



Oversight and Governance

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TAXI LICENSING COMMITTEE

Thursday 21 October 2021
10.00 am
Council House

Members:

Councillor Singh, Chair
Councillor Salmon, Vice Chair
Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Corvid, Derrick, Jordan, Partridge and Tuffin.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

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Tracey Lee
Chief Executive

Taxi Licensing Committee

AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by Committee Members.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

3. Minutes

(Pages 1 - 2)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2021.

4. Chair's Urgent Business

To receive reports on business which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

5. Appeal Cases

The Committee will be provided with the results of the judgement on appeal cases that went to Court.

6. Exempt Information

To consider passing a resolution 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.

Part II (Private Meeting)

Agenda

Members of the Public to Note:

That under the law, the Committee is entitled to consider certain items in private. Member of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

7. Confidential Minutes

(Pages 3 - 6)

To confirm the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2021.

8. Initial Application Request for a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence (Pages 7 - 14)

The Director for Public Health will submit a report on the Initial Application Request for a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence.

9. Initial Application Request for a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence (Pages 15 - 22)

The Director for Public Health will submit a report on the Initial Application Request for a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence.

10. Initial Application Request for a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence (Pages 23 - 30)

The Director for Public Health will submit a report on the Initial Application Request for a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence.

Lunch

11. Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence (Pages 31 - 38)

The Director for Public Health will submit a report on the Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence.

12. Review Status of Private Hire Driver Licence (Pages 39 - 58)

The Director for Public Health will submit a report on the Review Status of a Private Hire Driver Licence.

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Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 2 September 2021

PRESENT:

Councillor Singh, in the Chair.

Councillor Salmon, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Corvid, Derrick, Jordan, Partridge and Tuffin.

Also in attendance: Sharon Day (Lawyer), Steve Forshaw (Senior Enforcement Officer) and Helen Prendergast (Democratic Adviser).

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 12.56 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.

20. **Declarations of Interest**

In accordance with the code of conduct all Councillors declared an interest in minute 26, as they were aware of the taxi driver due to his political activities.

21. **Minutes**

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.

22. **Chair's Urgent Business**

With the permission of the Chair, Councillor Jordan advised that Mr Roy Hamilton had resigned from the role as Secretary of the Plymouth Licensed Taxi Association and considered that the Committee should give a vote of thanks for his services to the taxi trade. Also, in light of Mr Hamilton's resignation, Alderman Martin Leaves had been appointed as the Association's Secretary.

The Committee agreed to formally note the vote of thanks to Mr Roy Hamilton, former Secretary to the Plymouth Licensed Taxi Association for his services to the taxi trade.

Councillor Mrs Aspinall queried when the Taxi Licensing Committee would be meeting, due to the emails that had been received from Racheal Hind (Licensing Services Manager) detailing different meeting dates.

The Democratic Adviser advised that the Taxi Licensing Committee dates had been set out for 2021/22 and ratified by Full Council. There had been no changes to the formal meeting dates.

In accordance with Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Chair brought forward the above item for urgent consideration because of the need to advise Members for information).

23. **Appeal Cases**

The committee noted that there had been no new appeal cases since the last meeting.

24. **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.

25. **Confidential Minutes**

The Committee agreed that the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2021 are confirmed as a correct record.

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

The Committee having -

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from the taxi driver;
- (c) took the following into consideration -
 - the information contained in the report including all law and policy;
 - all that was said by the taxi driver and what was said in his letter.

The Committee agreed that the taxi driver's private hire driver's licence would be suspended for a period of three months. Additionally, during the period of suspension, in order to ensure that his driving is of an appropriate standard on his return to the trade, the taxi driver is to successfully complete the driving standards test. If he does not complete the test, he must be brought back before the Committee.

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

The following relates to exempt or confidential matters (Para(s) 1 of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Govt Act 1972). Any breach of confidentiality could prejudice the Council/person/body concerned & might amount to a breach of the councillors /employees codes of conduct.

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