

6. **Taxi Tariff - Consideration of Representations**
Public Protection Manager to report.

PART 'B' (CONFIDENTIAL RESTRICTED INFORMATION)

Nil.

If you have any enquiries about this agenda, please contact Corporate and Community Services, telephone 01271 388253

06.06.2022



North Devon Council protocol on recording/filming at Council meetings

The Council is committed to openness and transparency in its decision-making. Recording is permitted at Council meetings that are open to the public. The Council understands that some members of the public attending its meetings may not wish to be recorded. The Chairman of the meeting will make sure any request not to be recorded is respected.

The rules that the Council will apply are:

1. The recording must be overt (clearly visible to anyone at the meeting) and must not disrupt proceedings. The Council will put signs up at any meeting where we know recording is taking place.
2. The Chairman of the meeting has absolute discretion to stop or suspend recording if, in their opinion, continuing to do so would prejudice proceedings at the meeting or if the person recording is in breach of these rules.
3. We will ask for recording to stop if the meeting goes into 'part B' where the public is excluded for confidentiality reasons. In such a case, the person filming should leave the room ensuring all recording equipment is switched off.
4. Any member of the public has the right not to be recorded. We ensure that agendas for, and signage at, Council meetings make it clear that recording can take place – anyone not wishing to be recorded must advise the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.
5. The recording should not be edited in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or in a way that ridicules or shows a lack of respect for those in the recording. The Council would expect any recording in breach of these rules to be removed from public view.

Notes for guidance:

Please contact either our Corporate and Community Services team or our Communications team in advance of the meeting you wish to record at so we can make all the necessary arrangements for you on the day.

For more information contact the Corporate and Community Services team on **01271 388253** or email **memberservices@northdevon.gov.uk** or the Communications Team on **01271 388278**, email **communications@northdevon.gov.uk**.

North Devon Council offices at Brynsworthy, the full address is:
Brynsworthy Environment Centre (BEC), Roundswell,
Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 3NP.

Sat Nav postcode is EX31 3NS.

At the Roundswell roundabout take the exit onto the B3232, after about ½ mile take the first right, BEC is about ½ a mile on the right.

Drive into the site, visitors parking is in front of the main building on the left hand side.

On arrival at the main entrance, please sign in using the Track and Trace App and follow the signage and instructions in order to access the Meeting Rooms. Alternatively, dial 8253 for Corporate and Community Services if you have any problems.



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NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Licensing and Community Safety Committee held at Barum Room - Brynsworthy on Thursday, 12th May, 2022 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Members:

Councillor York (Chair)

Councillors Bulled, Cann, Gubb, Henderson, Pearson, D. Spear, L. Spear and Tucker

Officers:

Legal Advisor and Public Protection Manager

10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Biederman, Campbell, Chesters, Hunt and Yabsley.

11. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 APRIL 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2022 (circulated previously) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

12. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE MEETING AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

The Chair had received an update on a business whose premises licence had been revoked at a sub-committee hearing and invited the Public Protection Manager to update the Committee. The activities that had taken place at this premises highlighted an issue that is a problem nationally.

It was noted that the Committee agreed to instruct the Public Protection Manager to draft a letter to the relevant Government department lobbying for a change in legislation to allow Local Authorities recourse to take action on Premises continuing activities without a Licence.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest announced.

14. REPORT OUTLINING A PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE AN ANIMAL LICENSING POLICY

The Committee considered a report outlining a proposal to introduce an Animal Licensing policy (circulated previously), by the Public Protection Manager.

Lee Staples, Licensing Consultant gave the Committee the following points from the report:

- New animal licensing regulations came into force in 2018. This consolidated numerous other pieces of legislation into five animal activity categories.
- A public facing star rating system was now applicable with the option to pursue a 4 or 5 star rating with the accomplishment of higher welfare standards.
- The Local Authority would have to determine the suitability of an applicant to hold a licence to look after animals and proposals for how this was to be carried out was detailed in the proposed policy.
- A consultation to gain input and ideas from the public would be sent out to all Parishes via the clerks, current holders of licences and the general public.

The following responses were given to questions asked:

- There had been no consultation with Local Authorities on the introduction of a star rating system and the most a new business could be awarded was low with the view that they could work towards improved status within a three month period.
- The star rating awarded to a licence holder would be displayed for the public to see. No further information would be on display but more information could be obtained online.
- The new regulations gave the Local Authority more professionalism and confidence to make their ratings assessments as well as the ability to determine to refuse applications.
- There was no mention of how many dogs could be walked by a person at any one time. This was a potential feature of a Public Safety Protection Order (PSPO) and when that was next due for review this could be examined. The other option would be to introduce local by-laws.
- There was no record of complaints made to the Licensing Team about out of control dog walkers. This maybe something held by the Environmental Health Team or the RSPCA.
- Resourcing to cover the new workload had been highlighted by an internal Licensing audit as an area of concern.
- Work was underway to enhance application and inspection forms. In terms of improving efficiency, the improved declaration section surrounding documentation that was a pre-requisite of gaining a licence was likely to be beneficial. It was intended to be more robust, in terms of moving forward, with regard those documents expected to be available on the day of an inspection.
- It was not anticipated that there would be many sub-committees needed for the determination/review of an application.

RESOLVED that an 8 week public consultation be carried out on the proposed Animal Licensing policy.

Chair

The meeting ended at 7.27 pm

Agenda Item 2

Licensing and Community Safety Committee - 12 May 2022

NOTE: These minutes will be confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting of the Committee.

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