

SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 12 March 2007 in Committee Room 2, The Civic Centre, Portholme Road, Selby, commencing at 10:00 am.

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| 1579 | Minutes |
| 1580 | Procedure |
| 1581 | Chair's Address to the Licensing Committee |
| 1582 | Licensing Act 2003 – Report of the Independent Fees Review Panel |
| 1583 | Private Session |
| 1584 | Application for Hackney Carriage Licence |
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Present: Councillor R Sayner in the Chair

Councillors: Mrs J Ashton, G Croston, Mrs D Davies, Mrs S Duckett, Mrs J Dyson, J McCartney, Mrs K McSherry, C Pearson, D Peart.

Officials: Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services, Licensing Enforcement Officer and Democratic Services Officer.

1577 **Apologies for Absence and Substitution**

None received.

1578 **Disclosure of Interest**

None received.

1579 **Minutes**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 12 February 2007 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chair.

1580 **Procedure**

The procedure was noted.

1581 **Chair's Address to the Licensing Committee**

The Chair gave no address to the Committee.

1582 **Licensing Act 2003 – Report of the Independent Fees Review Panel**

Councillors received the report of the Head of Services – Legal and Democratic Services to enable the Licensing Committee to consider the findings of the Independent Fees Review Panel.

The Panel's terms of reference were:

- To consider whether the fees cover the full cost to licensing authorities.
- To identify the scale, extent and nature of any problem(s) encountered by licensees / licence payers and licensing authorities.
- To make recommendations about how the existing fee structure and levels could be developed
- To ensure best practice is being fully realised across all authorities.
- To identify how the regime could be developed to address any other issues, including the impact of the fees scales on community amateur sports clubs and village and community halls.

During this presentation, councillors were informed that the Licensing Department were operating in accordance with the best practice advocated by the Independent Fees Review Panel and were to be commended.

Resolved:

That the findings of the Panel be noted.

1583 **Private Session**

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, as there will be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Section 12A of the Act, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

Application for Hackney Carriage Licence

Councillors were informed that the driver concerned was unable to attend this meeting and asked that his application be deferred until the next meeting of the Licensing Committee on 23 April 2007.

Councillors agreed that this item be deferred until the next meeting of the Licensing Committee which would take place on 23 April 2007. Councillors also requested that the Democratic Services Officer write to the driver to inform him that:

- his case would be heard at the next meeting of the Licensing Committee on 23 April 2007, regardless of whether he was in attendance; and
- fully audited, up-to-date accounts be provided to the Licensing Committee no later than 3 April 2007.

Resolved that:

- (i) the application be deferred until the next meeting of the Licensing Committee to be held on 23 April 2007; and**
- (ii) the Democratic Services Officer write to the driver informing him of the issues raised above.**

1585 **Application for Hackney Carriage Licence**

Councillors received the report of the Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services for the grant of a Hackney Carriage Licence for a Skoda Octavia, a vehicle not fully accessible to the disabled.

The Licensing Enforcement Officer outlined the details of the case.

The driver concerned outlined his reasons for the application and produced his accounts. Councillors questioned the driver as to the circumstances of the application.

After a full and detailed discussion it was agreed that the application be granted as the applicant met the exemption on the grounds of financial hardship.

Resolved:

That the application for a hackney carriage licence for a vehicle not accessible to the disabled be granted.

The meeting closed at 10:50am.