

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE
HELD ON 6TH MARCH 2024
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT –

Councillor Y. Tennant (Chair)

Councillors:

*S. Ahmed
M. Hanif
D. Lord*

Officers in attendance:

<i>W. Iqbal</i>	<i>Licensing Officer</i>
<i>E. Barker</i>	<i>Legal Services Manager</i>
<i>L. Rowland</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>

Observers:

<i>R. Lonsdale</i>	<i>Licensing Admin Officer</i>
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(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M. Aslam, K. Salter and M. Strickland.)

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5. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED

That Councillor M. Hanif be appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2023/24.

6. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

7. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**8. THE LICENSING ACT 2003 –
INFORM THE LICENSING COMMITTEE THAT A PERSONAL LICENCE HOLDER
HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A RELEVANT OFFENCE**

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report which informed Members that Mr Sohail Arif, a Personal Licence holder, had been convicted of a relevant offence after the grant of the licence.

Representations had been made by Lancashire Police under the 'Prevention of Crime and Disorder' and 'Public Safety' licensing objectives with a request that the license be revoked.

The Members and all relevant parties had received a copy of the report which included several appendices relating to the Personal Licence and the offence committed.

The hearing was attended by PC Phill Needham of Lancashire Police, who had made representations.

RESOLVED

That, having considered the evidence presented and listened to the representations made, the Personal Licence in the name of Mr Sohail Arif, granted on 19th August 2020 under the Licensing Act 2003, be revoked.

REASON

- (a) Notification was received from the Police that Sohail Arif had been convicted of possession with intent to supply class A drugs, namely heroin and crack cocaine and was sentenced to 32 months imprisonment.***
- (b) The offences took place on premises where Mr Sohail is the Designated Premises Supervisor and is the Director of the company that holds the Premises Licence.***

The matters set out in the paragraphs above had and/or have the effect of undermining the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety.

In these circumstances it is considered that revocation of the licence serves to promote both the crime prevention objective and the public safety objective.

In reaching its decision, the Committee took into consideration the following factors:

- a. The report presented by Wajed Iqbal for the Council;***
- b. The submissions made on behalf of the Police;***
- c. The provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 and the four Licensing objectives;***
- d. The Human Rights Act 1998;***
- e. The Council's Statement of Licensing Policy;***
- f. The guidance issued by the Secretary of State under s182 of the Licensing Act 2003.***

Consideration has been given to all the powers available to the licensing authority under section 132A of the Act and concludes that revocation of the licence is both necessary and proportionate in the circumstances.

CHAIR _____