

NATIONAL JOINT PITCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Aintree Local Joint Pitch Council held on Friday
27 October 2006 at Aintree Racecourse.

PRESENT:

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| Mr M Ryan | Chairman NJPC (MR) |
| Mr C Barnett | Aintree Racecourse (CB) |
| Ms Z Greenall | Aintree Racecourse (ZG) |
| Mr J Walmsley | National Association of Bookmakers (JW) |
| Mr G Billington | Rails Bookmakers Association (GB) |

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| 1 | MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2006 were read and approved by members as a true record. |
| 2 | MATTERS ARISING CB stated that he had received approval from the HBLB on the five new betting areas for 2007 Festival Meeting. CB raised concerns regarding the security of bookmakers should the Aintree Pavilion be developed as one of the new betting areas. Members agreed to discuss this matter further at the next LJPC meeting in early March 2007 when a decision will be made on which betting areas will be developed for the Grand National Festival April 2007. |
| 3 | CANAL TURN CB confirmed that the canal turn enclosure would not be open in 2007. However, CB and ZG stated this was still a temporary arrangement, and no final decision had been made regarding a permanent closure. An announcement concerning 2008 would be made later next year. |

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| <p>4</p> | <p>EMBANKMENT / NO NONSENCE ENCLOSURE</p> <p>MR stated to members that he had received letters and comments from the open meeting, regarding a possible increase in the number of bookmakers across the Grand National track from the Embankment onto the inside of the course where at present 10 pitches are available. Requests have also been made to see if improvements could be made to facilities after pick 20 on the Embankment side, i.e. bar and catering facilities. MR reported to members feed back from John Whelan and Ted Hemsley Betting Ring Managers, on duty at this years Festival, that the enclosure with the John Smith's Marquee, across from the Embankment had been particularly busy and would absorb an increase in bookmakers from its present number of 10. ZG stated to members that although this enclosure had been a success this year it was due largely to the John Smith promotion for 3000 customers, but this promotion would not be continued in 2007. ZG felt that because of this there would be a reduction in the crowd in this enclosure. CB re-iterated this point. ZG went on to say that they were looking to concentrate on increasing the facilities on the Embankment, with the possibility of marquees being erected on top of the Embankment with catering and bar facilities extending as far as the third fence on the National course. ZG stated that the enclosure across from the Embankment would be open to the public, with a tent, bars and catering facilities, with open viewing to the Mildmay course. A final decision of the layout of the Embankment would be discussed with members at the next LJPC at the beginning of March 2007. After consultation members agreed to leave the number of bookmakers unchanged, pending a final decision in March.</p> |
| <p>5</p> | <p>DESIGNATED NUMBERS 2007</p> <p>Members agreed to leave designated numbers and pitching up times unchanged from 2006.</p> |
| <p>6</p> | <p>REDEVELOPMENT PLANS UPDATE</p> <p>CB reported that work on the two new grandstands and the Aintree Pavilion were on schedule with a completion date in mid February 2007.</p> <p>CB and ZG stated to members that the racecourse will be constructing a return walkway for winning horses to be paraded</p> |

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| | <p>in front of the grandstands before returning to the winners enclosure. This work would involve re-aligning the pedestrian fence parallel with the water jump past the County stand. The work would also include taking up to 1.5 metres of tarmac behind where the Bookmakers bet, this affects pitches 1 to 20 in Tattersalls and 1 to 7 in the County stand.</p> <p>After going on site and viewing the proposed changes, members agreed this would leave less space for the bookmakers and their staff betting in these positions to operate effectively. To minimise these effects members agreed that bookmakers betting in the affected pitches in Tattersalls could have their anchorage points brought forward if necessary to account for the re-aligned fence. Bookmakers betting in the affected pitches in the County Stand have less room to manoeuvre, as this area is generally narrower, than the affected area in Tattersalls. Members agreed that it was possible for the bookmakers in this area to still operate from their present anchorage points. Although staff behind the joints would be tight against the re-aligned fence. But if necessary the anchorage points could be brought forward to alleviate the problem.</p> <p>MR stated that the Lower Tatts, facing members at Cheltenham had similar circumstances, to reduced space and that he would look at the dimensions at the forthcoming Paddy Power meeting at Cheltenham and report back to ZG at the Aintree meeting on the 19 November.</p> <p>This would also be an opportunity to gain further feed back from bookmakers operating in the affected positions.</p> <p>ZG stated that the five extra pitches past the Grand National start would be covered by an extra hospitality floor. This would result in bookmakers in effect, betting undercover. To minimise the effect of obscurity it will be possible for the bookmakers to come forward to the fringe of the cover.</p> |
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| <p>7</p> | <p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>CB stated that the racecourse will be installing a Tote betting Shop in the new Lord Sefton stand and all members agreed to this facility being approved.</p> <p>At the recent two day meeting 21 and 22 October a number of bookmakers had received fines for parking in the Retail Park leading up to the racecourse. The racecourse wish to state</p> |
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that they have no jurisdiction over the Retail Park and bookmakers and staff parking in that area, do so at their own risk. ZG stated that she had been in contact with the relevant parties but could do nothing to rescind the fines that had been imposed. MR stated that he would put a notice on the NJPC website to re-emphasise this point.

Although no final decision will be made relating to the development of betting areas and bookmaker numbers until the LJPC in March 2007 members agreed preliminary figures for the following areas :

- 8 Aintree Pavilion
- 6 New Grandstand
- 6 near to Chair Statue

An open meeting and LJPC will take place late February, early March 2007 to determine the new betting areas to be developed and to confirm the number of bookmakers for each area. Bookmakers will be notified accordingly.

No other business
Meeting closed