

## Licensing Committee

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 13th March, 2024 at The Council Chamber, Retford Town Hall, DN22 6DB

Present: Councillor J Potts (Chair)

Councillors:

C Tindle	M Carroll
A Coultate	T P Eaton
D Henderson	D J Merryweather
F Merryweather	L A Sanders
D A Naylor	S E Shaw

Officers: S Bacon, R Colebourne and J Flynn.

(The meeting opened at 6.31 pm.)

#### **41 Apologies For Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sanger.

#### **42 Declarations Of Interest By Members And Officers**

##### **42a Members**

There were no Declarations of Interest by Members.

##### **43 Officers**

There were no Declarations of Interest by Officers.

#### **44 Minutes Of The Meeting Held On 17th January 2024 and 12th February 2024**

**Resolved** that:

The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 be approved.

#### **45 Outstanding Minutes List**

**Resolved** that:

The outstanding minutes list be received.

#### **46 Report(s) Of Council Solicitor**

There were no items for discussion.

#### **47 Report(s) Of Council Solicitor**

#### **47a New Application for Combined Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver Licence**

(The Senior Licensing Officer who had prepared the report, left the meeting whilst Members were deliberating)

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Members were presented with a report for consideration and determination of an application for a 1 year Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence.

The Applicant attended the meeting to speak in support of the application. Members were afforded the opportunity to question the Applicant and considered the response given.

The Licensing Committee must satisfy itself that the applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a licence. In respect of applications for a Driver's Licence the Council shall not grant a driver's licence unless they are satisfied that the applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a driver's licence.

The term 'fit and proper person' refers only to whether the applicant is fit and proper to drive a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle, or to act as an operator of a private hire vehicle. There is no definition of the term 'fit and proper'; this is for the Licensing Committee to determine. However, regard should be had to the applicant's driving standards and experience (Applicant's must have held a full driving licence for no less than one year prior to the application), his character (2 character references must be provided) and any relevant previous convictions. Regard will also be had to whether or not the applicant is physically and mentally fit to drive a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle (Applicant's must undergo and pass a medical examination, which the Applicant has done).

### **Resolved that:**

The Applicant is a 'fit and proper person' to hold a 1 year combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence and approved the application for grant.

### **47b Review of Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence**

(The Senior Licensing Officer who had prepared the report left the meeting whilst Members were deliberating).

Members were presented with a report to review a Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence.

The Licence Holder attended the meeting and spoke to explain their actions/conduct. Members were afforded the opportunity to put questions to the Licence Holder and considered the responses given.

### **Resolved that:**

The committee considered the conduct of the Licence Holder and directed that the Council's Solicitor shall issue them a written warning as to their future conduct and the Licence Holder will be instructed to take a Driver remedial course at their own cost.

### **47c Review of Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence**

(The Senior Licensing Officer who had prepared the report left the meeting whilst Members were deliberating).

Members were presented with a report to review a Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence.

The Licence Holder attended the meeting and spoke to explain their actions/conduct. Members were afforded the opportunity to put questions to the Licence Holder and considered the

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responses given.

**Resolved** that:

The committee considered the conduct of the Licence Holder and directed that the Council's Solicitor suspend the Licence, on notice. The suspension will remain in place until the Licence Holder has completed the Blue Lamp Trust Virtual Disability Awareness Training Course and retakes the Trust2Ride safeguarding course which shall be undertaken at the Drivers cost.

**48 Any Other Business Which The Chair Considers To Be Urgent**

(Meeting closed at 7.53 pm.)