

Minutes of: LICENSING AND SAFETY PANEL

Date of Meeting: 7 January 2015

Present: Councillor D Jones (in the Chair)
Councillors Adams, N Bayley, S Briggs, D Cassidy,
J Grimshaw, R Hodgkinson, A Matthews, A Simpson,
S Southworth and J Walton

Also in attendance:

Public Attendance: There was one member of the public in attendance

Apologies for Absence: Councillor I Bevan and Councillor T Holt

LSP.568 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest raised in relation to any items on the agenda.

LSP.569 MINUTES

Delegated decision:

That the Minutes of the Licensing and Safety Panel meeting held on 4 December 2014, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

LSP.570 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Charles Oakes of the Hackney Drivers' Association Ltd attended the meeting and addressed the Licensing and Safety Panel in relation to the taxi rank on Market Street and the fact that this rank was not patrolled by the Civil Parking Enforcement Officers, unlike the other ranks in Bury Town Centre. Mr Oakes asked what steps could be taken in order to rectify this.

The Head of Trading Standards and Licensing explained that the difficulty arises because the Council ranks are established under differing pieces of legislation. For the older ranks established before the decriminalisation of parking offences, enforcement action is limited to Police Officers and GMP traffic wardens. For the newer ranks, enforcement action is limited to the Council contractors. On receipt of the complaint from Mr Oakes, colleagues in Traffic Management were asked for guidance but their response has not yet been received.

It was agreed to re-contact Traffic Management to explain that the matter had now been raised at the Licensing and Safety Panel, with the hope of finding a solution.

LSP.571 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to report at the meeting.

LSP.572 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Delegated decision:

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business since it involved the likely disclosure of information relating to individuals who hold Licences granted by the Authority or Applicants for Licences provided by the Authority.

LSP.573 SUSPENSION/REVOCATION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES

1. Applicant 39/2014 attended the meeting and was represented by Mr Oakes of the Hackney Drivers' Association Ltd and supported by his wife and daughter.

Mr Oakes addressed the Panel and requested that this hearing be adjourned until the next meeting, to be held on 12 February 2015.

Delegated decision:

It was agreed unanimously by the members of the Licensing and Safety Panel that this matter be deferred to the next meeting, to be held on 12 February 2015.

2. Licence holder 40/2014 attended the meeting and was represented by Mr Ahmed, Solicitor. The Chair outlined the procedure to be followed and the Licensing Manager read the report submitted by the Assistant Director (Localities), which was accepted by the licence holder and his representative.

The licence holder and his representative were given the opportunity to address the Panel and Mr Ahmed, Solicitor, read a statement of mitigation on behalf of the licence holder.

Delegated decision:

The Panel carefully considered the report and the oral representations made by the licence holder and his Solicitor and after taking into consideration the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Panel resolved, unanimously, to **admonish the licensee as to future conduct.**

LSP.574 APPLICATIONS FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES

1. Applicant 41/2014 did not attend the meeting and the Licensing Manager explained that the Applicant had been in contact that morning to explain he was unwell and would be unable to attend the meeting.

The Licensing and Safety Panel agreed to defer the matter until the next meeting.

2. Applicant 42/2014 attended the meeting and was supported by his Son. The Chair outlined the procedure to be followed and the Licensing Manager presented the report submitted by the Assistant Director (Localities), which was accepted by the Applicant and his Son.

Delegated decision:

The Panel considered the written report and oral representations made by the Applicant and his Son and determined the Applicant to be a fit and proper person in accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and resolved, unanimously, to **grant the application**.

COUNCILLOR D JONES
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.00 pm)