

Licensing Sub Committee Hearing Panel

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 7 June 2023

Present: Councillor Grimshaw – in the Chair

Councillors: Connolly and Hewitson

LACHP/23/37. Summary Review Interim Steps - The Lawn Club, Hardman Square, Manchester, M4 3HG

The Hearing Panel considered a report from the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing regarding the above. The written papers and oral representations of the parties who attended were also considered, as well as the relevant legislation. All parties attended the meeting virtually.

The Hearing Panel noted that the premises were not opposing the Application however they considered the options open to them.

Notwithstanding that this was a third party event, the Hearing Panel was extremely concerned that a person had been able to enter the venue in possession of a gun and went on to brandish the weapon. Although there was a dispute as to the presence of a knife, a member of the public had still felt the need to phone the police and a male had been reported as unconscious at/in the premises.

The Hearing Panel expressed concern as to the safety of the staff and public as well to any potential reprisals from the offender(s). The Panel was not satisfied that a modification of any licence conditions, excluding the sale of alcohol or the removal of the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) would immediately address those concerns and took the view that the only immediate measure to address their concerns would be the immediate suspension of the licence to enable the premises to liaise with the police in relation to future preventative measures that could be put in place.

The Panel therefore considered the immediate suspension as the only measure and agreed that it was necessary and proportionate to prevent serious crime or serious disorder occurring or re-occurring and was appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objective of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder.

All parties agreed to a Full Review hearing date on 26 June 2023

Decision

To suspend the licence with immediate effect pending the full Review to be heard on the 26 June 2023 pursuant to s53B(3)(d) of the Licensing Act 2003