

Report to Licensing Committee

Date of meeting: 16th October 2016



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Subject: Road Closures-Waiver of fee for the Town and Parish Councils on VE Day Celebrations 2020

Officer contact for further information: Kim Tuckey- Licensing Manager, ext.4034

Committee Secretary: Adrian Hendry, ext. 4246

Decision Required:

To consider waiver of fees for Road Closures for Town and Parish Councils for the 75th anniversary celebrations of VE day: May 2020 bank holiday weekend.

Report

1. Epping Town Council have requested that the fees charged by the Council for permitting Temporary Road Closures be waived for the 75th anniversary celebrations of VE Day to coincide with the May 2020 bank holiday weekend.
2. Local Authorities have powers under the Town and Police Act 1847 for 'preventing obstruction of the streets in times of public procession, rejoicing, or illuminations, and in any case when the streets are thronged or liable to be obstructed by substantial numbers of people, on foot or in a vehicle, participating as spectators or otherwise in the occasion'. These powers have been interpreted to include making a temporary road closure although not all orders under this power need take the form of a closure. This Act can be used for commercial and non-commercial events.
3. In October 2015 a similar report was presented to Licensing Committee to discuss waiving fees for road closures for events on Remembrance Sundays, as at the time the police withdrew their support/assistance due to lack of resources. It was decided then to waive the fee for Parish and Town Councils and that there would be a 'blanket approval' for road closures for such events each year. Licensing Committee had already approved, in April 2014, to waive the Road Closure fees for any charitable or community events run by a Town or Parish Council for the benefit of the local community.
4. If members are minded to waive the fee in the same way as Remembrance Sunday events it is important to note that all applicants requesting such a Road Closure must still make a valid application to the Council's Licensing Team including submission of all the relevant documents, including risk assessments, public liability insurance and a road traffic management assessment. Consent to a Road Closure will only be given once the applicant has carried out the necessary consultation with the responsible authorities.
5. Members may also wish to consider whether to apply the same waiver to applications by members of the public for a similar road closure application in support of these celebrations.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

To consider the request from the Town Council

Other Options for Action: Not to waive to fee for the Town & Parish Councils on VE day

Resource Implications: No fee to the Council for processing Road Closure applications, currently £185

Legal and Governance Implications: None

Safer, Cleaner and Greener Implications: None

Consultation Undertaken: None

Background Papers: None

Impact Assessments:

Risk Management None

Equality and Diversity None