

Present: Councillor Frank Pickett (Chairman), Councillor Yvonne Stevens (Vice-Chairman), Councillors Tom Ashton, Alison Austin, Anton Dani, Stephen Woodliffe and Judy Welbourn

In attendance -

Officers –
Licensing and Systems Development Officer, Land Charges & Licensing Assistant,
Democratic Services Apprentice and Community Safety Manager

22 MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting held, 12 October 2021, were agreed and signed by the Chairman

23 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies of absence received

24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

25 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None

26 GAMBLING ACT 2005 - STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The Licensing Officer presented a report which explained that the Licensing Authority was required to consult on, adopt and publish an updated Statement of Principles every 3 years in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005.

The draft Statement of Principles was attached at Appendix A for members' consideration, comments and amendments. Any proposed changes to the existing Statement of Principles were highlighted yellow.

The committee was requested to approve the draft, including any amendments considered appropriate by the committee, and resolve that the draft be consulted on in accordance with the requirements of the Gambling Act 2005.

Members raised the following concerns:

- The figure provided for the current population of Boston was used from a 2019 source and would no longer be accurate.
- The amount of gambling premises located in the town centre.
- Language used for signs, posters and information is primarily English
- The door way and surrounding areas of the premises being used for littering
- Under 18s appear to be using the premises

In response to members' concerns the Licensing Officer;

- Agreed to change the wording surrounding the current population figure to read "the estimated population..."
- Explained that there was no limit set for the amount of Gambling premises allowed to be licensed in the town.
- Expressed that, although the Council cannot enforce the prevention of under 18s entering a gambling premises, the language used for signs or the conditions of the areas surrounding the premises – the Licensing Officer agreed to discuss these issues with the owners of those premises and come to a resolution.

ACTION: AM

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Correct typos throughout document (change in dates)• Update the wording in regards to the current population of Boston• Discuss with Gambling premises owners; under 18s using their premises, the conditions of the surrounding areas and suggest that posters and signs be available in multiple languages. |
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RESOLVED:

1. That the amendments suggested by the Committee be integrated into the draft statement prior to consultation
2. That the draft Statement of Principles be consulted on as required under the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005.

The Meeting ended at 4.00 pm