

## **Taxi Licensing Committee**

**Thursday 5 July 2012**

### **PRESENT:**

Councillor Haydon, in the Chair.

Councillor Bowie, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Foster, Mrs Nicholson, Rennie, Ricketts and Singh.

Also in attendance: George Curness (Taxi Licensing Officer), Sharon Day (Legal Representative) Mark Small (Taxi Licensing Officer), Steve Forshaw (Taxi Licensing Officer) and Helen Wright (Democratic Support Officer).

The meeting started at 10 am and finished at 3.40 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. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

#### 15. **MINUTES**

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2012 are confirmed as a correct record.

#### 16. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

With the permission of the Chair, the legal representative sought clarification on whether the committee wished to consider GAD's application for a private hire driver's licence, in light of only receiving part of the information required.

#### 17. **APPEAL CASES**

The committee was advised that there were no new appeal cases since the last meeting.

#### 18. **EXEMPT INFORMATION**

Agreed that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public are excluded 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 3 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act, 2000.

#### 19. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES (E3 AND E7)**

There were no confidential minutes to consider.

20. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - AJJ (E3 AND E7)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director for Place;
- (b) heard from AJJ.

Agreed to grant AJJ's application for a hackney carriage driver's licence subject to him satisfactorily completing all the necessary pre requisites and also completing the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent qualification within the first 12 months of being licensed.

21. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - GAD (E3 AND E7)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director for Place;
- (b) having heard from GAD and taken into account the certificate of good conduct received from the German Embassy.

Agreed to grant GAD's application for a private hire driver's licence subject to the outstanding certificate of good conduct not revealing any convictions or cautions. The grant of the licence will be subject to GAD's satisfactorily completing all of the necessary pre requisites and also completing the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent qualification within the first 12 months of being licensed.

(Councillor Ricketts was not present for this application).

22. **LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER - REVIEW OF LICENCE STATUS - CL (E3 AND E7)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director for Place;
- (b) heard from CL;
- (c) heard from character witness on behalf of CL.

Having considered all of the above the committee agreed to suspend CL's private hire driver's licence for three days under section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975. This was as a result of CL's unacceptable behaviour which showed a lack of commitment to work with the Police and Licensing Authorities and this was a relevant consideration under the licensing objective of preventing of crime and disorder and protecting consumers.

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

23. **LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER - REVIEW OF LICENCE STATUS - KSJM (E3 AND E7)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report of the Director for Place;
- (b) heard from KSJM.

Having considered all of the above the committee agreed to suspend KSJM's private hire driver's licence for three days under section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975 as a result of him repeatedly failing to comply with the conditions of his licence as this did not show commitment to work with the Licensing Authority which is a relevant consideration in relation to the licensing objective of preventing crime and disorder and protecting consumers.

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

24. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - DC (E3 AND E7)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report of the Director for Place;
- (b) heard from DC.

Having considered all of the above the committee agreed to refuse to grant DC's application for a private hire driver's licence as he was not considered to be a fit and proper person as a result of concerns for public safety.

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

25. **LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER/HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER - REVIEW OF LICENCE STATUS - RBD'A (E3 AND E7)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director for Place;
- (b) heard from RBD'A;
- (c) heard from RBD'A's representative.

Having taken the above into account the committee agreed to suspend RBD'A's Hackney Carriage Driver's licence for one day in accordance with section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975 as failing to comply with the conditions of licence did not demonstrate a willingness to work with the Licensing Authority which is a relevant

consideration under the licensing objective of preventing crime and disorder and protecting consumers.

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

26. **LICENSED HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER - REVIEW OF LICENCE STATUS - AJH (E3 AND E7)**

The committee was told that AJH was unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances.

The committee therefore agreed to adjourn the matter to the next available date and that the licensing officer was to make enquiries to clarify certain issues.