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LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

27 November 2006

Present:- Councillor Hambleton in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Heames and Miss Reddish

A Jeffries	- Clerk to the Committee
H Aulick	- Solicitor (Staffs Police)
S Thursk	- Sergeant (Staffs Police)
G Blakey	- Environmental Health Officer (Newcastle Borough Council)
Lizzie Meek	- Radio Stoke
Margaret Astle	- Councillor, Kidsgrove
G Burnett	- Councillor, Kidsgrove
T Roberts	- Resident, Kidsgrove
R Ault	- Sentinel
F Peel	- Staffs Police
L Roberts	- Staffs Police

769. * THE PLOUGH INN, LIVERPOOL ROAD, KIDSGROVE - REVIEW

Issues

The Licensing Enforcement Officers called for a review of these premises following complaints received from residents within the vicinity of the premises.

Decision

Having taken into account the relevant representations from the responsible authorities and interested parties, both in writing and verbally, the Licensing Act 2003, the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy, the guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act and the four Licensing objectives resolved that the following steps be taken under Section 52(4) of the Act.

- (1) To remove Matthew John Jones as the Designated Premises Supervisor of the Plough Inn.
- (2) To revoke the premise licence of the Plough Inn.

The reasons for this decision are as follows:-

Crime and Disorder

Fights taking place regularly at, and outside, the premises.
Breaches of the Licence conditions.
Damage to property such as cars.
Public indecency including sex and urinating.
Drugs offences.

Public Safety

Injuries from fights, removal of glasses and bottles from the premises, risk of injury to the Police, absence of CCTV, lack of fire safety precautions.

Public Nuisance

Loud noise emanating from the premises from Karaoke, including late at night; loud noise including swearing and shouting from patrons leaving the premises late at night, unchallenged by the DPS, sometimes until 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning; frequent smashing of glasses and bottle; urinating by patrons in public including at, and near, the adjoining flats; abuse to residents and banging on doors; the worst noise being on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Protection of Children

Underage drinking, urinating in public in the sight of a Councillor's 13-year old daughter.

Reasons for Removing Designated Premises Supervisor

The premises were run without problems before Mr Jones became the DPS in February 2006. Despite interviews with the Environmental Health Department and the Police including in May and June 2006, he had failed to improve his management of the premises. Despite the previous DPS having submitted an Operating Schedule accepting conditions relating to CCTV, fire safety, arriving and leaving with open drinking vessels and no noise emanating from the premises to cause nuisance, the DPS had failed to comply. He had also been in breach of embedded conditions 1 (safety and compliance with conditions), 2 (deputy in absence of DPS), 3 (absence of person in charge), 4 (trained staff), 67 (fire log book), 7 (staff register) 9 (prevention of nuisance), 10 (attendants), 12 (emergency training), 65 and 67 (drugs) and 66 (noise nuisance).

**T HAMBLETON
Chair**