

Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 2 August 2012

PRESENT:

Councillor Haydon, in the Chair.

Councillor Bowie, Vice Chair.

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

Also in attendance: Steve Forshaw (Licensing Officer), Andrea Gilbert (Lawyer), Mark Small (Licensing Officer) and Helen Wright (Democratic Support Officer).

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 12.05 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.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Councillor Bowie (minute 36) knew the applicant (personal interest)

Councillor Ricketts (minute 34) knew the applicant (personal interest)

28. MINUTES

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2012 are confirmed as a correct record.

29. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

With the permission of the Chair, the licensing officer reported that previously AJH had failed to attend two separate committee meetings. The licensing office had been informed that AJH was currently recovering from an illness, following two weeks in intensive care at Derriford Hospital. It was therefore unlikely that he would either be attending a future meeting of the committee or commencing work.

(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 inform councillors).

30. APPEAL CASES

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

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

32. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES (E3 AND E7)**

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2012 are confirmed as a correct record.

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

The committee –

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

The committee agreed to grant MJA's application for a private hire driver's licence subject to him satisfactorily completing all the remaining necessary pre-requisite tests, namely the Knowledge of Plymouth and driving standards test and also completing the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent qualification within the first 12 months of being licensed.

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

The committee –

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

The committee agreed to grant STB's application for a private hire driver's licence subject to her satisfactorily completing all the necessary pre-requisite tests 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 declared a personal interest in the above matter and left the room.

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

The committee –

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

The committee agreed to grant MGL's application for a private hire driver's licence subject to him satisfactorily completing all the necessary pre-requisite tests and also completing the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent qualification within the first 12 months of being licensed.

36. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR'S LICENCE - SLC (E3 AND E7)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director for Place;
- (b) heard from SLC;
- (c) heard from SLC's representative;
- (d) considered a written statement supplied by SLC.

The committee agreed to adjourn proceedings until planning and other issues have been resolved, as at present, they are not in possession of sufficient information to make a fully informed decision.

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

Councillor Bowie declared a personal interest in the above matter and left the room.

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

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director for Place;
- (b) was advised that POB was not present and that no communication had been received by the licensing office to explain his absence.

The committee agreed that a new request for attendance at the next available committee is sent to POB by recorded delivery; if POB fails to attend the next committee, the matter may be considered in his absence and all possible sanctions against his licence will be considered, including revocation.

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