

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the LICENSING AND PROTECTION APPLICATIONS SUB-GROUP held in the Corporate Training Suite, Eastfield House, 6 Latham Road, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 6YE on Tuesday, 18 August 2009.

PRESENT: Councillors K M Baker, J T Bell, P L E Bucknell and R S Farrer

13. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

that Councillor J T Bell be elected Chairman of the Sub-Group for this meeting.

Councillor J T Bell in the Chair

14. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Group held on 6th July 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

15. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

16. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that the public be excluded from the meeting because the business to be transacted contains exempt information relating to individuals and is subject to an obligation of confidentiality.

17. HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING

(a) Existing Licence Holder

A report was submitted by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) containing details of an invitation by the Licensing Manager to review an existing hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence following the individual's failure to notify the Council of a conviction incurred when he was a licensed driver. The Sub-Group having been advised that

further police reports were awaited

RESOLVED

that the review of the licence be deferred pending receipt of further police reports.

(b) Existing Licence Holder

A report was submitted by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) in relation to an existing licensed driver. The driver appeared before the Sub-Group and was invited to explain his failure to disclose a conviction that had been revealed during a routine Criminal Records Bureau check. Having considered the issues involved the Panel

RESOLVED

that the licence be suspended for a period of nine months owing to the nature of the conviction and the driver's failure to disclose it to the Council.

(c) New Application

By reference to a report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book), the Sub-Group gave consideration to an application for a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence from an applicant who did not meet the Council's published criteria to hold such a licence. As this was the second occasion on which the applicant had failed to appear before the Sub-Group, it was

RESOLVED

that the application be determined in his absence and refused on the grounds that the applicant is not a fit and proper person to hold such a licence owing to the nature of the information contained in his Criminal Records Bureau check which included the possession of an offensive weapon in a public place.

(d) New Application

As the individual referred to in Appendix C of a report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) had not attended the meeting and also had not attended a previous meeting of the Sub-Group, it was

RESOLVED

that the application for a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence be determined in his absence and refused on the grounds that the applicant is not a fit and proper person to hold a licence owing to the nature of his previous convictions which include being in charge of a motor vehicle

while unfit through drink and driving without insurance.

(e) New Application
(The applicant was accompanied by his potential employer)

The Sub Group was acquainted with appendix C1 of a report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) containing details of an application for a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence from a person who did not meet the Council's published criteria to hold such a licence. The applicant appeared before the Sub-Group to explain the circumstances as to why he considered he should be granted a licence.

The applicant, who was accompanied by his current employer, was invited to speak and was then questioned by Members of the Sub-Group.

Having considered the issues involved and the representations made by the applicant and his employer, the Panel

RESOLVED

that the application for a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence be granted.

(f) New Application

The Sub-Group was acquainted with appendix B3 of a report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) containing details of an application for a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence from a person who did not fit the Council's published criteria to hold such a licence. The applicant appeared before the Sub-Group to explain the circumstances as to why he considered he should be granted a licence.

The applicant was invited to speak and was then questioned by Members of the Sub-Group.

Having considered the issues involved and having been satisfied by the assurances given by the applicant, the Panel

RESOLVED

that the application for a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence be granted.