

Record of Decision

Licensing Sub Committee

Date of Hearing: Monday, 23 June 2025

Members: Councillors A Miscandlon (Chairman), P Hicks and

A Woollard

DETERMINATION OF AN APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE MADE UNDER THE PROVISION OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003 - SLAVSHOP, 51 WEST STREET, WISBECH, PE13 2LY

Application considered:

The Licensing Committee heard an application for a new Premises Licence from A Class Foods Limited for SlavShop, 51 West Street, Wisbech PE13 2LY.

The Licensing Committee heard from the Applicant, represented by the Director of the Applicant company, Lukasz Czarnik, accompanied by the proposed Designated Premises Supervisor, Karolina Cwik.

The Licensing Committee also heard from Other Persons who had made representations regarding the application.

Law and Guidance considered:

In making its decision, the Licensing Committee considered and had regard to:

- The Licensing Act 2003
- Fenland District Council's Statement of Licensing Policy
- The Guidance Issued Under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003

Legal Advice provided:

The Licensing Committee were reminded that their decision must be evidence-based, appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the Licensing Objectives engaged by the application, namely the Prevention of Crime and Disorder and the Prevention of Public Nuisance.

The Licensing Committee were reminded that they must only take into account relevant matters and to disregard any irrelevant matters raised or matters which fall outside the scope of the Licensing Act 2003.

The Licensing Committee were instructed to disregard the allegation of drug use made by one of the Other Persons during the hearing including the request for drug testing. The matter had not been raised in the relevant representations and should not have been brought up unannounced at the hearing.

Matters found to be irrelevant in this case:

The issue of persons parking illegally on West Street. Although parking can, in some limited circumstances, be a public nuisance, general issues of car parking are not relevant to the Licensing Act 2003.

The Licensing Committee disregarded any references to drug use by the Premises Licence Holder or its staff as these matters had not been raised previously and should not have been raised by Other Persons, without warning, at the hearing.

Reasons for reaching the decision:

The applicant took the Licensing Committee through its policies and procedures and indicated that it was happy to operate subject to the conditions agreed with the Police. The Committee reviewed the conditions requested by the Police Licensing Officer and found them to be appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the Licensing Objectives.

The Licensing Committee were not persuaded by the matters raised by Other Persons which lacked supporting evidence and seemed to pertain to matters outside the control of the Premises Licence Holder. The Licensing Committee did not feel that references to issues experienced by other licensed venues at their premises would nessarily occur at the applicant's premises. The Licensing Committee were mindful of the provisions of Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 and the ability of any person to bring a review of the premises licence if the Licensing Objectives are undermined.

Our decision is as follows:-

To GRANT the application for a new Premises Licence subject to the conditions agreed with the Police Licensing Officer.

PLEASE NOTE

Any person aggrieved by this decision can apply to appeal the decision within 21 days by making a complaint to:

Peterborough, Huntingdon and Fenland Magistrates Court The Court House Bridge Street Peterborough PE1 1ED

There may be a fee to pay.