

Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 7 January 2016

PRESENT:

Councillor Jarvis, in the Chair.

Councillor Bowie, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Bowyer (substitute for Councillor Fry), Sam Davey (substitute for Councillor Singh), Mrs Foster, Mrs Nicholson and Rennie.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Fry and Singh.

Also in attendance: Sharon Day (Legal Officer), Steve Forshaw (Senior Enforcement Officer) and Lynn Young (Democratic Support Officer).

The meeting started at 10.02 am and finished at 1.29 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Jarvis declared a personal interest part way through the meeting because he knew the representative for RRC.

89. MINUTES

Agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2015.

90. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

Councillor Bowie queried why the recently reported offences by a taxi driver had not been brought to committee. The Licensing Officer advised the Committee that they were in contact with the police in relation to obtaining the appropriate information to allow members to make a decision.

Councillor Mrs Foster raised an issue regarding alleged unauthorised use of taxi licensing badges. The Licensing Officer advised the Committee that the situation was being monitored and investigated.

91. APPEAL CASES

The Committee was advised that there had been one appeal case since the last meeting. This appeal had been dismissed by the Magistrates' Court and the applicant had now lodged an appeal with the Crown Court.

92. **EXEMPT INFORMATION**

Agreed that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part I Schedule 12a of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

93. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

Agreed the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2015.

94. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE - RRC**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from RRC;
- (c) heard from RRC's representative;
- (d) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed to grant RRC's application for a private hire vehicle driver's licence subject to him completing the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent within the first 12 months of his licence being granted.

(Councillor Jarvis declared a personal interest in this agenda item)

95. **REVIEW OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - KPE**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from KPE;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed that having taken the above into account to revoke KPE's private hire driver's licence under section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975 as he is no longer considered be a fit and proper person.

(Please note: there is a confidential part to this minute)

96. **REVIEW OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - JDM**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from JDM;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed that having taken the above into account to suspend JDM's private hire driver's licence for a period of 3 days under Section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975. He would also be required to successfully complete the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent within 12 months.

(Please note: there is a confidential part to this minute)

97. **REVIEW OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE - AL**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from AL;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed that having taken the above into account to suspend AL's hackney carriage licence for a period of 3 days under section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1974. In addition AL is required to produce his certificate confirming he has passed the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent by the 14 March 2016. If the certificate is not produced by that date AL will be required to appear before the committee on the 31 March 2016 to explain the failure and have his licence reviewed.

(Please note: there is a confidential part to this minute)