



B O S T O N

B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

Municipal Buildings, West Street, Boston, Lincolnshire, PE21 8QR

[13 January 2021

Our Ref:

Letter sent to all Parish Council Chairs

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Dear Parish Councillor

Regulating & Safeguarding Boston's Economy

Having received ongoing public complaints of anti-social behaviour within the borough and concerns relating to alcohol licensing, a task and finish group under the auspices of the parent Environmental & Performance Committee carried out an in depth review into regulating and safeguarding Boston's economy.

One strand of the review was to meet with representatives from both the Police and Council Licensing Teams. Following this meeting the Task and Finish Group made a number of recommendations which were subsequently agreed and accepted by the Cabinet.

One of the recommendations was that the Council provide greater education of the public and parish councils in their rights to respond to licensing applications and that guidance be readily available and circulated where possible.

You may be aware, at an early stage, of problems arising within your parish and you have an important role in being able to support the community to live and work in a safe environment.

As a Parish Councillor you can make representation both in favour or against the grant of a licence for the sale of alcohol within your parish. Such a representation can either be on behalf of residents/applicants who have sought support from their Parish Council; from the Parish Council itself; or individually in your capacity as a Parish Councillor. Parish Councils and councillors can also submit applications to review licences where problems from the sale of alcohol are occurring.

To date there has been some engagement by Parish Councils in the licensing application process. However, as a Borough Council we would like to encourage and support the parishes to be involved more proactively in the licensing process and feel they have adequate knowledge to do so with confidence.

Our website page provides advice on submitting representations and reviewing licences. This can be found at www.mybostonuk.com/licensing/premises-licence/



I would like to offer the services of our Licensing Manager, Fiona White, to support you in growing your knowledge of alcohol licensing law and understanding what can and cannot be considered when supporting or objecting to an application. I invite you to email any requests for advice or information to Fiona at licensing@boston.gov.uk or telephoning her on 01205 314242. Fiona is also available to attend one of your meetings to provide a presentation on alcohol licensing law, give advice on the matters outlined above and answer any questions you may have.

I look forward to you giving this full consideration and proactively engaging with the licensing process going forward.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Skinner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Skinner
Leader of Boston Borough Council