

Licensing Sub-Committee Decision Notice

Wednesday 15 January 2025

Objection against a Temporary Event Notice - Rhodees Restaurant and Lounge Bar, 2a Cambridge Street, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK2 2TP

On 15 January 2025, the Licensing Sub-Committee considered an Objection Notice from Thames Valley Police in relation to a Temporary Event Notice under Section 105(2) of the Licensing Act 2003 given by Ms Rhoda Akowuah, the premises user, for an event to take place on Saturday 18 January 2025 at Rhodees Restaurant and Lounge, 2a Cambridge Street, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK2 2TP, for a period of four hours, commencing at 23:00 hours to 03:00 hours, Sunday 19 January 2025.

In considering the Notice, the Sub-Committee took account of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003, the Licensing Act 2003 Guidance, the agenda report pack, Articles 1, 6 and 8 of the Human Rights Act 1998 and the representations made at the hearing from the premises user and Thames Valley Police.

Decision

The Sub-Committee resolved to not serve a Counter Notice to uphold the objection, and considered a modified Temporary Event Notice as follows:

1. **Supply of Alcohol**
23:00 hours to 01:00 hours.
2. **Late Night Refreshments**
23:00 hours to 01:00 hours.
3. **Regulated Entertainment**
23:00 hours to 02:00 hours.
4. However, in doing so the Sub-Committee encouraged the premises user to ensure that the premises close no later than 02:30 hours to take account of nearby local residents. Further, the Sub-Committee imposed the following conditions from the allied premises licence to the modified Notice:
 - 2.2 There shall be a notice at all exits at the venue used by patrons asking them to leave quietly and respect local residents.
 - 2.3 An adequate CCTV system shall be installed, maintained and operated at the premises. The CCTV system shall cover all licensed areas and all entrances and exits. The system shall record continuously whilst the premises is open to the public and for licensable activities. Images must

be of an evidentiary standard and be date and time stamped. The system installed must retain all images for a minimum of 28 days and these must be made available for the Police to view or remove on request. A member of staff trained in working the system and capable of downloading images shall be on duty whenever the premises is open to the public.

- 2.4 All persons involved in alcohol sales must receive full and adequate training on the law relating to licensing legislation, including but not limited to sales to underage children and sales to intoxicated people. A written record of the training that each person has received shall be maintained. All persons involved in alcohol sales shall have refresher training every 6 months. The training log and records are to be provided to the Police, the Local Authority or the Licensing Authority on request.
- 2.5 An effective 'Challenge 25 Policy' shall be implemented and maintained in place at the premises. Any persons appearing to be under the age of 25 who attempts to purchase alcohol must be challenged in respect of their age and required to provide adequate proof that they are over the age of 18 before they are sold or supplied with alcohol.
- 2.6 Only photographic based forms of identification shall be accepted as proof of age in respect of suspected underage sales. These must be accredited to the PASS scheme or subsequent equivalent but could also include passport, HM forces ID card, driving licence, national ID card.
- 2.7 A refusal log to record all attempts to purchase alcohol that were refused shall be kept on site and all refused sales recorded. The refusal log is to be provided to the Police, the Local Authority or the Licensing Authority on request (this can have no effect as the TEN only permits on supply of alcohol anyway, no off sales).

Reasons for the Sub-Committee's Decision

The Sub-Committee noted the concerns raised by Thames Valley Police, in particular whether the premises had been a residential dwelling; the hours applied for; the nature of the event; the security arrangements; an adequate risk assessment; the premises user did not hold a Personal Licence which indicated they had not had experience in running late night venues; and the event would undermine the Licensing Objectives 'The Prevention of Crime and Disorder' and 'The Prevention of Public Nuisance'.

The premises user had recently leased the restaurant in December 2024 and the Temporary Event Notice would be to promote the business. They had applied to be the Designated Premises Supervisor on the Premises Licence and an application had been submitted for a Personal Licence, which had not yet been granted.

The previous owner of the premises would be in attendance as the Personal Licence Holder for the event.

The event would be advertised locally, and patrons would not be required to purchase a ticket beforehand. The intended maximum number of people at the event was 80, and a risk assessment had been undertaken by Sentinel, the hired security company, and, as a result, three doormen would be employed for the duration of the event.

The Applicant had agreed modifications to the Notice with the Police:

- (a) **Supply of Alcohol**
23:00 hours to 01:00 hours.
- (b) **Late Night Refreshments**
23:00 hours to 01:00 hours.
- (c) **Regulated Entertainment**
23:00 hours to 02:00 hours.

These had alleviated the concerns raised by Thames Valley Police.

The Sub-Committee recognised the premises user had understood the concerns of the Police and wished her every success.

Appeal

Any Party aggrieved by the Decision given in this Notice may make a written Appeal within 21 days to the Clerk to the Justices, Milton Keynes Magistrates Court, 301 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK9 2AJ.