

Minutes of the **Licensing Sub-Committee**
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**
held in The Crosfield Hall Annex, Broadwater Road, Romsey
on Friday 30 January 2015 at 9.30 a.m.

Attendance:

Councillor A Hope (P) Councillor A Johnston (P)
Councillor A Tupper (P)

Also in attendance:

Mr Gareth Lewis on behalf of Southern Co-op
Mr Jon Wollsgrove, Solicitor for Southern Co-op
Mr D Kay (Objector)

1 **Appointment of Chairman**

Resolved:

That Councillor Hope be appointed Chairman for the duration of the meeting.

2 **Application for a new Premises Licence – Co-op,
Botley Road, Romsey**

The Sub-Committee considered an application by the Southern Co-operative Limited, for a new premises licence for the premises known as Co-op, Botley Road, Romsey, SO51 8ZL.

The premises do not currently hold any form of licence under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003. The applicants have applied for a Premises Licence for the sale by retail of alcohol for consumption off the premises from 0800 to 2200 hours seven days a week. The applicants had originally sought a licence until 2300 hours as they were unaware that there is a planning condition restricting opening until 2200 hours Monday to Saturday. Upon being advised of this the application was amended. This application has attracted representations necessitating the application to be determined at a hearing.

The premises will be a newly built convenience store on the site of the former Hillers Garden Centre in Botley Road, a residential area within Romsey town. The store forms part of the overall redevelopment of the site which will house an older persons' residential complex.

The Applicant's Solicitor was invited to address the Sub-Committee. He outlined the background and trading objectives of Southern Co-op. He then explained how the company policies met the current licensing objectives.

He suggested that there was no evidence to support the comments raised by the objectors and added that the responsible authorities were satisfied with the conditions proposed.

The Sub-Committee then heard representations from Mr D Kaye who reiterated the points made in his letter of objection in Annex 3 of the report. He argued that the grant of the Licence would add to the existing problems of anti-social behaviour and litter in an area which was a valued asset to the local community.

The Sub-Committee were then given to opportunity to ask questions of the representatives of each of the parties and the parties of each other.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to enable the Sub-Committee to consider the matter.

Upon return, the Chairman informed the meeting that the Sub-committee, in reaching its determination upon the matter, had had regard to the National Licensing Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, Test Valley Borough Council's own Licensing Policy, together with the representations made at the Hearing and in writing.

DECISION

The Sub-Committee was extremely sympathetic to the concerns raised by Mr Kaye and other local residents relating to the deposit of litter and anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of the premises. However, the Sub-Committee was of the view that matters of that sort occurring away from the licensed premises were not within its remit to deal with.

The Sub-Committee would welcome proactive management of the internal controls within the initial settling in period to ensure that the premises was run as effectively as possible.

Resolved:

That the premises licence be granted subject to the conditions contained in Annex 2 of the report.

(Meeting terminated at 10.44 am)