

Minutes

Licensing Committee

Venue:	Committee Room, Civic Centre, Selby.
Date:	Monday 5 December 2016
Time:	10.00am
Present:	Councillors C Pearson (Chair), K Ellis (Vice-Chair), D Buckle, Mrs J Chilvers, S Duckett, M Hobson, B Marshall, R Sweeting, J Thurlow and Mrs D White.
Apologies:	None.
Officers present:	Gillian Marshall, Solicitor to the Council; Tim Grogan, Senior Enforcement Officer; Alison Beaumont, Enforcement Officer; Clare McMichan, Business Administration Assistant; Barbara Patterson, Business Administration Assistant; and Daniel Maguire, Democratic Services Officer
Public:	0
Press:	0

35. MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 7 November 2016. The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

RESOLVED:

To approve the minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 7 November 2016.

36. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

37. PROCEDURE

The Committee noted the Licensing Committee procedure, including the section of the Licensing Policy regarding the relevance of convictions.

38. CHAIR'S ADDRESS TO THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Chair informed the Committee that the draft Charitable Collections Policy would now be considered by the Executive on 5 January 2017 to allow additional time for comments to be received from North Yorkshire Police and Trading Standards.

It was reported that the amendments to the Taxi Licensing Policy made at the previous meeting of the Licensing Committee had been approved by the Executive on 1 December (subject to 'call in' arrangements). The Chair advised that seven companies, not three as previously suggested, had been included in the list of approved providers in respect of the additional test for drivers.

The Committee was advised that new regulations introduced as part of the Immigration Act 2016 required that the Council undertook checks to determine the immigration status of new applicants. It was confirmed that this would be done by officers as part of the standard application process.

Finally the Chair informed the Committee that this would be the last meeting before the Senior Enforcement Officer retired from the Council. The Committee thanked the Senior Enforcement Officer for his work over the previous 12 years and wished him well in his retirement.

39. HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFFS: PROPOSED INCREASE FROM 1 APRIL 2017

The Senior Enforcement Officer presented report L/16/13 which asked the Committee to consider not increasing Hackney Carriage Tariffs from 1 April 2017.

The Committee was informed that the Council had consulted with 53 hackney carriage drivers and operators, and had received six responses in total. Of the six responses, five had requested no change and one had requested a substantial change to the charging structure.

RESOLVED:

That Hackney Carriage Tariffs are not increased from 1 April 2017.

Reason for decision:

The Council had consulted operators and drivers, the result of which suggested that there was no demand from within the licensed trade to increase tariffs.

40. PRIVATE SESSION

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted the meeting be not open to the press and public during discussion of the following items as there will be disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act.

41. APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE (REPORT L/16/14)

The Senior Enforcement Officer presented the report which was an application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence. The application had been brought to the Committee because the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) report had highlighted previous convictions.

The applicant and his representative were present, and were able to answer questions from the Committee.

The applicant, his representative and the Senior Enforcement Officer left the meeting whilst the Committee considered the application.

RESOLVED:

To grant the application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence.

Reason for decision:

The Committee, having considered the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy and in particular the Relevance of Convictions (appendix C) agreed that the applicant met the requirements in respect of: the period of time since conviction and that there had been no further convictions.

42. CONSIDERATION OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE OPERATOR'S LICENCE (REPORT L/16/15)

The Committee was informed that the operator was not present and that officers had spoken by telephone to the operator, who advised that he had not received notification of the meeting.

The Committee considered that, to be able to fully consider the issues highlighted in the report, the operator needed to be present. The Committee was further concerned that the serious nature of the allegations meant that the report should be considered before the next scheduled meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (i) To defer consideration of the report due to the operator not being present; and**
- (ii) To consider the report at an Extraordinary meeting of the Licensing Committee on 19 December 2016.**

Reasons for decision:

To ensure that the Licensing Committee is able to fully consider all representations made in connection with the report.

The meeting closed at 10.56am.