

# **Report to Local Council Liaison Committee**

**Date of meeting: 6 March 2014**

**Subject: Road Closures**

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**Committee Secretary: Rebecca Perrin**

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**Epping Forest  
District Council**

## **Previous Report:**

1. On 4<sup>th</sup> July 2013 this Committee resolved:

‘That the Committee made a formal recommendation asking that Epping Forest District Council consider the possibility of taking on the powers under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 to provide local means of road closures for temporary events.’

This request was considered by the next meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

2. It was reported to the Committee that temporary road closures had been made in the past by Essex County Council under its powers as the highways authority. The Committee noted that, following an application by Waltham Abbey Town Council for a temporary road closure in December for the switching on of their Christmas Lights, Essex County Council had responded that they were no longer considering such requests, which should be directed to the District Council. The District Council currently did not have the ability to make such orders, and Officers were negotiating with the County Council to continue this service for a few more months until the District Council was able to commence the provision of the service.

3. The Licensing Committee noted that additional resources would be required to assimilate this area of work; training would be required as there would be public safety implications in making road closure orders and there may be a need for equipment. Further investigation were required as to the numbers of likely road closures involved and what was required to set up the necessary procedures.

4. The Licensing Committee decided that:

‘(1) That the resolution of the Local Councils Liaison Committee requesting the District Council to exercise its powers to make temporary road closure orders be noted;

(2) That the Assistant Director of Corporate Support Services (Legal) be requested to report back to the Local Councils Liaison Committee and inform them that their resolution had been considered and noted but that the necessary powers could not be assimilated until further investigations and discussions had taken place.’

Subsequent meetings have taken place on 2 December 2013 at the Cabinet meeting and on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013 full council. The final decision is outlined below;

Council 17 December 2013

## **RESOLVED:**

(1) That, subject to provision being made in the budget to employ an additional member of staff, the Council exercises its powers to make

temporary road closure orders from 1 April 2014;

(2) That subject to (3) below a fee of £170.00 be charged for a temporary road closure;

(3) That the Licensing Committee give further consideration to the charging of a fee for primarily charitable events and report thereon to a future Council meeting ; and

(4) That the following delegated authorities be approved and appropriate changes made to the Constitution:

The licensing section was now preparing application forms and guidance to members of the public, to enable application to be made to the District Council. With exception of the Deben Broadway event in June (where Essex County Highways department have agreed to undertake the road closure) this was agreed to enable the Licensing department time to implement the procedure. This will come into effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014.