

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (3)** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 2 September 2015 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor B Glass (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors T Nearney, D Stoker and A Willis

Also Present:

H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader)

G Proud (Legal Officer)

Sgt Tim Robson (Durham Constabulary)

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Blakey and J Maitland.

2 Substitute Members

Councillor A Willis substituted for Councillor J Blakey.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor T Nearney declared an interest in agenda item 7 and withdrew from the meeting during consideration thereof.

4 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2015 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

5 Exclusion of the Public

That under section 100 (A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

6 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence

The Chairman welcomed the Licence Holder and his supporter to the meeting and introductions were made.

Consideration was given to the report of the Licensing Team Leader which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Licensing Team Leader provided members with a copy of a character reference which the Licence Holder had provided prior to the meeting. The reference had not been verified.

A representative from Durham Constabulary provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report. The Licence Holder and his supporter were given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Licence Holder and his supporter addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.00 am. After reconvening at 11.15 am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence be revoked.

7 Application for the Renewal of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence

The Council's Solicitor advised the Sub-Committee that the Licence Holder had had to leave but had indicated that he was happy for the application to be considered in his absence rather than re-schedule to a later date. He had provided additional information for members to consider in view of his absence, a copy of which was circulated to Members.

Members indicated that they were happy to hear the application in his absence.

Consideration was given to the report of the Licensing Team Leader which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence (for copy see file of Minutes).

A representative from Durham Constabulary provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.30 am. After reconvening at 11.35 am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That the Licence Holder be granted a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence but he be reminded to seek the advice of the Licensing Officer in the future to ensure his application form was completed correctly.