

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 20th September 2017 at Retford Town Hall

Present: Councillor J Potts (Chair)
Councillors B A Bowles, K M Greaves, S Isard, G Jones, D Merryweather,
D R Pressley, A Smith and K Sutton.

Officers in attendance: C Hopkinson, W Nuttall, A Webster and S Wormald.

(Meeting opened at 6.30pm.)

(The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and read out the Fire Alarm/Evacuation Procedure. She also enquired as to whether any member of the public wished to film/record the meeting or any part thereof; however, although the applicant was present, this was not taken up).

19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J R Anderson, H M Brand and G Clarkson.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

(a) Members

There were no Declarations of Interest by members.

(b) Officers

There were no Declarations of Interest by officers.

21. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH JULY 2017

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26th July 2017 be approved.

22. MINUTES FOR ACTION

The Council Solicitor informed Members that all items except Minute No. 17(a) had been implemented. The deferred application, minute No. 17(a), is on the Agenda.

RESOLVED that the Minutes for Action be received.

23. OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST

The Council Solicitor informed Members that a report in relation to DVSA Taxi Driver Assessments would be presented to the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED that the Outstanding Minutes List be received.

SECTION A – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PUBLIC

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

24. REPORT(S) OF THE COUNCIL SOLICITOR

(a) Regulation of Performances of Hypnotism – Delegation to Officer

Members were advised that the report sought delegated authority for officers to authorise or reject applications regarding hypnotism, as a means of entertainment. Where an appeal is lodged against a decision to refuse authorisation for staging hypnotism it is proposed that a Licensing Panel is set up to review the decision.

The Licensing Department has been contacted by the Majestic Theatre, Retford, who are proposing to hold hypnotism for entertainment purposes. Having been contacted by the Theatre it was noted that the Council's current constitution does not contain a relevant delegation to Officers to determine an application.

In response to questions raised Members were advised that hypnotists are regulated by the Federation of Ethical Stage Hypnotists.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Council Solicitor and Principal Solicitor (Licensing & Regulatory) be given delegated authority to authorise or reject applications regarding hypnotism, as a means of entertainment, and the Council's constitution be amended to reflect this.
2. Where an appeal is lodged against a decision to refuse an authorisation for staging hypnotism, a Licensing Panel be set up to review the decision, and the Council's constitution be amended to reflect this.

25. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and after considering the public interest test as set out by the officer in the body of the report, Members agreed that the following items of business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1, and therefore, in accordance with Section 100A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting:

Agenda Item No. 7(a) – Application for combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence (Deferred Application) – Paragraph 1.

Agenda Item No. 7(b) – Application for combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence (Deferred Application) – Paragraph 1.

SECTION B – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

26. REPORT(S) OF THE PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR (LICENSING AND REGULATORY)

(a) Application for combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence (Deferred Application)

Members were asked to consider and determine the application for a 3 year combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The applicant was present. Members had requested further evidence from the applicant at the previous meeting and this had been provided and circulated to Members.

RESOLVED that the applicant be granted a three-year Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

(b) Application for combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence (Deferred Application)

Members were asked to consider and determine the application for a 3 year combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The applicant was present and answered member's questions in support of the application.

RESOLVED that the applicant be granted a three-year Combined Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

27. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT.

As there was no other urgent business to be discussed, the Chair closed the meeting.

(Meeting closed at 7.30pm.)