

Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 7 June 2018

PRESENT:

Councillor Mavin, in the Chair.

Councillor Singh, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Bridgeman, Buchan, Jordan, Mrs Pengelly and Rennie.

Also in attendance: Andrea Gilbert (Lawyer), Deborah Lazenby (Enforcement Officer) Mark Small (Enforcement Officer) and Helen Rickman (Democratic Advisor)

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 6.20 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.

14. To Note the appointment of Chair and Vice Chair.

The Committee noted the appointment of Councillor Mavin as Chair and Councillor Singh as Vice Chair for the forthcoming municipal year 2018/19.

15. Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were made in accordance with the code of conduct:

Name	Item	Reason	Interest
Councillor Singh	Application for the Grant of Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence	The Applicant's friend and supporter is known to him	Personal
Councillor Mrs Pengelly	Application for the Grant of Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence	The Applicant's friend canvassed for the Conservative party in a previous election.	Personal
Councillor Jordan	Application for the Grant of Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence	The Applicant's friend canvassed for the Conservative party in a previous election.	Personal

16. Minutes

Agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2018.

17. Chair's Urgent Business

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

18. **Appeal Cases**

There were no appeal cases for the Committee to be updated upon.

19. **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 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

20. **Confidential Minutes**

Agreed the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2018.

21. **Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence - GS**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from GS and his friend;
- (c) took into account the above report and all that was said into consideration and also considered the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

The Committee considered the application on its own merits, applying the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2008 (amended 2012), and agreed to depart from that policy on this occasion and grant GS's application for a private hire drivers licence subject to the following conditions :-

- (1) GS successfully completing the VRQ driver qualification in "Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire" or its equivalent, within twelve months of receiving his licence;
- (2) GS must attend a Child Sexual Exploitation and Adult Safeguarding course within the next twelve months although it is requested that GS attends the next available course;
- (3) GS to complete the Plymouth Ambassador training by 1 April 2019.

Failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in GS being brought back before this Committee to consider sanctions against his licence.

(Councillors Singh, Mrs Pengelly and Jordan were not present for this item due to declaring an interest)

22. **Review Status of Hackney Carriage Driver Licence - JFF**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from JFF;
- (c) have taken into account that JFF made attempts to obtain a Group 2 medical certificate;
- (d) took into account the above report and all that was said into consideration and also considered the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

Members have considered the evidence before them and have resolved that it is proportionate to suspend JFF's licence until he is able to produce a Group 2 medical certificate proving that he is fit to drive. 7 days of that suspension period is imposed because of JFF's clear failure to comply with the policy requirements. It is the responsibility of JFF, the driver, to provide the certificate by the correct time.

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

23. **Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver - JC**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from JC and his employer who was in attendance for support;
- (c) took into account the above report and all that was said into consideration and also considered the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

The Committee considered the application on its own merits, and in this instance agreed to grant JC's application for a Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence subject to the successful completion of the remaining prerequisites namely, the Topographical Knowledge of Plymouth test and the Driving Standards test. The following conditions will also apply:

- (1) JC must successfully complete the VRQ driver qualification in "Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire" or its equivalent, within twelve months of receiving his licence;
- (2) JC must attend a Child Sexual Exploitation and Adult Safeguarding course within the next twelve months although it is requested that he attend the next available course;
- (3) JC is to complete the Plymouth Ambassador training by 1 April 2019.

Failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in JC being brought back before this Committee to consider sanctions against his licence.

24. **Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence - KA**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from KA;
- (c) took into account the above report and all that was said into consideration and also considered the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

Members have decided, after taking all the above into consideration, that it is a proportionate decision to find that KA is not a fit and proper person and to refuse his application for a Hackney Carriage Drivers licence.

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

25. **Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence - MK**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from MK;
- (c) took into account the above report and all that was said into consideration and also considered the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

Members have decided after considering all of the above, to find that MK is not a fit and proper person and to refuse his application for a private hire driver's licence.

(Councillor Buchan was not present for this item)

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

26. **Review Status of Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence - NJR**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from NJR;
- (c) took into account the above report and all that was said into consideration and also considered the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing

Policy.

Members therefore require NJR to produce a Group 2 medical certificate from his registered doctor to the Licensing Office by 21 June 2018. Failure to do so will result in him being brought back before this Committee and all sanctions against his licence considered.

(Councillor Buchan was not present for this item)

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

27. **Review Status of Hackney Carriage Driver Licence - KA**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from KA and took into account that:
 - he had provided 19 character references as well as a car hire form and an email from the Police;
- (c) took into account the above report and all that was said into consideration and also considered the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

Members have considered the evidence before them and after considering all available sanctions have resolved that it is proportionate to find that KA is no longer a fit and proper person to hold a hackney carriage drivers licence and to revoke that licence.

(Councillor Buchan was not present for this item)

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