

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

THE CIVIC HALL, CIVIC CENTRE, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN

FRIDAY, 19TH JUNE 2009 (10.30AM)

(Meeting Open to the Press and Public)

PRESENT:

Councillors: J Baker (Chairman), Mrs P V Hayward (Vice-Chairman), A J Buckley, Mrs J Greener, P B Harrison, M B Kelly, H J Martin, Mrs T L Onslow and M Price.

Observers

There were no members present as observers.

LIC.14 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D R Sheppard.

LIC.15 Appointment of Substitutes

No substitute Members were appointed.

LIC.16 Declaration of Interests

Councillor H J Martin advised that he had spoken to Mr T Owen on a number of occasions but he came to the meeting with an open mind.

LIC.17 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

LIC.18 Application to Renew a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence Beyond the Council's Adopted Policy of Age Criteria (1997)

A report was considered from the Director of planning and Regulatory Services that asked Members to consider an application for the renewal of a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence made by Mr Thomas Poole which fell outside the Age Criteria Policy set by the Council in 1997.

The Principal Licensing officer informed Members that each of the vehicles to be inspected would be taken to an area at the back of the Civic Hall where they would be inspected in a private area of the car park.

Members had received copies of the application to renew the licence, associated correspondence and a copy of the vehicle inspection form. It was noted that the brakes had been re-examined and that they had been certified as fit.

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Members were informed that the Council had set an age limit of 7 years for each hackney carriage vehicle with exceptions granted to specialist vehicles. The Committee was therefore asked to consider and inspect the vehicle to determine whether the licence could be extended or not.

Mr Poole was present at the meeting and was accompanied by Mr Owen from the taxi trade who spoke on his behalf.

At this point, the applicant, his representative, and Officers, except for the Solicitors and Principal Committee Officer, left the meeting. The Committee then considered the application. The Solicitor gave legal advice, as required, and the Committee Officer took the minutes, but neither took any part in the decision-making.

The applicant, his representative, and all those who had left the room were invited back and the Chairman announced the decision set out below.

DECISION:

Having carefully considered the application to grant a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence in respect of vehicle registration number LS51 GXD the Licensing Committee has decided that a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence HC044 for vehicle registration number LS51 GXD be granted for twelve months from 1st July 2009.

LIC.19

Application to Renew a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence Beyond the Council's Adopted Policy of Age Criteria (1997)

A report was considered from the Director of planning and Regulatory Services that asked Members to consider an application for the renewal of a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence made by Mr John Burns which fell outside the Age Criteria Policy set by the Council in 1997.

The Principal Licensing officer informed Members that each of the vehicles to be inspected would be taken to an area at the back of the Civic Hall where they would be inspected in a private area of the car park.

Members had received copies of the application to renew the licence, associated correspondence and a copy of the vehicle inspection form. The Principal Licensing Officer advised Members that the format of the vehicle inspection form would be changed following the comments they had made at the last meeting of the committee.

Members were informed that the Council had set an age limit of 7 years for each hackney carriage vehicle with exceptions granted to specialist vehicles. The Committee was therefore asked to consider and inspect the vehicle to determine whether the licence could be extended or not.

Mr Burns was present at the meeting and was accompanied by Mr Owen from the taxi trade who spoke on his behalf.

At this point, the applicant, his representative, and Officers, except for the

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Solicitors and Committee Officer, left the meeting. The Committee then considered the application. The Solicitor gave legal advice, as required, and the Principal Committee Officer took the minutes, but neither took any part in the decision-making.

The applicant, his representative, and all those who had left the room were invited back and the Chairman announced the decision set out below.

DECISION:

Having carefully considered the application to grant a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence in respect of vehicle registration number YB02 ESO the Licensing Committee has decided that a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence HC058 for vehicle registration number YB02 ESO be granted for twelve months from 1st July 2009.

LIC.20 Application to Renew a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence Beyond the Council's Adopted Policy of Age Criteria (1997)

The Committee did not consider this application as it had been deferred.

LIC.21 Exempt Information

Decision: Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of "Exempt Information" as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Summary of Minutes

The following proceedings were considered after the press and public had been excluded from the meeting. A summary of the minutes relating to these items has been made as "exempt Information" would be disclosed if the minutes were published in full.

LIC.22 Street Trading Consent Application

Members considered an application for street trading consent in Kidderminster. The Committee considered the application and granted street trading consent.

The meeting ended at 11.40 pm.