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LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

18 March 2010

Present:- Councillor Mrs Heames in the Chair

Councillors Hambleton and Slater

Councillor Cooper for residents

Margaret Wilcox – Porthill Residents' Association

Dot Webb – Porthill Residents' Association

Mr P Walker – Local resident

Mark Griffiths – applicant

Kelly Griffiths – applicant

Jill Sherratt - Solicitor

Hayley Coleman – The Sentinel

932. * 1 QUEEN STREET, PORTHILL

Issues

Representations had been received from a number of Interested Parties concerning crime and disorder, public nuisance and protection of children from harm.

Decision

Having taken into account the Licensing Act 2003, the S182 Guidance, the Council's statement of licensing policy and the fact that a number of interested parties had objected on the grounds of the crime and disorder, public nuisance and protection of children from harm objectives.

The Committee had listened carefully to both sides and were persuaded to grant the licence as requested.

Much had been said in evidence about anti-social behaviour, litter and parking problems. Whilst the Sub-Committee was sympathetic to what had been said, a recent High Court decision had made it clear that all determinations of licensing applications should be made on empirical evidence and should take no account of speculative evidence.

Further the guidance at 10.21 stated that shops should normally be free to provide sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises at any time when the outlet was open unless there were good reasons to restrict the hours.

The Sub-Committee was mindful that if there should be any future problems, the residents had a right to bring a review of the licence and in this respect they were advised to keep a note of any issues.

MRS A HEAMES Chair