

**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENT AND LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 10 March 2015

Councillor Marje Paling (Chair)

Present: Councillor Meredith Lawrence Councillor Cheryl Hewlett
 Councillor Bruce Andrews Councillor Mike Hope
 Councillor Nicki Brooks Councillor Barbara Miller
 Councillor Roxanne Ellis Councillor Carol Pepper
 Councillor Tony Gillam Councillor Stephen Poole
 Councillor Gary Gregory

Absent: Councillor Sandra Barnes and Councillor John Parr

Officers in Attendance: R Pentlow and D Blasdale

189 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Barnes.

Councillor Prew-Smith attended as substitute for Councillor Parr, who gave his apologies.

190 TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY 2015.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

191 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

None.

192 PROPOSED GENERAL AND TAXI LICENSING FEES FOR 2015/16

Consideration was given to a report of the Service Manager, Public Protection, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, seeking approval to increase taxi licensing fees, subject to advertisement requirements being satisfied, and approval to increase General Fees for the 2015/16 financial year.

A revised Appendix 1 was circulated at the meeting.

RESOLVED to:

1. Approve the fees and charges detailed in Appendix 2 of the report for 2015/16 with effect from 1st April 2015;
2. Approve the fees for taxi operators and vehicle licences as detailed in the revised Appendix 1, as circulated at the meeting, for 2015/16 for advertisement in accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, such fees to automatically come into force if no objections are received within the statutory period; and
3. Approve the proposed fees for taxi driver's licences detailed in the revised Appendix 1, as circulated at the meeting, for 2015/16 for advertisement and the Corporate Director in consultation with the Chair of Environment and Licensing Committee be authorised to agree the final fees after taking into account any comments received during the consultation period.

193 ANY OTHER ITEM WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT.

None.

194 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

RESOLVED:

That, the Members being satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the ensuing reports on the grounds that the report involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

195 APPLICATION FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - SJ

The Committee considered a report from Corporate Director, David Wakelin, regarding an application for a Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence from SJ.

SJ attended the meeting and addressed the Committee.

In making its decision, the Committee applied the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines and took into consideration the circumstances of the event. On the basis of what it heard, the Committee was satisfied on

balance that no exceptional circumstances existed which warranted departure from this policy.

RESOLVED:

To approve SJ's application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence, with a warning as to the necessary consequences of failure to declare any convictions or pending prosecutions to the Licensing Department.

196

APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - JA

The Committee considered a report from Corporate Director, David Wakelin, regarding an application for a Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence from JA.

JA attended the meeting and addressed the Committee.

In making its decision, the Committee applied the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines and took into consideration the circumstances of the event. On the basis of what it heard, the Committee was satisfied on balance that no exceptional circumstances existed which warranted departure from this policy.

RESOLVED:

To approve JA's application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

197

APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - MR

MR did not attend the meeting.

RESOLVED:

To treat the application from MR as withdrawn as a result of a failure to attend Committee on two occasions.

198

APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - KAQ

The Committee considered a report from Corporate Director, David Wakelin, regarding an application for a Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence from KAQ.

KAQ attended the meeting accompanied by his Father who addressed the Committee on his behalf.

In making its decision, the Committee applied the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines and took into consideration the circumstances of the event. On the basis of what it heard, the Committee was satisfied on balance that no exceptional circumstances existed which warranted departure from this policy.

RESOLVED:

To approve KAQ's application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

199 APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - MMS

MMS did not attend the meeting, but did inform the Licensing Department of his inability to attend Committee on this occasion and requested that the application be considered at a future meeting.

RESOLVED:

To defer consideration of the application to a future meeting of the Committee.

200 APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - IM

The Committee considered a report from Corporate Director, David Wakelin, regarding an application for a Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence from IM.

IM attended the meeting and addressed the Committee.

In making its decision, the Committee applied the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines. On the basis of what it heard, the Committee was satisfied on balance that no exceptional circumstances existed which warranted departure from this policy.

RESOLVED:

To refuse IM's application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence on the grounds that he is not a fit and proper person.

IM was advised of his right to appeal against the decision of the Committee.

The meeting finished at 5.15 pm

Signed by Chair:
Date: