

---

## CENTRAL LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE, 22.04.10

---

**Present:** Councillors W. Tudor Owen (Chairman); Ieuan Roberts; Gwilym Williams.

**Also present:** Iwan Evans (Legal Services Manager), Geraint B. Edwards (Solicitor), Ceridwen Pritchard (Licensing Officer) and Gwyn Parry Williams (Committee Officer).

**Others invited to the meeting:**

**Applicant:** Mr Ian Williams (Licensing Co-ordinator, North Wales Police)

**On behalf of The Greek Taverna:** Mr George Politis (Licensee)

**Apologies:** Councillors June Marshall and Keith Marshall (local members)

### **1. APPLICATION TO REVIEW THE PREMISES LICENCE OF THE GREEK TAVERNA, 12-14 HOLYHEAD ROAD, BANGOR**

Submitted by the Licensing Officer – the report of the Licensing Manager providing details on the application of North Wales Police to review the premises licence of The Greek Taverna, 12-14 Holyhead Road, Bangor, following concerns about the site, but after receiving the application, the police had reached an agreement with the licensee. She referred to a letter received from the solicitor of the licensee accepting the agreement on his behalf. No observations had been received from the Trading Standards Section. A letter had been received from the Fire and Rescue Service confirming that the shortcomings detailed in their letter, dated 24 March 2010, had been resolved by now and that they had no further observations to make.

In considering the application, the following procedure was followed:-

- i. The Applicant was invited to expand on the application.
- ii. Members of the Sub-committee were given an opportunity to ask questions of the Applicant.
- iii. The licensee, or his representative, was invited to respond to the observations.
- iv. Members of the Sub-committee were given an opportunity to ask questions of the licensee.
- v. The Applicant and licensee, or his representative, were given an opportunity to summarise their case.

On behalf of the police, Mr Ian Williams, Licensing Co-ordinator, submitted a report detailing the incidents referred to in the application. He noted that three test purchases had been held at the premises, using a 15 year old girl, and alcohol had been sold to her on each of these occasions. Usually, failing three test purchases led to a full review of a licence. However, the police was of the opinion, when applying for that review, that an application for door supervisor conditions would be made, therefore, should the licensee be willing to vary the licence, a full review could be avoided. To this end, the licensee had attended a review meeting in August 2009 when he had agreed to the recommendation of the police to have door supervisors.

The Licensing Co-ordinator referred to a letter sent to the Council's Licensing Department from the solicitor of the licensee, asking to relax the conditions requested and to restrict the door staff to those evenings when live music was being performed. The police had been consulted; however, they were unwilling to relax the conditions.

Attention was drawn to an incident at the premises in February 2009 when an individual had been attacked. The police had received a statement by a member of staff regarding what had happened and she had noted that she, and another female member of staff, were the only persons who were working in the bar at the time. She had noted also that the premises had been busier than usual that day as a result of the international rugby match. The police were of the opinion that this incident of violence would not have happened if the premises had employed door staff.

He noted that the conditions requested by the police provided flexibility in terms of the extent to which they would be implemented. He was of the view, when considering the conditions, that consideration should be given to the lack of CCTV and to the fact that that shortcoming had caused problems to the police when they had investigated the incident of violence. Despite the fact that an offender had been under suspicion at the time of this application, the investigation could have been conducted much quicker if the incident had been recorded on camera. It was possible that the attack would have not happened at all if properly trained door staff had been employed at the premises. To this end, he recommended that such individual be employed at the premises from 20.00 hours onwards until the close of business every Friday and Saturday night, namely Option 3. The conditions had been discussed with the licensee and he had agreed to implement them. As a result of this agreement, the police withdrew the application to revoke the licence.

The members were invited to ask questions of the licensee and the following observations were submitted:

- Would it be possible to employ door supervisors on other occasions, such as Bank Holidays, Christmas and Halloween?
- That selling alcohol to underage persons was a serious issue and that it had to be ensured that this would not happen again.

The licensee replied to some of the points raised, namely:-

- That CCTV would be installed in the yard and in the bar area. It was expected that this work would be carried out in the next fortnight.
- That alcohol would be sold with meals only on the first floor.
- That the bar area would be monitored regularly.
- That meetings would be held with staff to ensure that alcohol would not be sold to underage persons.
- That, generally, Bank Holidays could be quiet; therefore he did not feel that a door supervisor needed to be employed at that time.
- That the premises was a member of the Pubwatch scheme.

The licensee, police representative, and Licensing Officer left the meeting and the application was discussed by Sub-committee members, considering all evidence submitted and giving appropriate attention to the principles of the act, namely:

- Crime and Disorder Prevention
- Public Safety
- Public Nuisance Prevention.

It was agreed that an opportunity would be given to the licensee to show improvements under the amended conditions with a forewarning that any evidence of similar incidents in the future would lead to the possibility of considering revoking the licence.

**RESOLVED to modify the conditions of the licence by adding the following conditions:**

**a) That any individual exercising a security activity (as defined by paragraph 2(1)(a) of schedule 2 of the Private Security Industry Act 2001) shall be licensed by the Security Industry Authority. Such individual will be employed at the premises from 20.00 hours onwards until the close of business every Friday and Saturday night.**

**b) That the Designated Premises Supervisor will keep a recognised register by the Police and Local Authority of all door staff employed at the premises. The register will include details of the start and finish times of the work, the name and SIA licence number of the person employed (including the name of the company that employs them, if relevant). The register to be kept on the premises, on a permanent basis, for inspection by the Police or Local Authority on request. After completing the register, it will be kept at the premises for at least a year from the completion date, and for the duration of that period, it will be available for inspection by the Police or Local Authority.**

**c) Digital CCTV coverage to monitor all areas open to the public including all entrances/exits (excluding inside the toilets). CCTV footage to be retained for 31 days and to be handed to the Police, or any other relevant, responsible authority on request. If unable to comply at the time, then the relevant footage to be taken to the nearest office of that authority (in this case, Bangor Police Station) as soon as practicable, and in any case within 48 hours.**

**(It was noted that the Police should visit the premises after the CCTV has been installed to see whether or not it has been installed in the right places).**

The Legal Services Manager reported that a letter would be sent to all participants at the meeting within five working days, confirming the Sub-committee's decision, and informing them of the right to appeal against the decision within three weeks of the date of that letter.

The meeting commenced at 2.30pm and concluded at 3.30pm