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**CENTRAL LICENSING COMMITTEE, 15-03-21**

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**Attendance:**

**Councillors:** Steve Collings, Annwen Hughes, Edgar Owen, Elfed Williams, Gareth Morris Jones, Elin W Jones, Eryl Jones-Williams, Angela Russell, Gareth Williams and Roy Owen

**Officers:**

Geraint Brython Edwards (Solicitor), Gareth Jones (Assistant Head - Environment), Gwenan Mai Roberts (Licensing Manager) and Lowri Haf Evans (Democratic Services Officer)

**1. ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR 2020/21**

**RESOLVED TO RE-ELECT COUNCILLOR ELFED WILLIAMS AS CHAIR FOR 2020/21**

**2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR FOR 2020/21**

**RESOLVED TO RE-ELECT COUNCILLOR ANNWEN HUGHES AS VICE-CHAIR FOR 2020/21**

**3. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor John Brynmor Hughes and Councillor Dafydd Owen

**4. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

No declarations of personal interest were received from any members present.

**5. URGENT ITEMS**

None to note

**6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Chair signed the minutes of a meeting of this committee that took place on 19 December 2019, as a true record.

**7. MINUTES OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES**

Accepted, for information, the minutes of the Sub-committees held on

26-01-21, 05-01-21, 26-11-20, 09-03-20, 18-12-19, 05-11-19 and 20-09-19

## **8. THE IMPACT OF THE COVID 19 CRISIS ON LICENSING SERVICES**

Submitted - the Licensing Manager's report outlining the work of the Licensing Unit, detailing how the unit had responded to the Covid-19 crisis by adapting and prioritising its responsibilities in order to contribute to the effort to manage the spread of the infection alongside the continuation of 'normal' services.

Attention was drawn to the impact of the crisis on the licensing services and to the challenging time ahead for the service as we emerge from lockdown. It was added that it would be necessary to review policy documents over the coming year, starting with the Licensing Policy Statement under the Licensing Act 2003. Once changes had been made to the (draft) Policy across North Wales, the intention was to submit the new draft Policy to the Committee, prior to the public consultation in the summer.

In response to a question regarding the 'minor changes' (para 4.6) that were needed in the draft Policy, it was expressed that these were 'small changes that would reflect current legislation and figures, with the substantial work of amending the Policy having already been implemented.

The Licensing Unit Officers were praised for their work and support during the time of the crisis.

The meeting commenced at 10.50am and concluded at 11.10am.