

NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE B of the LICENSING COMMITTEE held at the Brynsworthy Environment Centre, Barnstaple on Thursday 31st August 2017 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Members:

Councillor Barker (in the Chair)

Councillors Gubb and Jones.

Substitute: Councillor Wilkinson.

Officers:

Licensing Officer (PF), Lead Officer (Licensing) (HB), Assistant Solicitor (DH) and Corporate and Community Services Officer (KJ).

(a) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

(c) EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS AND RESTRICTION OF DOCUMENTS

RESOLVED:

- (i) That, under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended from time to time), namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
- (ii) That all documents and reports relating to the item be confirmed as "Not for Publication".

(d) APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE (REFERENCE PFND002)

The Chair introduced herself, Members of the Sub-Committee, Officers present, and the applicant present, before outlining the nature of the hearing.

The Licensing Officer outlined a report (circulated previously) regarding an application for the grant of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence (reference PFND002).

The Chairman invited the applicant to present his case to the Sub-Committee.

The applicant addressed the Sub-Committee and gave details as to his personal history along with employment history and background information in support of his application. He advised that he had a Security Industry Authority (SIA) Licence and had worked with vulnerable adults and at events including children.

The Sub-Committee questioned the applicant regarding his employment history.

The Sub-Committee invited the applicant's witness (who had also employed the applicant as a door steward and security guard) to give his opinion of the applicant.

The applicant's witness gave details regarding how long he had known the applicant and in what capacity. He gave assurances of his trust in the applicant.

In response to a question from the Sub-Committee, the applicant gave further specific details of his past.

The Sub-Committee had no further questions for the applicant.

The Licensing Officer summed up the application and advised the Sub-Committee of the available options.

The applicant confirmed that he had nothing further to add.

The Licensing Officer summed up.

RESOLVED, that everyone be excluded from the meeting with the exception of Members and the Legal representative and in order for the Sub-Committee to receive legal advice in accordance with paragraph 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

RESOLVED that everyone be re-admitted to the meeting.

The Chairman requested that the clerk read the proposed decision, which was voted upon and agreed.

RESOLVED that the application for a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence (Ref. PFND002) be granted.

In reaching its decision, the Sub-Committee had regard to Section 4.12 and Appendix H of the North Devon District Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy Document (August 2016).

The Sub-Committee was satisfied that the applicant had demonstrated that he was a fit and proper person as he was a registered S.I.A. Door Steward/Security Guard which involved working with vulnerable adults and at events including children.

The Sub-Committee also considered that the spent convictions were over five years old.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 10:36 a.m.

NOTE: These minutes will be confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting of the Licensing Committee.