



LICENSING APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Appeals and Complaints Committee of South Norfolk Council held at South Norfolk House, Long Stratton on Wednesday 11 April 2018 at 11:00am

Committee Members Present: Councillors: D Goldson (Chairman), C Gould and V Bell

Officers in Attendance: The Legal Advisor to the Sub Committee (R Essex), the Operational Economic Development Manager (D Disney) and the Licensing and Enforcement Officer (R Setford)

644 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

645 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was

RESOLVED: that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended).

646 BREACH OF CONDITIONS FOR A COMBINED HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER

(The driver, his wife and his employer were in attendance for this item)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the procedure for determining the application.

The Licensing and Enforcement Officer outlined the salient points of her report, explaining the circumstances which had led to the requirement for the Committee to determine whether the driver was considered a fit and proper person to retain his Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licence.

The driver addressed the panel and outlined the circumstances leading to the breach of his licence conditions. His employer then provided members with a character reference, advising that whilst not 'an angel', the driver was one of his most qualified and trustworthy employees and that he deserved another chance. He further added that, although the driver had failed to report, in writing, the details which had resulted in a breach of the conditions, he felt that he himself should share the blame for this oversight.

The driver, his employer and the Licensing and Enforcement Officer responded to a number of questions from members, after which the officers and the driver and his representatives left the meeting whilst members determined the application. They were then re-admitted to the meeting, and the Chairman announced the decision.

RESOLVED:

1. that the driver should retain his Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licence, subject to evidence being submitted to officers, within six months, of his successful completion of a relevant Wellbeing course; and
2. that a final written warning as to future conduct (as detailed in the report) be issued to the driver, who was further reminded that it was his responsibility to inform the Council, in writing, of any future issues.

The meeting concluded at 12.05pm

Chairman