

Minutes

Licensing Committee

Venue:	Committee Room - Civic Centre, Doncaster Road, Selby, YO8 9FT
Date:	Monday, 21 October 2019
Time:	10.00 am
Present:	Councillors K Ellis (Chair), J Chilvers, I Chilvers, M Jordan, J Duggan, K Franks (for Councillor S Duckett), M McCartney and P Welch
Officers present:	Sharon Cousins, Licensing Manager, Jade Reynolds, Solicitor and Dawn Drury, Democratic Services Officer
Public:	0
Press:	0

27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Sweeting, S Duckett and T Grogan.

28 MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2019.

RESOLVED:

To approve the minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 16 September 2019.

29 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

30 PROCEDURE AND TAXI LICENSING POLICY

The Committee noted the Licensing Committee procedure and the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy.

31 CHAIR'S ADDRESS TO THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

Members noted that the Mint Festival held at Leeds East Airport on Saturday 28th September 2019 had been a success, with only four complaints being received.

The Committee were informed that in respect of the current taxi licensing policy, a proposal would be put forward to the Executive on 7 November 2019 to determine if the whole of section six of the policy should be suspended pending implementation of the new Taxi Licensing Policy. The report would come before Licensing Committee on 4 November 2019 to note the content of the Executive report, and to provide any comments to be considered by the Executive. If approved by the Executive, this would allow any individual to purchase a non-wheelchair accessible type vehicle, and licence it as a Hackney Carriage vehicle until the new policy was implemented.

Lastly, members noted that no verbal warnings have been given by officers that month.

32 PRIVATE SESSION

It was proposed, and seconded, that the Committee sit in private session due to the nature of the business to be transacted.

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.

33 APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE

The Licensing Manager presented the report, which asked the Committee to consider an application for a non-wheelchair accessible vehicle to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage vehicle. It was noted that the application had been brought before the Committee due to the application being contrary to Section 6.1 of Selby District Council's current Taxi Licensing Policy which states, where a new application was made for a Hackney Carriage vehicle, the licence would only be granted if the vehicle was wheelchair accessible.

The applicant was present and was able to respond to questions asked by the Committee concerning the report. The applicant was accompanied by his partner.

The applicant, his partner and the Licensing Manager left the meeting whilst the Committee considered the application.

The Committee were of the view that the vehicle for which the application had been submitted did provide wheelchair space; and that in order to uphold the 70%/30% split in wheelchair accessible and non-wheelchair accessible vehicles as per Selby's current Taxi Licensing Policy, it was agreed that there were exceptional circumstances to depart from the Policy and grant the licence.

RESOLVED:

To grant the application for a non-wheelchair accessible type vehicle to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage vehicle.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The Committee granted the application as they felt it was necessary, in view of having eight available vacancies for non-wheelchair accessible type vehicles, to uphold the 70%/30% split in wheelchair accessible and non-wheelchair accessible vehicles, in accordance with the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy. It was also noted that the vehicle did provide wheelchair space, and that the applicant would provide help to the customer when entering and alighting the vehicle.

The meeting closed at 10.30 am.