

Taxi Licensing Committee

Wednesday 3 June 2015

PRESENT:

Councillor Jarvis, in the Chair.

Councillor Mrs Foster, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Aspinall (substitute for Councillor Bowie), Mrs Bowyer (substitute for Councillor Mrs Nicholson), Rennie and Singh.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Bowie and Fry.

Also in attendance: Sharon Day (Lawyer), Steve Forshaw (Senior Enforcement Officer), David Hughes (Senior Officer, Public Protection Service), Kevin McKenzie (Diverse Communities Officer) and Lynn Young (Democratic Support Officer).

The meeting started at 10.03 am and finished at 3.17 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.

1. TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The committee noted the appointment of Councillor Jarvis as Chair, and Councillor Bowie as Vice Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the code of conduct, members made the following declarations of interest –

Name	Agenda item	Reason	Interest
Councillor Jarvis	10	Had been involved in an earlier decision for this agenda item	Private
Councillor Singh	12	Applicant known to him	Private

3. MINUTES

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 April 2015 are confirmed as a correct record.

4. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Chair's urgent business, however under this item Councillor Jarvis took the opportunity to remind committee members of the importance of arranging a substitute to attend the meeting if they were unable to attend.

5. **APPEAL CASES**

The committee was advised that there had been no appeal cases since the last meeting.

6. **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR**

The committee noted the schedule of meetings for the forthcoming year.

7. **EXEMPT INFORMATION**

Agreed that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the press and 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 paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part I Schedule 12a of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

8. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

Agreed that the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 16 April 2015 are confirmed as a correct record.

9. **APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO COVER A HACKNEY CARRIAGE WITH AN ADVERTISEMENT HAVING REGARD TO THE COUNCIL'S TAXI HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY - MS (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from MS;
- (c) heard from MS's representative;
- (d) heard from the Diverse Communities Officer;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed that having taken the above into account the advert would not be approved.

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

(Councillor Jarvis declared a private interest in this agenda item and withdrew from the meeting, and Councillor Mrs Foster chaired this item)

(Councillor Mrs Aspinall was absent for this agenda item)

(Kevin McKenzie and David Hughes left the meeting after this agenda item)

10. **REVIEW OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE - CRT (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from CRT;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed that having taken the above into account to suspend CRT's Hackney Carriage driver's licence under Section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975 until he had successfully completed the Taxi Driving Standards Test and had produced a medical certificate confirming that he was fit to Group II standards. He would also be required to successfully complete the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent within 12 months.

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

11. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - AH (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from AH;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed to grant AH's application for a private hire driver's licence subject to him completing the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi or Private Hire or equivalent within 12 months of being granted a licence.

(Councillor Singh declared a private interest in this agenda item and withdrew from the meeting)

12. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - JM (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from JM;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed that having taken the above into account JM was not a fit and proper person to hold a private hire driver's licence and therefore his application would be refused.

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

(Councillor Singh was not present for this agenda item)

13. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - TWO'L (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from TWO'L;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed to grant TWO'LS application for a private hire driver's licence. He was required to take the Driving Standards Test and produce a medical certificate prior to grant but he was not required to re-take the Knowledge of Plymouth test.

(Councillor Singh was not present for this agenda item)

14. **REVIEW OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - DPT (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from DPT;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The committee agreed that having taken the above into account to suspend DPT's private hire driver's licence under Section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975 until such time as he successfully completes the Taxi Driving Standards Test because at present his driving standards fall below that required of a licensed driver.

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