

Minutes

Licensing Committee

Venue:	Committee Room
Date:	5 November 2012
Present:	Councillors R Sayner (Chair), K Ellis (Vice Chair), Mrs S Duckett, Mrs C Mackman, Mrs P Mackay, B Marshall, Mrs K McSherry, Mrs S Ryder, R Sweeting and J Thurlow.
Apologies for Absence:	None
Officers Present:	Caroline Fleming - Senior Solicitor, Tim Grogan – Senior Enforcement Officer, Simon Scarrott – Senior Enforcement Officer, Palbinder Mann – Democratic Services Officer

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

17. MINUTES

It was agreed that the typographical error under item three on page two should be amended to read as following:

- **The Chair queried when the report regarding taxi emissions would be coming before the Committee.**

It was agreed that the grammatical error under paragraph two of item six should be amended to read as following:

- **Councillors were given the opportunity to question the applicant in connection with his application.**

RESOLVED:

That the Committee receive and approve the minutes of the Licensing Committee on 1 October 2012 with the above amendments and that they be signed by the Chair.

18. PROCEDURE

The procedure was noted.

19. CHAIR'S ADDRESS TO THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Chair reminded the Committee that when they were asking questions of the Senior Enforcement Officer or applicant and appellants, they should keep their questions relevant and not issue statements.

The Chair agreed to amend the agenda with the private items being taken first.

20. 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.

21. APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Senior Enforcement Officer presented the **Report L/12/07** which considered whether an application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence should be granted. The applicant was in attendance.

Councillors were given the opportunity to question the applicant in connection with the application. The Committee then discussed the matter and considered their decision on whether the exemption should be granted.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Committee receive and note Report L/12/03.**
- ii) That the application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence should be GRANTED.**

22. ISSUE CONCERNING THE BEHAVIOUR OF A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE OPERATOR

The Senior Enforcement Officer presented the **Report L/12/08** which outlined a complaint that had been received and considered whether the respective individual was a fit and proper person to be a Private Hire Vehicle Operator.

Councillors were given the opportunity to question the operator in connection with the matter. The Councillors then considered whether the individual was a fit and proper person to be a Private Hire Vehicle Operator.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Committee receive and note Report L/12/08.**
- ii) That the operator have a written WARNING on his record for a period of 12 months.**

The Committee moved back into public session.

23. HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY – A REVIEW OF VEHICLE AGE LIMITS / EMISSIONS STANDARDS

The Senior Enforcement Officer presented the **Report L/12/06** which provided information on reviewing the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy relating to vehicle age limits and emissions standards.

The Senior Enforcement Officer explained that the report outlined some potential policy options and that the Council were legally obliged to monitor air quality in the district. The Committee were informed that two areas in the district had been identified as areas with potentially significant traffic emissions, these were New Street, Selby and Bridge Street, Tadcaster. It was explained that the authority may need to create an air quality plan to tackle the high emissions in these areas should current monitoring exceed air quality objectives.

Discussion took place on the options proposed. In response to a query concerning pollutants identified during an MOT test, the Senior Enforcement Officer explained that not all pollutants were identified during the MOT and that further policies to tackle emissions along with monitoring was needed. The Committee were informed that other local authorities had also taken measures to reduce emissions.

The Committee felt that there should be a follow up report outlining possible options for consideration with information also included regarding financial implications. It was also agreed that in the report, consideration should also be given to the policy regarding Council vehicles. The Councillors suggested that the 5, 8 or 10 year possible options should be included in the report. It was agreed that the report would be considered at the next Committee meeting on 3 December 2012.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Committee receive and note Report L/12/06.**
- ii) That a further report be brought to the next meeting of the Committee outlining the details mentioned above.**

The meeting closed at 11.12am