

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Licensing Committee held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 8 October 2020 at 11.00am.

Present: Councillors C Ahern (Convener), D Illingworth (Vice-Convener), K Baird (up to Item 3), R Brock (up to Item P2), A Coates, R McCall, A Parrott and C Stewart.

In Attendance: PC L Gregge, PC K Thomson-Craig and Sgt J Gordon (all Police Scotland); M McLaren, S Michie, A Taylor and A Brown (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors J Rebbeck, F Sarwar, R Watters and M Williamson.

Councillor C Ahern (Convener), Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. MINUTES

The Minute of Meeting of the Licensing Committee of 27 August 2020 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

COUNCILLOR BAIRD LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT DUE TO CONNECTIVITY ISSUES.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973.

P1. RENEWAL OF TAXI / PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER LICENCE NO. TD1630

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (20/176) together with a letter of representation dated 21 September 2020 from Police Scotland regarding Renewal of Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence No. TD1630.

The applicant was in attendance. The representative of Police Scotland addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions.

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Resolved:

Consideration of renewal of Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence No TD1630 be deferred to a future meeting of the Licensing Committee as soon as possible following the applicant's scheduled court date in February 2021.

COUNCILLOR BROCK LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT DUE TO CONNECTIVITY ISSUES.

P2. SUSPENSION OF TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER LICENCE NO. TD1711

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (20/177) together with (1) letters requesting suspension dated 10 July 2020 and 24 August 2020 from Police Scotland; (2) a letter of support from the licence holder; (3) letter from North Cumbria Magistrates' Court; (4) character reference submitted on behalf of the licence holder by his employer; and (5) email from Fair City School of Motoring, regarding Suspension of Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence No. TD1711.

The applicant was in attendance, accompanied by his employer.

The representative of Police Scotland addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions. The applicant and his employer also addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions.

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Resolved:

Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver Licence No. TD1711 be suspended for the duration of the licence i.e. to 7 January 2022, on the grounds that the licence holder is no longer a fit and proper person to be the holder of the licence.

COUNCILLOR STEWART REQUESTED THAT HIS DISSENT TO THE DECISION TAKEN BE RECORDED.

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