

**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENT AND LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 15 April 2025

Councillor Alison Hunt (Chair)

Present:	Councillor Marje Paling Councillor Rachael Ellis Councillor Roxanne Ellis Councillor Julie Najuk	Councillor Sue Pickering Councillor Martin Smith Councillor Clive Towsey-Hinton Councillor Paul Wilkinson
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Absent: Councillor Boyd Elliott and Councillor Alex Scroggie

Officers in Attendance: C Allcock, J Brough, J Goodall, B Hopewell, A Hutchinson, K Nealon and R Towlson

84 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS.

None received.

85 TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2025.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved, pending an agreed amendment to the attendance, as a correct record.

86 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

None.

87 PROPOSED TAXI LICENSING FEES FOR 2025/26

The Community Protection Manager introduced a report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, seeking approval for the proposed fees for taxi driver, operator and vehicle licensing for 2025/26 as shown at Appendix 1 (a), subject to advertisement requirements being satisfied. The report also sought approval of a proposed increase to the general taxi licensing fees for 2025/26 shown at Appendix 1 (b).

RESOLVED to:

- 1) Approve the fees for taxi driver, operators and vehicle licences as detailed at Appendix 1 (a) for 2025/26 for advertisement in accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, such fees to automatically come into force on 1st June 2025 if no objections

are received within the statutory period. If any objections would be received within the statutory period that they be referred back to Committee for consideration in accordance with the legislation; and

- 2) Approve the fees for General Taxi licensing for 2025/26 as detailed at Appendix 1 (b) with effect from 1 June 2025.

88 ANY OTHER ITEM WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT.

None.

89 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.

90 APPLICATION FOR A ONE YEAR JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE- KS

Consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Director of Place which had been circulated prior to the meeting, regarding an application for a one year joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence for KS.

KS attended the meeting along with a family member and he addressed the Committee.

In making the decision the Committee applied the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines.

RESOLVED to:

To refuse KS's application for a Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

KS was advised of the right of appeal against the decision of the Committee.

91 APPLICATION FOR A ONE YEAR JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE- MR

Consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Director of Place, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, regarding an application

for a one year joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence for MR.

MR attended the meeting along with a friend and they both addressed the Committee.

In making its decision, the Committee found that there were exceptional circumstances which allowed for departure from the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines.

RESOLVED:

To refuse MR's application for a Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

MR was advised of the right of appeal against the decision of the Committee.

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APPLICATION FOR A ONE-YEAR JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE- BJ

Consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Director of Place which had been circulated prior to the meeting, regarding an application for a one year joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence for BJ.

BJ attended the meeting along with a friend and he addressed the Committee.

In making the decision the Committee applied the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines.

RESOLVED to:

Approve BJ's application for a one year Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

Issue a warning to BJ that such conduct fell short of the expected standard for Hackney Carriage Drivers and that further such incidents would result in another appearance before the Committee.

The meeting finished at 6.31 pm

Signed by Chair:
Date: