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LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

9 October 2007

Present:- Councillor Cooper in the Chair

Councillors Hambleton and Mrs Williams

P R Washington - Clerk
Todd Woodhouse - Applicant
Steve Thirsk - Staffs Police Neighbourhood Management Committee
Alison Bromley - Staffs Police Licensing

520. * **LACE GENTLEMEN'S CLUB, NELSON PLACE, NEWCASTLE
TEN APPLICATIONS**

Issues

It was reported that representations had been received from Staffordshire Police who were represented at the meeting.

Decision

The Sub-Committee having taken into account the Licensing Act 2003, the relevant Guidance and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy, were persuaded, in the light of what had been said, that with the assistance of the applicant, people would be able to disperse safely during the period 12-15 December but over the Christmas period were not convinced that these initiatives were adequate.

The reasons behind the Sub-Committee's decision to refuse the application for 20-23 December were:-

Firstly there was insufficient infrastructure in place within the town centre to deal with the additional people who would be in the town during the festive period for the hours applied for.

Secondly the Sub-Committee were concerned that during the festive period, the premises would be a magnet for alcohol fuelled persons from other premises after they had closed.

Finally in view of the police evidence as to their experience over this period in previous years, as to the increase of crime and disorder in the vicinity and at the proposed terminal hour, the exit of persons from the premises would add to the identified hotspot area at a time when Police resources would be at their lowest level.

In summary, whilst the Sub-Committee were not convinced that there would be a problem over the first application, on balance they were convinced that to grant the second application would fail to promote the crime and disorder objective.

The Sub-Committee therefore granted the application in relation to the 12-15 December but refused the application for 20-23 December.

**J COOPER
Chair**