

Licensing Committee



Forest Heath
District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Committee** held on
Monday 30 November 2015 at **6.00 pm** at the **Council Chamber, District
Offices**, College Heath Road, Mildenhall IP28 7EY

Present: **Councillors**

Chairman Michael Anderson

Ruth Allen

Christine Mason

John Bloodworth

Nigel Roman

David Bimson

Bill Sadler

Brian Harvey

Reg Silvester

24. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Carol Lynch.

25. **Substitutes**

There were no substitutes at the meeting.

26. **Public Participation**

There were no questions/statements from members of the public.

27. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2015 were accepted by the Committee as an accurate record, with 7 voting for the motion and with 2 abstentions, and were signed by the Chairman.

28. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor David Bimson and with the vote being unanimous, it was

RESOLVED:

That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as prescribed in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and indicated against each item and, in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

29. **Application for the Grant of a Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence (para 1) (Report No LIC/FH/15/007)**

The Committee was asked to consider an application for a Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence under the provisions of Part 2 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

The Licensing Officer presented the report which explained that the application was before Members to determine in light of convictions declared by the applicant. In view of which, the Committee needed to be satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a licence issued by the Council. Attention was drawn to Appendix 3 (of Report No LIC/FH/15/007) which set out the Council's Taxi and PHV Licensing Criminal Convictions' Policy that served as guidance for Members.

The applicant had previously had his application heard by the Licensing Committee on 8 September 2014 when it was refused by Members.

Lastly, the Officer drew attention to the application form (attached as Appendix 1) and specifically Section 21, which had been completed incorrectly by the applicant. The Officer confirmed that the applicant **was** entitled to work in the UK (contrary to what was stated on the application form) and she had seen documentation to prove this.

The applicant attended the meeting to present his case and answered Members' questions.

Following which the applicant and the Licensing Officer left the meeting prior to the Committee's deliberations.

Councillor Brian Harvey asked if it would be possible to issue some form of conditional licence, however, after checking the relevant legislation the Lawyer confirmed that this would not be possible.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Ruth Allen that the application be approved and the license be granted and this was duly seconded by Councillor Bill Sadler. Upon being put to the vote and with 6 voting for the motion and with 3 against, it was

RESOLVED:

That the application for a Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted.

The applicant and the Licensing Officer then re-joined the meeting in order to be advised by the Lawyer of the Committee's decision.

The Chairman thanked the applicant for this attendance and wished him well from the Committee, he also advised the applicant to be careful and to consider the public at all times.

The meeting concluded at 6.37pm

Signed by:

Chairman

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