

**Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Licensing Sub-Committee on Tuesday, 20 June 2023**

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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**Part A – Items considered in public**

<p><b>A4</b></p>	<p>Bason Bridge Tap Room</p>	<p><b>Bason Bridge Tap Room</b></p> <p>The Licensing Sub-Committee had been asked to consider an application for a new premises licence for the premises known as Bason Bridge Tap Room, Unit 3, 129 Church Road, Bason Bridge, Somerset following objections from local residents. The Sub-Committee was advised that the Applicant had reached agreement with the Police and Environmental Health for conditions to be included on any licence that may be granted and therefore there was no objection from them.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee had considered all of the evidence presented by the Applicant and Objectors both in person and in writing. The Sub-Committee’s decision was made in accordance with the Council’s Statement of Licensing Policy, the Secretary of State’s Guidance and current case law.</p> <p><u>REASONS</u></p> <p>The Sub-Committee had duly considered the representations from all parties. In considering the application the Sub-Committee was mindful of the fact that the Applicant had agreed additional conditions with the Police and Environmental Health.</p> <p>The subsequent effect of the agreement with Environmental Health was to prohibit any music outside and to limit all regulated entertainment to Thursday to Saturday. The Sub-Committee welcomed the concessions by the Applicant in order to address the</p>
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		<p>concerns of the Objectors.</p> <p>It was apparent to the Sub-Committee that there was no overwhelming objection to the application for a premises licence in principle, however the terms of that licence especially in relation to music was a major concern to the objectors.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee recognised that this was a well-considered application with a comprehensive operating schedule. However, it was apparent to the Sub-Committee that the application whilst being comprehensive for the day to day activities of the provision and sale of alcohol was lacking when it came to regulated entertainment, particularly outdoors. It was to his credit that the Applicant had recognised those concerns and agreed to a set of conditions proposed by the Police and particularly Environmental Health that would significantly address those issues. The Applicant admitted that he had misunderstood the regulations regarding the licensing of music and his intention was to only have primarily background music.</p> <p>Many objectors were also concerned that the location was ill-suited to a licensed premises due to the additional car traffic it was likely to produce and the need for such a venture in the area. The demand for the premises was not a concern for the Sub-Committee. The Council has not adopted a cumulative impact policy and therefore this was not a consideration for the Sub-Committee. Similarly, the location of the premises was not, in the main, an issue. The Licensing Act 2003 was inspired by a government</p>

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		<p>whitepaper titled “Time for Reform – Proposals for the Modernisation of our Licensing Laws. Amongst the proposals it outlined was to encourage more self-sufficient rural communities. Given the acceptance of the Environmental Health conditions the Sub-Committee believed that additional traffic movement resulting from the business would be limited and not significant so as to cause a public nuisance. It had to be accepted that many issues regarding traffic and traffic movements were planning issues and not directly related to the remit of the Licensing Sub-Committee.</p> <p>The Applicant had also accepted 8 conditions proposed by the Police which further strengthened and enhanced those proposals already identified in his operating schedule and the Sub-Committee believed addressed the concerns of the Objectors over irresponsible drinking. As a result of this acceptance, the Police had not objected to this application and therefore it had to be acknowledged that crime and disorder was not a concern for them. Therefore, it was the belief of the Sub-Committee that the application, as amended by the addition of the agreed conditions, did promote the licensing objectives.</p> <p>Accordingly, it was the decision of the Sub-Committee to grant a premises licence to Cheddar Valley Pub Group Ltd for Bason Bridge Tap Room, Unit 3, 129 Church Road, Bason Bridge, Somerset on the following terms, together with the submitted operating schedule and the conditions agreed with the Police and Environmental Health:</p>

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		<p><u>TERMS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sale/supply of alcohol – from 12.00hrs – 2300hrs daily on the premises only</li><li>• The provision of regulated entertainment indoors only from 1900hrs – 2300hrs Thursday to Saturday only</li></ul>