

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE – 15TH AUGUST 2017
REPORT OF THE LICENSING OFFICER

**APPLICATION FOR THE VARIATION OF A LICENSED PREMISES GAMING
MACHINE PERMIT – GAMBLING ACT 2005**

1 Summary of application

Premises Licence Holder
Stonegate Pub Company Limited
Address of Premises
The Two Willows Public House, 9 Howardsgate, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6AT

- 1.1 To bring to the attention of Members an application by Poppleston Allen Solicitors in respect of an Application for Variation of a Premises Gaming Machine Permit under the Gambling Act 2005 for The Two Willows Public House, 9 Howardsgate, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6AT.
- 1.2 The application made on behalf The Premises Licence holder, Stonegate Pub Company Limited requests to increase the number of category C gaming machines from 5 to 6. A copy of this application is shown in Appendix A. A category C machine allows a maximum stake of £1 with a maximum prize of £100.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Two Willows has a Premises Licence (number PA28278) authorising the sale of alcohol under the Licensing Act 2003, and a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit (number WK11097/010911) which allows up to 5 Category C gaming machines.
- 2.2 The Council's Gambling Policy 2016-19 states where a premises intends to have more than five machines, it needs to be referred to a licensing subcommittee of councillors.
- 2.3 The Police have been contacted in relation to any crime related activity with the gaming machines and there are no crime disorder issues with the pub that would cause concern around an extra gaming machine.

- 2.4 A licensing officer from the Council attended the premises on 11th July for a meeting with the Designated Premises Supervisor in order to assess the suitability of the premises to accommodate an additional machine. The Gambling Commission's Code of Practice for alcohol licensed premises was discussed and no issues were raised.
- 2.5 The Gambling Commissions published Code of Practice provides the requirements that must be complied with by the Gambling Machine Permit Holder. The document is attached at Appendix B. The guidance is applicable to all licensed premises in relation to any number of gaming machines that are provided.

3 Recommendation(s)

In determining whether to grant the application, the sub-committee on behalf of the licensing authority, and having regard to the promotion of licensing objectives under The Gambling Act 2005 which are:

- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime.
- Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.
- Protecting children and other vulnerable people from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

Report author

Simon Curling - Licensing Technical Officer

Appendices

Appendix A - Application for Variation of a Premises Gaming Machine Permit under the Gambling Act 2005.

Appendix B – Codes of practice for gaming machines in clubs and premises with an alcohol licence.