

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)