

Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 17 December 2020

PRESENT:

Councillor Tuffin, Vice Chair in the Chair.

Councillor Mrs Bridgeman, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie and Riley.

Apology for absence: Councillors Derrick.

Also in attendance: Andrea Gilbert (Lawyer), Helen Prendergast (Democratic Adviser) and Mark Small (Enforcement Officer).

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.45 am.

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.

37. **Appointment of Vice-Chair**

The Committee agreed the appointment of Councillor Mrs Bridgeman as Vice Chair for this particular meeting.

38. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made by Councillors, in accordance with the code of conduct.

39. **Minutes**

The committee agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2020 are confirmed as a correct record.

40. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

41. **Appeal Cases**

Members were advised of an appeal that had been successfully defended by the Council in the Magistrates Court.

42. **Exempt Information**

Agreed that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 to exclude the press and the 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 paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

43. **Confidential Minutes**

The Committee agreed that the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2020 are confirmed as a correct record.

44. **Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence**

Members had considered the driver's incomplete application for a Private Hire Vehicle driver's licence which had been supplied without a Certificate of Good Conduct. They had decided in view of his particular circumstances and with consideration of the latest Home Office guidance, that there were clear and compelling reasons to depart from their policy guidelines, in accordance with Paragraph 8 of Chapter 1 of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy and to accept his application.

45. **Review Status of Hackney Carriage Driver Licence**

Members considered and agreed to the driver's request to adjourn this item at today's Taxi Licensing Committee, to enable him to seek legal representation. This item would therefore be adjourned until the next available hearing. If the driver did not attend that hearing, then the matter may be heard in his absence and all available sanctions against his licence considered, including revocation.