

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Licensing and Regulatory Sub-Committee (Hearing)
held at 10.00 am on Monday, 8 October 2018

Present:

Members: (Chair)
(Shadow Cabinet Member)

Councillor D Gannon
Councillor P Hetherton
Councillor T Mayer

Non-Voting Opposition
Members:

Co-Opted Members:

Other Members: Councillors

Employees (by Directorate):

R Masih, Place Directorate
U Patel, Resources Directorate
A Wright, Resources Directorate

Apologies: Councillor

Public Business

8. Appointment of Chair

RESOLVED that Councillor P Hetherton be appointed Chair for the hearing.

9. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

10. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

11. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that the Sub-Committee agrees to exclude the press and public under Section 20 of the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Minute 14 below on the grounds that the Sub-Committee have to view the film in order to consider whether it should be reclassified.

12. Licensing Act 2003 - Application to Review the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC)

Following a request, the Sub-Committee considered the classification of a film called 'A Northern Soul' under Section 20 of the Licensing Act 2003. The film had received a classification of '15' by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC). Licensing officers had been contacted by a Creative Events Producer for Culture Coventry who wished to show the film as part of the Screening Rights Film Festival in Coventry in October.

Where a film has a classification, a Local Authority (as the Licensing Authority) may review that classification and determine a different one for local showing purposes. As such, the Sub Committee should have regard to the BBFC guidance but may depart from it if there is good reason to do so.

The BBFC, through press releases, had stated that the classification of '15' given to 'A Northern Soul' was so done because there were approximately 20 uses of strong language which they stated exceeded anything they had permitted as a 12A.

RESOLVED that the Sub-Committee having viewed the film 'A Northern Soul' awarded a '12' rating for showing as part of the Screening Rights Film Festival.

13. **Any Other Business**

There were no other items of public business.

14. **Licensing Act 2003 - Application to Review the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC)**

Further to Minute 12 above, the Sub Committee watched the full film to consider the use of the language in context and make their determination.

RESOLVED that the Sub-Committee having viewed the film 'A Northern Soul' awarded a '12' rating for showing as part of the Screening Rights Film Festival.

(Meeting closed at 11.30 am)