

BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL
LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 08 September 2026 at 12.30 pm

Present: Cllr S Bartlett, Cllr D A Flagg and Cllr P Hilliard

55. Election of Chair

RESOLVED that Councillor Flagg be elected Chairman of the Sub-Committee for the duration of the meeting.

Voting: Unanimous

56. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

57. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

58. Protocol for Public Speaking at Licensing Hearings

The protocol for public speaking at licensing hearings was noted.

59. Application to vary the Premises Licence at DrgnFly, 1 Bournemouth Road, Poole BH14 0EG

From BCP Council:

Ellie King – Licensing Officer

Paul Scorer – Licensing Enforcement Officer (observing)

Johanne McNamara – Legal Advisor to the Sub-Committee

Michelle Cutler – Clerk to the Sub-Committee

The Chair made introductions and explained the procedure for the hearing which was agreed by all parties. The Licensing Officer presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Mandy Eysers had made an application to vary the Premises Licence at DrgnFly, 1 Bournemouth Road, Poole, BH14 0EG. The application sought to vary the permitted hours for live and recorded music and late-night refreshment on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The proposed variation would permit live and recorded music between 10:00 and 03:30 hours and late-night refreshment between 23:00 and 03:30.

The Licensing Authority had received 28 representations from other persons, including 26 from local residents, 1 from Cllr Dion, a Poole Town

Council Councillor for the Ashley Cross area and 1 from Poole Town Council in relation to the application. One representation was subsequently withdrawn, leaving 27 outstanding representations. The representations raised concerns that granting the application would undermine the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and prevention of public nuisance licensing objectives. No representations were received from any Responsible Authority.

The following persons attended the hearing and addressed the Sub-Committee to expand on the points made in written submissions:

Mr Silas Eton – Applicant

Cllr Xena Dion – Poole Town Council Councillor, objecting

Cllr Emily Pankhurst – BCP Councillor, representing Wendy Stewart, and 1 other objector

The Sub-Committee asked various questions of all parties present and were grateful for the responses received. All parties had the opportunity to ask questions. All parties were invited to sum up before the Sub-Committee retired to make its decision. Before concluding the hearing, the Legal Advisor advised all parties of the right of appeal.

RESOLVED that the application to vary the premises licence for the Premises known as ‘DrgnFly’, 1 Bournemouth Road, Poole BH14 0EG, be GRANTED subject to the amendments proposed by the Applicant during the Hearing and the conditions imposed by the Sub Committee during the hearing.

The following amendments were made:

- The mediated amendments agreed with Dorset Police attached to Annexe 5 of the Report.
- Live music to be permitted on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 10:00hrs and 02:00hrs.
- Late night refreshment to be permitted on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 23:00hrs and 02:00hrs.

The following conditions were imposed by the Sub Committee:

- All amplified music must be controlled by a noise limiter and set at a level determined by Environmental Health.
- The front doors to the premises must remain closed at all times when recorded/live music is playing, except for access and egress.

Reasons for Decision

The Sub Committee considered all of the information which had been submitted before the hearing and contained in the report for Agenda Item 5, and the verbal submissions made at the hearing by Ellie King, Licensing Officer, Mr Silas Eton, Applicant and Director of Operations at ‘Drgnfly’ and

Cllr X Dion, Poole Town Councillor and Cllr E Pankhurst, BCP Councillor, both objecting on behalf of residents.

The Licensing Officer presented the application to vary the licence, which sought to vary the permitted hours for live and recorded music and late-night refreshment on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The proposed variation would permit live and recorded music between 10:00hrs and 03:30hrs and late-night refreshment between 23:00hrs and 03:30hrs. The Sub Committee noted that the premises already had an alcohol licence for the supply of alcohol on the premises between 00:01hrs and 00:00hrs seven days a week.

The Licensing Authority had received 28 representations from other persons, including 26 from residents, 1 from Cllr Dion, a Poole Town Council Councillor for the Ashley Cross area, and 1 from Poole Town Council in relation to the application. One representation was subsequently withdrawn, leaving 27 outstanding representations on the grounds that granting the application would undermine the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and prevention of public nuisance licensing objective. The Sub Committee noted that no representations had been received from any Responsible Authority.

The Applicant stated that the premises was a high-end restaurant and did not operate as a nightclub. The premises had a strict operations policy in place, which included a 'dress to impress' policy and it provided bottle and table service in a classy environment. No drinks or glasses were allowed to be taken outside.

The Applicant highlighted that the Premises already had an alcohol licence for 7 days of the week for 23hrs and 59 minutes each day and that he sought the variation of hours to enable customers to have the opportunity to continue drinking and eating at the 'Midnight Club' where food such as dumplings and sticks could be served alongside alcohol. The extended hours sought to enable a transitional period where customers could arrive later in the evening, after 22:00hrs and still order nibbles alongside their drinks.

The Applicant advised that customers were not allowed outside in the rear area after 23:00 hours. After this time if customers wanted to smoke, they used the area at the front of the building.

The door staff were in contact with other door staff in the area and helped to look after the surrounding area as well as the premises.

The Applicant was happy to comply with the conditions put forward by Dorset Police.

During the hearing, the Sub Committee viewed video footage submitted by an objector from Sunday 5 July 2026 at approximately 00:50hrs, which showed evidence of loud music coming from the open doors of the

premises. The Applicant advised that he had not been aware of this and agreed that it wasn't acceptable.

The Sub Committee noted the concerns of objectors which included that the premises was located in the heart of Ashley Cross, which was a residential area populated by families and the elderly, and that residents had to put up with customers parking outside of their properties, the noise and disturbance from inebriated customers leaving the premises and anti-social behaviour e.g. litter. Objectors felt that a variation of the licence until 03:30hrs on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays for live and recorded music and late-night refreshment was too late in a residential area and that if the variation in hours was granted it could attract undesirables and anti-social behaviour to the area.

In response to the objections raised, the Applicant commented that all food consumption was at the premises and no drinks were allowed to be taken outside so the litter was not from 'Drgnfly'. The Sub Committee also noted that there were several licenced premises in Ashley Cross and therefore noise from intoxicated persons could not all be attributed to 'Drgnfly'.

During the hearing the Applicant offered to reduce the hours sought for live music to between 10:00hrs and 02:00hrs and to reduce the hours sought for late night refreshment to between 23:00hrs and 02:00hrs. The Sub Committee, by majority, welcomed this amendment and agreed that these hours were more suitable in a residential area. The Sub Committee did not agree to extend the hours for recorded music (which the applicant had reduced during the hearing to 02.30 hours), due to the evidence of noise escape that had been provided by way of the video that was shown.

However, the Sub Committee had noted that there had been no complaints to the Licensing Team in relation to the premises. It noted that the existing hours were 02:00hrs for recorded music and the Sub Committee agreed that the existing hours should be retained due to the location of the premises and evidence of previous noise escape, but that these could be negated by the introduction of the added conditions relating to a noise limiter and keeping the doors to the premises closed save for access and egress as set out below.

The Sub Committee agreed to add a condition to the licence that all amplified music must be controlled by a noise limiter and set at a level determined by Environmental Health. In addition, the Sub Committee felt that adding a condition to the licence that the door to the premises must be kept closed whilst the premise was open and playing live or recorded music, except for access and egress, would help to mitigate the noise concerns raised by residents.

The Sub Committee was advised that Dorset Police Licensing Team had engaged in mediation discussions with the applicant. As a result of those discussions, agreement was reached to remove conditions that were no longer considered necessary, were duplicated by mandatory conditions, or were no longer appropriate to the operation of the premises. A number of existing conditions were also amended and updated to reflect current

operating practices and promote the licensing objectives, which the applicant had accepted.

The Sub Committee by way of majority decision was satisfied that if the premises operated in accordance with the conditions offered in the operating schedule of the application and the conditions agreed with Dorset Police and further amendments made by the applicant, together with the additional conditions set out above, that the premises should not undermine the licensing objectives and as such the application should be granted.

In making this decision the Sub Committee have had regard to the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council Licensing Policy, the revised guidance, as set out by the Secretary of State and the licensing objectives, as set out in the Licensing Act 2003.

In making this decision the Sub Committee considered the need to promote growth and deliver economic benefits as required by paragraph 1.18 of the S 182 Statutory Guidance.

It was noted however that a review of the premises licence may be sought at any time by a Responsible Authority or any other person should future issues arise that may undermine the licensing objectives.

Right of Appeal

All parties to the application have the right to appeal to the Magistrate's Court within the period of twenty-one days beginning with the day on which the applicant is notified by the Licensing Authority of this decision in writing.

60. Application to vary the Premises Licence at Lost 14a Commercial Road Bournemouth BH2 5LP

From BCP Council:

Ellie King – Licensing Officer

Paul Scorer – Licensing Enforcement Officer (observing)

Johanne McNamara – Legal Advisor to the Sub-Committee

Michelle Cutler – Clerk to the Sub-Committee

The Chair made introductions and explained the procedure for the hearing which was agreed by all parties. The Licensing Officer presented a report, a copy of which had been circulated and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Lascelles Richardson had made an application on behalf of VIP Events Ltd to vary the Premises Licence at Lost, 14a Commercial Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5LP

The application sought to vary the permitted hours for the exhibition of films, live and recorded music, performances of dance, late-night refreshment and the supply of alcohol. The proposed variation would

extend the terminal hour for these licensable activities by two hours, from 03:00 to 05:00, on Fridays and Saturdays and on Sundays immediately preceding a Bank Holiday Monday.

The application also sought to extend the licensed area to include the second floor of the premises, amend conditions 2.2 and 2.2.4 relating to the provision of SIA registered door supervisors and add a further condition in relation to SIA door supervisors.

The Licensing Authority had received six representations from local residents in relation to the application.

The representations raised concerns that granting the application would undermine the prevention of public nuisance licensing objective.

No representations were received from any Responsible Authority.

The following persons attended the hearing and addressed the Sub-Committee to expand on the points made in written submissions:

Lascelles Richardson – Applicant

Kathleen Rowley – Co-owner and Designated Premises Supervisor

Andrea Bolwig - Objecting

The Sub-Committee asked various questions of all parties present and were grateful for the responses received. All parties had the opportunity to ask questions.

During the hearing the Sub Committee resolved to pass the following resolution to go into exempt session where they viewed several videos submitted by Ms Bolwig, which she had filmed from her first-floor bedroom to show the level of noise she was experiencing:

‘That under Section 14 (2) of the Licensing Act 2003 Hearings Regulations 2005 and Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs such interest in disclosing the information.’

All parties were invited to sum up before the Sub-Committee retired to make its decision. Before concluding the hearing, the Legal Advisor advised all parties of the right of appeal.

RESOLVED that the application to vary the premises licence for the Premises known as ‘Lost’, 14A Commercial Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5LP, be GRANTED subject to the conditions agreed between the Applicant and Dorset Police in mediation as listed below:

- **Glassware policy will be in use and agreed upon with Licensing. A risk assessment and subsequent changes to any glassware policy shall take place for any events outside of the normal scope of operation.**

- **The Dispersal Policy shall be reviewed as required to ensure its continued effectiveness and suitability. Any amendments to the policy must be agreed in consultation with Dorset Police prior to implementation**

Along with the condition offered by the Applicant at the Sub Committee hearing:

- **Extra signage at the premises requesting patrons to leave quietly.**

The Sub Committee welcomed the Applicant's offer to open communications with residents, including setting up a WhatsApp Group.

Reasons for Decision

The Sub Committee considered all of the information which had been submitted before the hearing and contained in the report for Agenda Item 6, including the supplementary information submitted by the applicant, and the verbal submissions made at the hearing by Ellie King, Licensing Officer, Mr Lascelles Richardson, applicant, Ms Kathleen Rowley, co-owner of the premises and Designated Premises Supervisor, and Ms Andrea Bolwig, resident, objecting.

The Licensing Officer presented the application to vary the licence, which sought to vary the permitted hours for the exhibition of films, live and recorded music, performances of dance, late-night refreshment and the supply of alcohol. The proposed variation would extend the terminal hour for these licensable activities by two hours, from 03:00hrs to 05:00hrs on Fridays and Saturdays and on Sundays immediately preceding a Bank Holiday Monday. The application also sought to extend the licensed area to include the second floor of the premises, amend conditions 2.2 and 2.2.4 relating to the provision of SIA registered door supervisors and add a further condition in relation to SIA door supervisors.

The Licensing Authority had received seven representations from local residents in relation to the application. Six of the representations raised concerns that granting the application would undermine the prevention of public nuisance licensing objective, the seventh representation was in support of the application. No representations were received from any Responsible Authority.

The Licensing Officer confirmed that the licensing service had not received any complaints, however complaints had been made to Environmental Health, which had not yet been resolved. Environmental Health had not objected to the application.

The Sub Committee noted that the complaints stemmed from the noise of patrons leaving the premises and using the smoking area. The Sub Committee also noted that several Temporary Event Notices (TENS) had

taken place and that each TEN was sought to extend the licensable hours from 03:00hrs to 05:00hrs and heard from the Licensing Officer that no complaints had been received with the Licensing Team in relation to the TENS.

The Sub Committee heard from the Applicant that he had 20 years experience in the hospitality industry and that he had reached out to all objectors to find a solution. He advised that he had consulted with an engineering company and was in the process of applying for a planning application to move the existing smoking area to the rear of the premises. The variation in licence was required to raise the revenue to renovate the second floor of the premises and relocate the smoking area.

The Sub Committee were clear that they could only consider matters relevant to Licensing and that any planning issues were outside of their remit and not relevant to the application to vary the Licence.

The applicant advised he wanted to operate a responsible premises and uphold the licensing objectives. He was willing to listen to residents and build a long-term healthy working relationship, however, it wasn't being reciprocated by all persons who had made representations. The Applicant had met with Ms Andrea Bolwig and thought that progress had been made, and he was disappointed to see that this that this was no longer the case.

The Sub Committee heard from the applicant that he would put 2 'A' boards in place to remind customers to leave quietly and that he would remind security to ask customers to leave quietly. He was also willing to have an open WhatsApp group with residents where they could raise any immediate concerns and was also willing to give out his personal number so that residents could contact him.

The applicant was an active member of Bournemouth Townwatch. The premises had multiple SIA registered door staff, 7 first aiders and a full Dispersal Policy agreed with Environmental Health, BCP Licensing Team and Dorset Police.

The Sub Committee was advised by the applicant that the noise complaints had been submitted from residents living opposite the premises in a building that was above another licenced premises. He added that Bournemouth Square was very busy in the evenings as it was a town centre location. The applicant advised that 'Lost' opened at 22:00hrs and closed at 03:00hrs, with the premises reaching its capacity at 02:00hrs as the hospitality industry was moving later into the evenings.

The Sub Committee heard from Ms Bolwig, objecting, that she had met with the applicant had he had assured her that steps would be taken to reduce the level of noise, but this had not been the case. She was now unable to have her friends or family to visit because of the excessive noise. Ms Bolwig referred to the applicant's plans to restructure the second floor and relocate the smoking area but felt that this would be moving the issue elsewhere and noted that no planning proposal had been submitted. Ms Bolwig felt that a licence until 05:00am at weekends would bring more noise

and nuisance. At present, her sleep was being affected by the noise of patrons outside 'Lost' starting from midnight until 04:00hrs and there was also noise from taxis and other vehicles dropping off/collecting people.

The Sub Committee went into exempt session and viewed several videos submitted by Ms Bolwig, which she had filmed from her first-floor bedroom to show the level of noise she was experiencing. In response to this the applicant highlighted that the videos didn't show what was going on at a street level as walking through the Square was a lot louder as dozens of people tended to congregate in the area. The Sub Committee noted Ms Bolwigs comments that the noise level reduced when the applicant was present at the premises and the applicant offered a guarantee that he would be present every weekend.

In conclusion, the Sub Committee noted that noise complaints had been made to Environmental Health since May 2026, yet Environmental Health had not made an objection to the application to vary the licence, and no other Responsible Authorities had made representations. The premises was situated in the middle of Bournemouth Town Centre where several licenced premises were located, and where one would expect to find a level of noise associated with the nighttime economy.

The Sub Committee welcomed the applicants offering of extra signage at the premise requesting patrons to leave quietly and encouraged open communications between the applicant and the residents in the WhatsApp Group offered by the applicant. The Sub Committee had regard to the complaints made to Environmental Health regarding public nuisance but noted that Environmental Health had not submitted any objection to the application to vary the Licence.

The Sub Committee also noted that Dorset Police Licensing Team had engaged in mediation discussions with the applicant. Following those discussions, agreement was reached on the addition of the following conditions, which the Sub Committee accepted:

- A glassware policy will be in use and agreed upon with Licensing. A risk assessment and subsequent changes to any glassware policy shall take place for any events outside of the normal scope of operation.
- The Dispersal Policy shall be reviewed as required to ensure its continued effectiveness and suitability. Any amendments to the policy must be agreed in consultation with Dorset Police prior to implementation

The Sub Committee was satisfied that if the premises operated in accordance with the conditions offered in the operating schedule of the application and the conditions agreed between the applicant and Dorset Police, that the premises should not undermine the licensing objectives and as such the application should be granted.

In making this decision the Sub Committee have had regard to the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council Licensing Policy, the revised

guidance, as set out by the Secretary of State and the licensing objectives, as set out in the Licensing Act 2003.

In making this decision the Sub Committee considered the need to promote growth and deliver economic benefits as required by paragraph 1.18 of the S 182 Statutory Guidance.

It was noted however that a review of the premises licence may be sought at any time by a Responsible Authority or any other person should future issues arise that may undermine the licensing objectives.

Right of Appeal

All parties to the application have the right to appeal to the Magistrate's Court within the period of twenty-one days beginning with the day on which the applicant is notified by the Licensing Authority of this decision in writing.

The meeting ended at 3.45 pm

CHAIRMAN