

Licensing Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 5th January, 2022 at The Ceres Suite, Worksop Town Hall, S80 2AH

Present: Councillor J Potts (Chair)

Councillors:	N J Sanders	G Clarkson
	A Coultate	T P Eaton
	K M Greaves	D J Merryweather
	J Naish	C Tindle

Officers in attendance: S Bacon and E Hinsley.

(The meeting opened at 6.30 pm.)

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

30 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Depledge and J Sanger.

31 Declarations of Interest by Members and Officers

31a Members

There were no Declarations of Interest by Members.

31b Officers

There were no Declarations of Interest by officers.

32 Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2021

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2021 be approved.

33 Outstanding Minutes List

Resolved that the Outstanding Minutes List be received.

Section A – Items for Discussion in Public

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

34 Report(s) of Principal Solicitor (Licensing and Regulatory)

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34a Fees and Charges 2022/23

The Committee was asked to review the proposed increase to the present level of fees and charges for Licences for 2022/23.

Cabinet had previously approved the overall scheme of fees and charges for 2022/23 at its meeting on 30th November 2021, however licensing fees were only approved subject to approval by the Licensing Committee.

The Principal Solicitor (Licensing and Regulatory) (PS(LR)) advised that it was a legal requirement to publicly advertise any proposed increases in the fees for Hackney Carriage Vehicles, Private Hire Vehicles and Private Hire Operators in the local press.

Members discussed the possibility of increasing the discount on Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire Vehicles for electric and hybrid vehicles in order to encourage the uptake of environmentally friendly vehicles.

Resolved that the fees and charges for 2022/23 be approved as amended to include an increased discount on Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire Vehicles licences; 50% for fully electric and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and 25% for hybrid vehicles which meet the green vehicle specification.

35 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. 6(a) – Application for Combined Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver’s Licence and Plate Exemption – Paragraph 1

Agenda Item No. 6(b) – Review of Combined Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver’s Licence – Paragraph 1

Section B – Items for Discussion in Private

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

36 Report(s) of Principal Solicitor (Licensing and Regulatory)

36a Application for a Combined Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire Vehicle Drivers Licence and Plate Exemption

Members were asked to consider granting an exemption from displaying external vehicle plates.

The PS(LR) advised that the application was for the plate exemption only, as the applicant already held a private hire driver’s licence.

The applicant was in attendance and answered questions posed by Members in reference to the application.

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Resolved that the applicant be granted an exemption under Section 75(3) LG(MP)A 1976 for the duration of the Private Hire Vehicle licence (if the Bassetlaw District Council Vehicle Testing Station deems it appropriate to grant a vehicle licence after inspecting the vehicle).

36b Review of Combined Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire Driver's Licence

Members were asked to consider and determine what action to take, if any, against a holder of a combined Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The applicant was present and answered questions posed by Members. The meeting was also attended by the applicant's employer who spoke in support of his employee.

Resolved that the applicant be issued with a warning as to future conduct to stay on file for the remainder of the current licence period.

37 Any Other Business which the Chair Considers to be Urgent

As there was no other urgent business to be discussed, the Chair wished all a happy new year and closed the meeting.

(The meeting closed at 7.38 pm.)