

Minutes

Licensing Committee

Venue:	Committee Room
Date:	5 September 2011
Present:	Councillors Mrs S Duckett, K Ellis, Mrs P Mackay, Mrs C Mackman, B Marshall, Mrs K McSherry, Mrs S Ryder, R Sayner, R Sweeting and J Thurlow.
Officers Present:	Caroline Fleming - Senior Solicitor, Tim Grogan – Senior Enforcement Officer, Simon Scarrott – Senior Enforcement Officer, Karen Mann – Democratic Service Officer

17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Ellis declared a personal interest with regard to Item 11 on the agenda as the applicant is known to the Councillor and he has had business dealings with the applicant previously.

19. MINUTES

Resolved:

To receive the minutes held on 4 July 2011 of the Licensing Committee, for approval and once an amendment to the declarations of interest – “that Councillor Sayner is a relative of a Director of a company listed in the referee appendices”, that they be approved and signed by the Chair.

20. PROCEDURE

The Procedure was noted.

21. GUIDELINES FOR LICENSING COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER ASSESSING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

The Guidelines were noted.

22. GUIDELINES FOR RELATING TO THE RELEVANCE OF CONVICTIONS

The Guidelines were noted.

23. CHAIR'S ADDRESS TO THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting and reminded councillors of the procedure in questioning the applicants.

24. 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.

25. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCE

Report L/11/7 considered whether an application for a Hackney Carriage Licence be granted. The applicant was in attendance to apply for a Hackney Carriage Licence.

The Licensing Officer outlined details of the case. The applicant presented his case.

Councillors were given the opportunity to question the applicant in connection with his application and then the Committee considered their decision.

RESOLVED:

- i) To receive and note Report L/11/7; and**
- ii) To APPROVE the application for a Hackney Carriage Licence**

26. ISSUE CONCERNING THE BEHAVIOUR OF A LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER

Report L/11/8 requested that councillors consider whether the applicant is a fit and proper person, which is a requirement to be licensed and drive a Private Hire Vehicle. The applicant was in attendance.

The Licensing Officer outlined details of the case.

Councillors were given the opportunity to question the applicant about the complaint and then the Committee considered their decision.

RESOLVED:

- i) To receive and note the report L/11/8; and
- ii) To take no further action against the applicant

27. ISSUE CONCERNING THE BEHAVIOUR OF A LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER

Report L/11/9 requested that councillors consider whether the applicants conduct is acceptable. The applicant was in attendance.

The Licensing Officer outlined details of the case. The applicant outlined his case.

Councillors were given the opportunity to question the applicant about his application and then the Committee considered their decision.

RESOLVED:

- i) To receive and note the report L/11/9; and
- ii) To take no further action against the applicant

28. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCE

Report L/11/10 requested that Councillors consider whether an application for a Hackney Carriage Licence be granted. The applicant was in attendance to apply for a Hackney Carriage Licence.

The Licensing Officer outlined details of the case. The applicant has a further two licensed vehicles and the Hackney Carriage License, if approved, will add to his fleet of vehicles.

Councillors were given the opportunity to question the applicant in connection with his application and then the Committee considered their decision.

RESOLVED:

- i) To receive and note the report L/11/10; and
- ii) To REFUSE the application for a Hackney Carriage Licence as it does not comply with Council Policy.

29. APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

Report L/11/11 requested that Councillors consider whether an application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted. The applicant was in attendance to apply for a Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The Licensing Officer outlined details of the case.

Councillors were given the opportunity to question the applicant in connection with his application and then the Committee considered their decision.

RESOLVED:

- i) To receive and note the report L/11/11; and**
- ii) To APPROVE the application for a Private Hire Driver's License**

30. APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The applicant was not in attendance therefore Councillors suggested deferring this item until 10 October 2011.

Councillors discussed the medical record submitted and it was agreed that the Senior Enforcement Officer would write to the applicant to ask him to provide a medical report from his personal doctor prior to the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

- i) To defer the application for a Private Hire Drivers Licence to the next meeting**

Councillors discussed updating the Council Policy with regard to Hackney Carriages accessible to the disabled and saloon cars. The Senior Enforcement Officer was requested to submit a report.

The Senior Enforcement Officer was also requested to inform all new drivers of their responsibilities and that they must not smoke in licensed vehicles as they are a place of work.

The meeting closed at 11.35am.