

Licensing Committee

Minutes of a Meeting of the Licensing Committee held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on the **16th January 2024**.

Present:

Cllr. Feacey (Chair);
Cllr. Walder (Vice-Chair);

Cllrs. Hallett, Krause, Leavey, McGeever, Michael, Shilton.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 1.2(c) Councillor Leavey attended as Substitute Member for Councillor C Suddards.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Pickering, C. Suddards, L Suddards and Wright.

Also Present:

Environmental Protection and Licensing Team Leader, Principal Litigator, Senior Member Services Officer.

263 Declarations of Interest

Councillor	Interest	Minute No.
Feacey	Made a 'Voluntary Announcement' as he was Chairman of the Ashford Volunteer Centre.	265
Walder	Made a 'Voluntary Announcement' as the owner of a Vineyard within the Borough.	265

264 Minutes

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of this Committee held on the 17th January 2023 be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

265 Proposed Fee Levels for Gambling Act and Licensing Act Applications 2024/25

The Environmental Protection and Licensing Team Leader introduced the report which proposed fees for Gambling Act licences and notices for the financial year 2024/25 and he drew attention to the proposed fees contained within the report. Licensing Act fees relating to alcohol, late night refreshment and regulated entertainments were set nationally and not by the Licensing Authority.

Gambling Related Fees

The report recommended that the fees increased broadly in line with inflation, except where fees were at the statutory maximum as prescribed by regulation.

The Chair questioned whether a report could be received on the Ashford Community Lottery, updating the Committee on who the Council representatives were. The Committee felt that it was important that such an update be received annually, to ensure that the lottery was being run in the proper manner and had the necessary appointments made to it. The Environmental Protection and Licensing Team Leader confirmed that they would obtain this information and share with the Committee members by email following this meeting, along with details of the councils existing reporting mechanisms for the lottery.

The Environmental Protection and Licensing Team Leader advised that both the Statement of Licensing Policy and the Statement of Principles for Gambling policies were due to be reviewed. Whilst there appeared to be no major changes required to either policy, as they have been well maintained, it was proposed to consult upon the content of the existing policies and present updated draft policies to the Licensing Committee in the summer. Members of the Committee would be invited to comment on these policies directly, however they were invited to contact the Environmental Protection and Licensing Team Leader should they wish to feed into the process at an early stage.

Recommended:

That (i) the proposed fees for gambling applications be approved.

RECOMMENDED GAMBLING RELATED LICENCE FEES FOR 2024/25

Premises Type	New Application (£)	Annual Fee (£)
New Small Casino	8000 (8000)	5000 (5000)
New Large Casino	10000 (10000)	10000 (10000)
Regional Casino	15000 (15000)	15000 (15000)
Bingo Club	3144 (3500)	980 (1000)
Betting Premises (excluding Tracks)	3000 (3000)	600 (600)
Tracks	2458 (2500)	980 (1000)
Family Entertainment Centres	2000 (2000)	750 (750)
Adult Gaming Centre	2000 (2000)	986 (1000)
Temporary Use Notices	272 (500)	N/A

	Application to Vary	Application to Transfer	Application for Re-Instatement	Application for Provisional Statement	Licence Application (provisional Statement holders)	Copy Licence	Notification of Change
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
New Small Casino	3757 (4000)	1800 (1800)	1800 (1800)	8000 (8000)	3000 (3000)	25 (25)	50 (50)
New large Casino	4967 (5000)	2150 (2150)	2150 (2150)	10000 (10000)	5000 (5000)	25 (25)	50 (50)
Regional Casino	7500 (7500)	5910 (6500)	5910 (6500)	15000 (15000)	8000 (8000)	25 (25)	50 (50)
Bingo Club	1750 (1750)	1195 (1200)	1195 (1200)	3144 (3500)	1200 (1200)	25 (25)	50 (50)
Betting Premises (excluding Tracks)	1500 (1500)	1195 (1200)	1195 (1200)	3000 (3000)	1200 (1200)	25 (25)	50 (50)
Tracks	1250 (1250)	950 (950)	950 (950)	2458 (2500)	950 (950)	25 (25)	50 (50)
Family Entertainment Centres	1000 (1000)	950 (950)	950 (950)	2000 (2000)	950 (950)	25 (25)	50 (50)
Adult Gaming Centre	1000 (1000)	1195 (1200)	1195 (1200)	2000 (2000)	1200 (1200)	25 (25)	50 (50)
Temporary Use Notices	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	25 (25)	N/A

Ashford Borough Council's Licensing Authority proposes the following fees as shown in bold type in the table above. For ease of reference the maximum fees identified by DCMS that could be charged are shown in brackets.

- (ii) that the annual licensing summary in relation to the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005, at Appendix B to the report, be received and noted.
- (iii) That an annual update on Ashford Community Lottery be received at each fee setting meeting detailing the responsible Officers from the Borough Council.

Queries concerning these minutes? Please contact Member Services
Telephone: (01233) 330499 Email: membersservices@ashford.gov.uk
Agendas, Reports and Minutes are available on: www.ashford.moderngov.co.uk