

This report is public	
Premises Licence Review Hearing	
Committee	Licensing Act Sub-Committee
Date of Committee	15 April 2025
Report of	Jan Southgate, Health Protection, Compliance and Licensing Manager

Purpose of report

To consider an objection to a full variation received from the premises below to extend opening hours on a Friday and Saturday premises licence relating to:

The White Hart, 4 Sheep Street, Bicester, OX26 6TB: PRM0233

To set out the background information pertaining to this Variation Application in relation to The White Hart, 4 Sheep Street, Bicester, OX26 6TB: PRM0233.

1. Recommendations

There are no recommendations, but in considering the representations received and what is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives, the steps the Sub-Committee have are as follows:

- issue the licence as applied for or
- issue the licence with amended hours or licensable activities or
- reject the application if it is considered necessary in order to promote the licensing objectives

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 To consider an objection to the Variation to increase the hours of Late-Night Refreshment, Alcohol Sales and Regulated Entertainment for The White Heart, 4 Sheep Street, Bicester. The variation applied for is to increase the Licensing hours on Friday and Saturday from the current hours of 3am to 4am for Alcohol Sales with 30 minutes drinking up time and 4:30am for Regulated Entertainment. The variation also seeks to amend the conditions in annex 2 of the licence. By removing it in its entirety and replaced with the conditions as set out in part 3 of the variation, see appendix 3.

Implications & Impact Assessments

Implications	Commentary
--------------	------------

Finance	There are no financial implications arising from this report. Kelly Wheeler, Finance Business Partner, 1 April 2025			
Legal	The legal requirements are set out in the report.			
Risk Management	There are no risk implications arising directly from this report. Any risks related to this report will be managed through the service operational risk and escalated to the Corporate Leadership Risk register as and when deemed necessary. Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance Team Leader, 4 April 2025			
Impact Assessments	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Commentary
Equality Impact				N/A
A Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		/		
B Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		/		
Climate & Environmental Impact				N/A
ICT & Digital Impact				N/A
Data Impact				N/A
Procurement & subsidy				N/A
Council Priorities	N/A			
Human Resources	N/A			
Property	N/A			
Consultation & Engagement	When an application for a Variation to a Premises License is received the applicant must display a Blue Notice at or near the relevant premises. The consultation period runs for 28 days from the day after the application is received. This gives Interested Parties and Responsible Authorities the opportunity to make representations in relation to the application.			

	<p>The 28 day consultation period ran from the 6 March until the 3 April, 2025. The application has been advertised in accordance with the regulations, with the required Blue Notices being displayed at the premises, photographic evidence of the notices affixed at the premises were received on the 6 March 2025. The Variation was advertised on 13 March 2025 with a Public Notice being placed in the Bicester Advertiser.</p> <p>During the consultation period 1 objection to the licence variation was received from Thames Valley Police, this was received on the 24 March 2025.</p> <p>Details of the objection is attached to this report as Appendix 3. It should be noted, under section 13(4) of the Act the Licensing Authority may submit objection as one of the responsible authorities.</p> <p>Environmental Health, Planning, Health Protection, Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service, Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children's Board, Trading Standards, Home Office immigration and the Secretary of State responded with either 'no objections' or 'no comments' to make' or did not respond to the consultation.</p> <p>All information and evidence from the License holder, interested parties, and responsible Authorities will be presented to the committee by the respective parties.</p>
--	---

Supporting Information

3. Background

3.1 The White Hart is a Public House situated in Bicester at 4 Sheep Street, Bicester OX26 6TB.

3.2 The White Hart holds a premises licence (originally issued in 2019 and variation agreed in 2020) which currently allows licensable activities as listed below:

Sale of Alcohol Thursday 10.00 - 0200 (on and off the premises)

Sale of Alcohol Sunday to Thursday 10.00 - 01.00 (on and off the premise)

Sale of Alcohol Friday to Saturday 10.00 – 03.00 (on and off the premises)

Late Night Refreshment (indoors) Sunday 23.00 – 02.00

Late Night Refreshment (indoors) Friday and Saturday 23.00 – 03.00

Late Night Refreshment (indoors) Monday to Thursday 23.00 – 01.30

Regulated Entertainment (indoors) Sunday 10.00 – 01.30

Regulated Entertainment (indoors) Friday and Saturday 10.00 – 03.30

Regulated Entertainment (indoors) Monday to Wednesday 10.00 – 01.00

4. Details

- 4.1 On the 5 March 2025 the Licensing Authority received an application from Spirit Pub Company (Leased) Limited for The White Hart, 4 Sheep Street, Bicester OX26 6TB. The application seeks to vary a premises licence under Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003. The application is recorded under application number 21963. A copy of the application is attached as **Appendix 1**. A copy of the plan of the premises is attached as **Appendix 2**.

- 4.2 The variation application seeks to permit the following extension to the licensing hours:

The hours applied for are as follows:

Opening Hours Friday – Saturday 09:00 – 04:30

Sale of Alcohol (on and off sales)

Friday - Saturday 10:00 – 04:00

Regulated Entertainment Friday – Saturday 10:00 – 04:30

Late Night Refreshment Friday – Saturday 23:00 – 04:00

The opening hours shall also be extended to allow for 30 minutes drinking up time, meaning the pub will close at 4:30am.

The variation also seeks to amend the conditions in annex 2 of the licence. By removing it in its entirety and replaced with the conditions as set out in part 3 of the variation, see appendix 3.

- 4.3 The application was validated on the 5 March and the consultation process began on the 6 March and ran until 3 April 2025.
- 4.4 A hearing was arranged on the 15 April 2025 in accordance with Schedule 1 of The Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.
- 4.5 Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee are asked to determine the application as the Licensing Authority has received a representation stating that the grant of this application would undermine the prevention of crime and disorder, and public safety licensing objectives.
- 4.6 The Licensing Authority may only consider aspects relevant to the application that have been raised in the representation.
- 4.7 Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee are requested to determine the application having regard to the operating schedule, representations received, the Councils Statement of Licensing Policy, revised guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and the four licensing objectives.
- 4.8 An authorisation is required in respect of any premises where it is intended to conduct one or more of the licensable activities, these being:

(a) Sale of alcohol

(b) Supply of alcohol (in respect of a club)

- (c) Regulated Entertainment
- (d) Provision of Late Night Refreshment

An appropriate authorisation is either, a premises licence, a club premises certificate, or a Temporary Event Notice.

- 4.9 Licence holders are required, when offering any licensable activity, to ensure that they promote the licensing objectives at all times. The operating schedule of the application contains detail of all the activities applied for and the control measures that the applicant will have in place in order to promote these objectives. Such measures will, where appropriate be converted into enforceable conditions on any licence issued.

The four licensing objectives are:

- (a) Prevention of crime and disorder
 - (b) Prevention of public nuisance
 - (c) Public Safety
 - (d) Protection of children from harm.
- 4.10 Where representations have been received from a responsible authority or any other person, and the concerns have not been resolved through mediation between all parties, the Licensing Act 2003 requires that these applications should be determined by the Licensing Authority's Licensing Committee. The Licensing Act 2003 allows for applications such as this one to be delegated to a Sub-Committee. In accordance with those rules, the Scheme of Delegation set out in the Council's Constitution states that the Licensing Sub-Committee has responsibility for dealing with this application.

5. Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 5.1 At the end of the consultation period the licensing authority must hold a hearing if relevant representations are received. It must take such steps as it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives, which are:

- the prevention of crime and disorder
- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance
- the protection of children from harm

- 5.2 The steps the Sub-Committee can take are to:

- issue the licence as applied for;
- issue the licence with amended hours or licensable activities
- reject the application if it is considered necessary in order to promote the licensing objectives

6 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendation

- 6.1 There is no recommendation.

Decision Information

Key Decision	N/A
Subject to Call in	N/A
If not, why not subject to call in	N/A
Ward(s) Affected	Bicester East

Document Information

Appendices	
Appendix 1	Current Premises Licence (2020)
Appendix 2	Licence Plan
Appendix 3	Full Variation Application
Appendix 4	Objection to Full Variation
Report Author	Mr Jan Southgate, Health Compliance and Licensing Manager
Report Author contact details	01295 753744 licensing@cherwell-dc.gov.uk