

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Licensing Committee held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 7 October 2021 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors C Ahern (Convener), K Baird, D Illingworth, A Parrott, C Stewart and M Williamson.

In Attendance: Sergeant J Gordon and PC D Smith (both Police Scotland); M McLaren, S Michie, A Taylor and A Brown (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors R Brock, B Brawn, R McCall, J Rebbeck, W Robertson and F Sarwar.

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 26 August 2021 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

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

P1. GRANT OF TAXI / PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVERS' LICENCE – TD1892

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (21/182) together with a letter of representation dated 23 August 2021 from Police Scotland regarding Grant of Taxi / Private Hire Car Drivers' Licence No. TD1892.

The applicant was in attendance.

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

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Resolved:

Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence TD1892 be granted for a period of 3 years with effect from 7 October 2021.

P2. GRANT OF A TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER'S LICENCE NO. TD2030

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (21/183) together with a letter of objection dated 27 July 2021 from Police Scotland regarding Grant of Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence No. TD2030.

The applicant failed to attend. The representative of Police Scotland addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions.

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Resolved:

Grant of Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence TD2030 be refused, on the grounds that due to the pattern of criminal behaviour detailed in the letter from Police Scotland and the potential threat to public safety, together with the lack of an explanation from the applicant as to the circumstances of the alleged offences, the applicant is not a fit and proper person to be the holder of a Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence. However, following the outcome of the pending court case the applicant could re-apply to a future meeting of the Licensing Committee.

P3. GRANT OF WINDOW CLEANER LICENCE NO. WC359

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (21/184) together with a letter of objection dated 3 August 2021 from Police Scotland regarding Grant of Window Cleaner Licence No. WC359.

The applicant was in attendance.

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

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Resolved:

Consideration of Grant of Window Cleaner Licence WC359 be deferred to the next meeting of the Licensing Committee scheduled to take place on Thursday 18 November 2021.

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