

REGISTRATION AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES – D. MICHAEL

3rd March 2015

SECTION A - MATTER FOR DECISION

WARDS AFFECTED: COEDFFRANC NORTH

1.0 LICENCE TO KEEP AN ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT (MOGGY MEWS)

An application for the grant of an animal boarding establishment licence has been received as follows:

Premises	Applicant	Details
Moggy Mews 2 Back Lane Skewen Neath SA10 6SB	Mrs M Hughes	Animal Boarding Establishment

1.1 Background

The Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 states any person that operates a business of providing accommodation for other people's animals requires a licence from the local authority.

This premises currently has a licence that allows the use of 5 units to accommodate 10 cats. The applicant has now built a second purpose built block which she would like to licence.

1.2 Officer Report

The premises was inspected by the veterinary surgeon on the 16th January 2015, a copy of the report is attached at Appendix 1.

The new block consists of 5 separate units. The Veterinary Surgeon has confirmed that the 3 smaller units are large enough to accommodate 2 cats from the same household and the 2 larger units can accommodate 5 cats from the same household.

A Licensing Officer has carried out a further inspection of the premises and confirmed that the matters raised in the conclusion of the Veterinary report have been actioned.

1.3 Recommendation

That where members consider approval of the application all conditions attached to the existing licence will apply. If granted the below condition should also be imposed on the licence which outlines the number of cats permitted.

1. The premises shall operate 10 Units to accommodate a maximum 26 cats.

1.4 List of Background papers

Licence Application
Veterinary Officer's Report
Model Licence Conditions for Cat Boarding Establishments –
Published by the Welsh Assembly

1.5 Wards Affected

Coedffranc North

1.6 Officer Contact

Neil Chapple
Licensing Manager
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Appendix 1



Afon Veterinary Centre

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VISIT TO "MOGGY MEWS" CATERY, 2 BACK LANE, NEATH ON THE 16TH JANUARY 2015.

Introduction

The premises is owned by Ms M Hughes and is situated in an elevated position on a quiet lane off the main road through Skewen. Ms Hughes already has a license for a cattery on this site and this application is for an extension.

Construction

The new units are second hand purpose built PVC cabins placed on a concrete foundation. They are covered by a mono pitch polycarbonate roof which extends over the sleeping, exercise and access area.

The sleeping areas in the final 3 units are 16 square feet and exercise area 30 square feet which will accommodate 2 cats from the same household.

Two larger units have sleeping areas of 21 square feet and exercise areas of 59 square feet. These will accommodate up to 5 cats from the same household. This gives a maximum of 16 cats.

Each unit has a thermostatically controlled radiator. The electricity supply has a separate RCD unit and has been certificated.

All surfaces are good quality washable plastic with tanalised wood only used out of reach in walkways and roofing.

Management

This was to examine extra cat accommodation which is part of an existing licensed cattery. The management systems should be a continuation of existing protocols.

Section 5.5 in the Model License conditions and guidance for Cat Boarding Establishment.


1. It clearly states "kitchen facilities must be provided in an area separate from the domestic facilities". This recommendation was made in my initial report 20th November 2012 but was evidently not acted upon. To prevent potential spread of zoonotic disease (salmonella, toxoplasma etc.) it is important that this provision is observed.
2. All cat cabins need numbering (5.9).
3. A sign visible from the road/lane needs to be corrected giving an emergency telephone number.

4. Wind breaking mesh needs to be erected over the front of the unit as it is open to the prevailing wind.

Conclusion

If the recommendations 1 to 4 are put into effect I can see no reason not to issue a license for this property.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R.C. Irons', written in a cursive style.

R.C Irons BVSc, MRCVS.
Dated: 26th January 2015
