Castle Cary Town Council

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Castle Cary Town Council

Market House Licensing Policy

1. Policy Statement

The Town Council recognises the importance of licensed premises in supporting the local economy, tourism, community events, and social wellbeing. The Council is committed to promoting a safe, vibrant, and responsible licensed environment for residents, visitors, businesses, and community organisations.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Promote responsible alcohol sales and consumption.
- Support public safety and community wellbeing.
- Minimise alcohol-related crime, disorder, nuisance, and harm.
- Ensure Council-operated premises comply with all licensing requirements.
- Support community events where alcohol is supplied in a safe and controlled manner.

3. Licensing Objectives

The Council will support decisions that promote licensing objectives:

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The Council expects licence holders to:

- Operate effective security measures where appropriate.
- Prevent anti-social behaviour associated with licensed activities.
- Implement age verification procedures.
- Cooperate with Police and licensing authorities.

Public Safety

Licence holders should:

- Maintain safe premises and facilities.
- Conduct appropriate risk assessments.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

The Council will encourage:

- Effective noise management.
- Responsible dispersal of customers.
- Appropriate delivery and collection times.
- Measures to prevent littering and disturbance to nearby residents.

4. Council-Owned and Managed Premises

Where alcohol is supplied at Council-owned or managed venues:

- Appropriate licences and permissions must be obtained.
- Designated Premises Supervisors shall be appointed where required.
- Alcohol sales shall comply with all licence conditions.
- Staff and volunteers shall receive appropriate training.
- Risk assessments shall be completed before events.
- Incident records shall be maintained where necessary.

5. Community Events

The Council supports community events involving alcohol where:

- Relevant permissions and licences are in place.
- Event organisers submit suitable management plans.
- Appropriate safeguarding arrangements are established.
- Measures are in place to promote responsible drinking.
- Emergency and first-aid arrangements are adequate.

The Council may require event organisers to demonstrate compliance with licensing requirements before permission is granted for use of Council land or facilities.

6. Responsible Alcohol Management

The Council encourages licence holders and event organisers to:

- Promote sensible drinking.
- Provide free drinking water where appropriate.
- Offer low and non-alcoholic alternatives.
- Avoid irresponsible promotions and pricing practices.
- Train staff to identify intoxication and refuse service where necessary.

This collaborative approach will help address alcohol-related issues and support a safe and welcoming town centre environment.

8. Complaints and Concerns

9. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or sooner if required by:

- Changes in legislation.
- Changes in local circumstances.
- Recommendations from the Licensing Authority.
- Emerging community concerns.