

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (1)** held in Council Chamber, Council Offices, Spennymoor on **Wednesday 3 June 2015 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor L Marshall (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors P Crathorne, O Gunn and D Stoker

Also Present:

C Greenlay (Principal Solicitor)

H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader)

N Thornton (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

PCSO M Haigh (Durham Constabulary)

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors K Hopper and A Willis.

2 Substitutes

Councillor O Gunn substituted for Councillor K Hopper.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Exclusion of the Public

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be 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 1, 2, 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

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

The Chairman welcomed the Licence Holder and his Solicitor to the meeting and introduction were made.

The Licensing Team Leader advised the Sub-Committee that a statement from the Local Authority Designated Officer from Children and Adult Services had been circulated to all parties prior to the meeting.

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

A representative from Durham Constabulary addressed the Sub-Committee in respect of the matters detailed in the report and indicated that they had concerns about the continuation of the Hackney Carriage Driver Licence. The Licence Holder and his Solicitor were given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Sub-Committee also heard from a witness in relation to the incident and the Licence Holder and his Solicitor and Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Licence Holder and his Solicitor addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from members.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.05 am. After reconvening at 11.30 am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

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

7 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver

The Chairman welcomed the Licence Holder and his Representative to the meeting and introduction were made.

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer was in attendance and addressed the Sub-Committee on the matters contained in the report.

A representative from Durham Constabulary indicated that they had no representations to make in respect of the continuation of the Hackney Carriage Driver Licence.

The Licence Holder and his Representative addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from members.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 12.00 pm. After reconvening at 12.05 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Licence Holder be issued with a written warning for a 6 month period.

N Thornton, Licensing Enforcement Officer left the meeting

8 Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence

The Chairman welcomed the Applicant to the meeting and introductions were made.

Members were provided with two references which the Applicant had provided and had been verified.

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

A representative from Durham Constabulary addressed the Sub-Committee in respect of the matters detailed in the report and indicated that they had concerns about the suitability of the Applicant. The Applicant was given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Applicant addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from members.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 12.15 pm. After reconvening at 12.30 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Applicant be granted a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence but he be issued with a written warning for a 6 month period.