

Chepstow Local Joint Pitch Council

Saturday, 25th February, 2006

Meeting Minutes

Present:

Mr. S. Clare – Racecourse
Mr. S. Lee – Racecourse
Mr. J. Lovell – R.B.A.
Mr. M. Jones – N.A.B.
Mr. W. Sherwood – N.J.P.C.

Previous Minutes

Mr. Sherwood read the minutes of the meeting held on 01st December, 2005.

Matters Arising

Before approval, Mr. Jones stated that the opening remarks made by Mr. Clare would be better served by stating, that the Racecourse, due to modification to the Premier Enclosure, an additional path for owners and trainers was needed. The Racecourse seek to compensate for this loss of ground by extending the Premier Enclosure, which will take some ground in the present Tattersalls Enclosure. This amendment was acknowledged by all members and the minutes were approved.

Use of Present Tote Credit Office in Premier Stand

Following comments made by customers in the Premier Enclosure at the Welsh National meeting, we have had discussions with the Tote and intend to convert the present Tote Credit Office into a 'cash & credit' office and open up the adjacent area for the benefit of customers, by making better use of the floorspace. Mr. Clare then sought the views of the bookmakers.

Mr. Lovell stated that his mandate was to oppose this. He stated that such a move would not do his bookmakers any favours. He further stated that at this time it is 'such a struggle' for on course bookmakers. Mr. Lovell acknowledged the relationship enjoyed with the Racecourse management.

Mr. Jones emphasised that this is a 'credit' office not 'cash' and does not affect the S.P. Mr. Jones stated that he has been instructed to oppose the proposal, stating that if this was allowed to happen on racecourses, it would devastate the market. Mr. Jones further pointed out that there

would be Premier Members and 'Tote Credit' users who would object as the result of losing their 'comfort zone'. Mr. Jones reiterated that if this happened on all racecourses it would reduce the 'cash flow' of on course bookmakers and undermine the S.P.

Mr. Clare stated that the Tote believe this will be an area set aside for Tote Credit/Club members. Mr. Clare stated that he believed there would be 'new money turnover' not money taken from the 'on course' bookmakers.

Mr. Sherwood stated that it was for the Racecourse to further their application and that the bookmakers' comments will be forwarded to the appropriate Levy Board Meeting.

Any other Business

Mr. Lee informed Council that the Racecourse had received a favourable reply from the Levy Board with regard to the proposed extension to the Premier Enclosure. (Members were furnished with a copy of the reply letter from the Levy Board). This was noted.

Installation of Permanent Rails Joints

Mr. Lee stated that Securit had wrongly estimated for their work and that the Racecourse was waiting for a revised quote. This was noted.

Bookmakers in Premier Enclosure

Mr. Clare stated that the Racecourse, may, in the future consider having some bookmakers in the Premier Enclosure. Following a brief discussion, this was noted.

The 'Big Screen.'

Mr. Lovell asked if more use could be made of the 'Big Screen.' Mr. Lee stated that this year the increase will be 7 – 13 of the 30 meetings. This was noted.