

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE
HELD ON 13TH JANUARY 2026
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT –

Councillor Y. Tennant (Chair)

Councillors:

*M. Aslam
D. Gallear
M. Hanif
D. Lord
M. Stone*

Officers in attendance:

<i>R. Lonsdale</i>	<i>Licensing Administration Officer</i>
<i>E. Barker</i>	<i>Legal Services Manager</i>
<i>L. Rowland</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S. Ahmed and D. Hartley.)

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8. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

Members' attention was also drawn to the requirements of the Council's Code of Conduct relating to the disclosure of Other Registrable Interests and Non-Registrable Interests.

9. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**10. THE LICENSING ACT 2003 –
APPLICATION TO REVIEW A PREMISES LICENCE –
CROWN CONVENIENCE STORE, 121a ALBERT ROAD, COLNE**

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report for Members to consider a review application for a Premises Licence, brought by Pendle Borough Council (PBC) Licensing, a Responsible Authority under the Licensing Act 2003. A representation had been received from Lancashire Police supporting the review application.

The review related to the premises not meeting the licensing objectives of the 'Prevention of Crime and Disorder' and the 'Protection of Children from Harm'.

The Members and all relevant parties had received a copy of the report which included a copy of the application for review, a timeline of events, and the representations received. Additional

evidence from PBC Licensing, Lancashire Police, and the Licence holder had been circulated prior to the meeting and was submitted for consideration.

The Designated Premises Supervisor Mr George Kalaiselvan attended the meeting accompanied by his son Mr Jacob Kalaiselvan, Mr Sasivarnan and Licensing Consultant Mr Bill Donne. The Premises Licence Holder, Mr Sheron Niroshan Jeromjeyabalan had been unable to attend due to illness.

Also in attendance was Wajed Iqbal, PBC Licensing, who had submitted the review application, and PS541 Steve Dundon who had made representations.

RESOLVED

That, having listened to the representations made in respect of the Premises Licence review brought by the Licensing Authority under the Licensing Act 2003 for Crown Convenience Store, 121a Albert Road, Colne, it be agreed that the Premises Licence be suspended for two months and the following conditions be added to the licence -

- A colour CCTV system will be installed and maintained at the premises. Cameras will cover all internal licensable areas and the external area immediately in front of the premises. The system will be capable of continuously recording and copies of such recordings shall be kept for a period of not less than 31 days.
- Images must be downloaded onto a USB drive supplied by the Premises when requested by the Police or an 'Authorised Person' (as defined by section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or Authorised Trading Standards personnel of the Local Authority / Council with associated software.
- The CCTV images shall be supplied to the Police or an 'Authorised Person' (as defined by section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or Authorised Trading Standards personnel of the Local Authority / Council within 72 hours of the request (either by email, in person or via a letter).
- The Premises Licence Holder and / or Designated Premises Supervisor must be fully trained on how to download the images for sharing with the Police or an 'Authorised Person' (as defined by section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or Authorised Trading Standards personnel of the Local Authority / Council.
- A member of staff / management who is fully trained on the CCTV system to always be on duty when the premises is open to the public when large events are happening with the town. 'Large event' meaning any event taking place within the town centre like Rhythm & Blues Festival, Soap Box Challenge, Colne Gala, Christmas light switch-on, or any other event which the Police and the Licensing Authority advise the premises of.
- The CCTV system will be checked daily to ensure it is operating without any faults / failures, and this information must be recorded in a proper bound book which must be kept for a minimum of 12 months and produced on request to the Police or an 'Authorised Person' (as defined by section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or Authorised Trading Standards personnel of the Local Authority / Council and must contain:
 - a) Date / time of check.
 - b) Name of person checking.
 - c) Is system fully operational or faulty.

- d) If faulty what action taken.
 - e) Any other relevant information.
- Should any faults and failures be identified by the premises, these must be rectified immediately. The premises must cease licensable activities until the fault has been fully rectified, and the CCTV is fully operational.
- The premises will prominently display signage informing customers that CCTV is in operation at the premises.
- During large events, all persons involved in the sale of alcohol (behind the counter or if TEN applied for externally) must be holders of a Personal Licence.
- During these events, the Premises Licence Holder and / or DPS must be either on-site to oversee the premises or be contactable via the telephone for the Police or an 'Authorised Person' (as defined by section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or Authorised Trading Standards personnel of the Local Authority / Council.
- During large events within the town, one of the following persons will be on duty externally to observe for proxy sales to prevent sales to underage children, sale to drunk persons or any related matters from occurring:
 - a) Premises Licence Holder.
 - b) Designated Premises Supervisor.
 - c) Personal Licence Holder.
 - d) Any other qualified person i.e. SIA registered Door Supervisor(s).
- A 'Challenge 25' policy shall be in place at the premises with posters displayed on the entrance doors and behind the counter as well as around the premises where alcohol is on display.
- All persons engaged in licensable activities at the premises will complete formal certificated training and information in relation to the following:
 - a) The 'Challenge 25' scheme, including the forms of identification that are acceptable which are a valid passport, DVLA driving licence, 'Prove it' / Citizens Card.
 - b) The hours and activities permitted by the Premises Licence issued under the Licensing Act 2003 and conditions attached to the licence.
 - c) How to complete and maintain the refusal register and daily CCTV log book in operation at the premises.
 - d) Identifying vulnerability and drunkenness within customers and how to refuse service to any person who is drunk, under-age, appears to be under-age, or appears to be making a proxy purchase.
 - e) Action to be taken in the event of an emergency, including reporting an incident to the emergency services.
- All training shall be recorded in writing. This recording must include details of what the training consisted of (i.e. the content of the training), the date and time the training took place, the name and signature of the member of staff receiving the training & the name and signature of the person administering the training.
- All members of staff shall receive refresher training in relation to the above every 12 months and prior to them starting employment.

- A record of this staff training must be kept at the premises for the previous 18 months and made available for inspection by the Police or an 'Authorised Person' (as defined by section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or Authorised Trading Standards personnel of the Local Authority / Council. In the case of on-line training: within 48 hours, in all other cases: immediately upon request.
- A 'Register of Refusals' of alcohol will be maintained at the premises and be kept for a minimum of 12 months. The register will be made available for inspection by the Police or an 'Authorised Person' (as defined by section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003) or Authorised Trading Standards personnel of the Local Authority / Council.
- This will record the following:
 - a) Date and time of refusal.
 - b) Products person(s) tried to purchase.
 - c) Reason for refusal.
 - d) Description of individual(s) refused.
 - e) Name of person refusing.
- All information recorded in any registers or books must be clearly legible and easy to read by anyone inspecting them.
- To comply with any reasonable request of the Police, the Licensing Authority or any other Responsible Authority officer during any events happening within the town.
- Firefighting equipment and First Aid Kit available for use by staff and must be kept up to date.
- A notice must be displayed in a prominent position requesting customers to leave the premises quietly and not to cause nuisance when leaving.

REASON

- (a) ***The Committee considered the representations of the Licensing Authority, the Police as Responsible Authority and the Premises Licence Holder (PLH) and Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS), via their representative.***
- (b) ***The Committee accepted that there was evidence of only one underage sale on the premises. There were other young people served with alcohol on the CCTV footage, but no evidence that they were under the age of 18. The Committee did believe, and the PLH/DPS accepted that they looked under 25 and official ID should have been checked.***
- (c) ***The Committee also took into account that on one occasion, the premises sold alcohol beyond its boundary not in accordance with the Premises Licence and that there were two instances of them trading beyond their licensing hours.***
- (d) ***The proposed DPS stated in an email of 3rd September 2025 that they had taken the underage sale seriously and that training on 'Challenge 25' would be given to staff. There was a visit by the Police/Licensing Authority on the 10th December 2025 and it was clear that this training had not taken place.***
- (e) ***Despite repeated requests, the name of the staff member that sold the alcohol to a minor was not disclosed until the review proceedings were commenced.***
- (f) ***A two-month suspension will allow time for the premises to embed the new conditions prior to sales of alcohol taking place.***
- (g) ***It is considered that the suspension and addition of conditions are justified,***

appropriate and proportionate and serve to promote the protection of children from harm and the prevention of crime and disorder licensing objectives.

(h) ***Consideration has been given to all the powers available to the Licensing Authority under section 52 of the Act and concludes that the suspension and the addition of the conditions on the licence is both necessary and proportionate in the circumstances.***

(On conclusion of the first hearing Councillor M. Hanif gave his apologies and withdrew from the meeting.)

11.

**THE LICENSING ACT 2003 –
APPLICATION TO VARY THE DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR
AND TO TRANSFER THE PREMISES LICENCE –
CROWN CONVENIENCE STORE, 121a ALBERT ROAD, COLNE**

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report for Members to consider applications to vary the Designated Premises Supervisor and to transfer the Premises Licence in respect of Crown Convenience Store, 121a Albert Road, Colne.

The applications had been made by SVVP Agam Ltd, whose sole Director was Mr Manokaran Sasivarnan, and had been submitted on their behalf by their agent, InnPacked.

The applications were to transfer the Premises Licence from Mr Sheron Niroshan Jeromjeyabalan to SVVP Agam Ltd and to vary the Designated Premises Supervisor from George Kalaiselvan to Manokaran Sasivarnan.

Representations had been made by Lancashire Police under the licensing objective 'Prevention of Crime and Disorder'.

The Members and all relevant parties had received a copy of the report which included a copy of the applications and the representation received.

The applicant, Mr Sasivarnan attended the meeting accompanied by Licensing Consultant Mr Bill Donne, Mr George Kalaiselvan and Mr Jacob Kalaiselvan. Mr Sheron Niroshan Jeromjeyabalan had been unable to attend due to illness.

Also in attendance was PS541 Steve Dundon who had made representations, and Wajed Iqbal, PBC Licensing.

RESOLVED

That, having listened to the representations made in respect of the application to transfer the Premises Licence and vary the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Crown Convenience Store, 121a Albert Road, Colne, the applications be granted.

REASON

It is considered that the two-month suspension and conditions imposed at the review hearing and the attendance at committee is enough to be a lesson learnt in respect of compliance with the conditions on the licence going forward.

CHAIR _____