

Minutes

Licensing Committee

Venue:	Microsoft Teams - Remote
Date:	Monday, 12 April 2021
Time:	10.00 am
Present remotely via Teams:	Councillors R Sweeting (Chair), J Chilvers (Vice-Chair), I Chilvers, M Jordan, J Mackman and M McCartney
Officers present remotely via Teams:	Jade Reynolds, Solicitor, Sharon Cousins, Licensing Manager; and Dawn Drury, Democratic Services Officer

The Chair and Committee paused briefly in remembrance of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, who had recently passed away, and expressed their condolences to Her Majesty the Queen and the rest of the Royal Family.

44 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors J Duggan, J Cattanach and S Duckett. Councillor K Franks was in attendance as a substitute for Councillor Duggan, and Councillor C Pearson was in attendance as a substitute for Councillor Cattanach.

45 MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2021.

RESOLVED:

To approve the minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 1 March 2021.

46 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

47 PROCEDURE AND TAXI LICENSING POLICY

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

48 CHAIR'S ADDRESS TO THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Committee acknowledged that restrictions around the opening of non-essential retail, to include outdoor hospitality venues, were to be lifted. The Chair assured Members that the Licensing Manager and Enforcement Team had worked together to ensure that licensed premises within the District had received guidance on how to re-open their premises safely.

Members noted that the Licensing Manager would provide a verbal update on Covid-19 in regard to licensed premises at the next agenda item.

49 VERBAL UPDATE ON COVID-19

The Licensing Manager informed the Committee that Step 2 of the Government's Road map out of lockdown had come into force today, this would see the opening of non-essential retail outlets, including outdoor hospitality venues.

Members heard that officers would be carrying out joint enforcement visits to licensed premises within the District during this phase of the roadmap to ensure that the government guidance on Covid-19 was being adhered to.

50 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.

51 COMPLAINT REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF AN INDIVIDUAL HOLDING PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR, PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER & PRIVATE HIRE PROPRIETOR (VEHICLE) LICENCES WITH SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Chair informed the applicant, the applicant's colleague, and the applicant's representative, who were present remotely, that the

Committee had read and considered the additional information that had been provided.

The Licensing Manager presented the report, which asked the Committee to consider if the individual was a fit and proper person to hold a Private Hire Operators Licence, Private Hire Driver Licence, and a Private Hire Proprietor (vehicle) Licence with Selby District Council having regard to the circumstances of the complaint and his actions.

It was explained that the report was brought before the Committee due to the refusal, by the applicant, to comply with a reasonable request from the Solicitor to the Council.

The applicant, the applicant's colleague, and the applicant's representative were able to respond to questions asked by the Committee concerning the report.

The applicant, the applicant's colleague, the applicant's representative, and the Licensing Manager left the meeting at this point and did not return.

The Committee expressed grave concerns and were of the view that there was a serious safeguarding risk to the public, and therefore agreed unanimously to suspend all three licenses until such a time as the action required was complied with.

RESOLVED:

To suspend the Private Hire Operators Licence, Private Hire Driver Licence, and the Private Hire Proprietor (vehicle) Licence until the action required by the Committee had been taken.

Reason for Decision:

The Committee agreed unanimously to suspend all the Licenses to ensure public safety, and that safeguarding requirements were met.

The meeting closed at 11.29 am.

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