

Minute of meeting of the Civic Licensing Committee held in the Municipal Buildings, Falkirk on Wednesday 15 May 2019 at 9.30 a.m.

<u>Councillors:</u> David Balfour

Lorna Binnie Jim Blackwood

Gordon Hughes (Convener)
Depute Provost Ann Ritchie

Officers: Bryan Douglas, Licensing Co-ordinator

Frances Kobiela, Senior Solicitor

Antonia Sobieraj, Committee Services Officer

CL18. Apologies

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Provost Buchanan and Councillors Aitchison and Flynn.

CL19. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made at this point.

CL20. Minutes

Decision

- (a) The minute of the meeting of the Civic Licensing Committee held on 10 April 2019 was approved; and
- (b) The minute of the special meeting of the Civic Licensing Committee held on 25 April was approved.

CL21. List of Applications Granted under Delegated Powers in April 2019, Notifications of Public Processions Pending, and Breakdown of Taxi and Private Hire Licences in Operation

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer detailing the applications granted under delegated powers during April 2019 in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

Decision

The committee noted the report.

CL22. Knowledge Test Failures

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer providing details on an application for a new taxi driver licences, the knowledge test opportunities, and the options available.

Decision

The committee noted the report.

CL23. Exclusion of Public

RESOLVED in terms of section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the meeting the press and public for the following items of business on the grounds that they would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the said Act.

CL24. Application for the Grant of a New Skin Piercing and Tattooing Licence

The applicant, Mr S, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on an application for the grant of a new skin piercing and tattooing licence (a) advising of the background to the application; (b) outlining the licence conditions; (c) detailing the consultations undertaken and responses received, and (d) summarising the experience and training of the proposed tattooist.

Mr S was heard in support of his application and examples of his work were circulated.

Questions were then asked by members of the committee.

The committee agreed to a short adjournment. On reconvening, all members were present as per the sederunt.

Decision

The committee agreed to grant the skin piercing and tattooing licence for a period of one year subject to the standard conditions.

CL25. Request for Notice of Exemption from Carrying a Guide Dog, a Hearing Dog or an Assistance Dog

The applicant, Mr M, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on an application received from the licenceholder requesting a notice of exemption from the requirement to carry guide dogs, hearing dogs or assistance dogs in his taxi.

Mr M was heard in support of his application.

Questions were then asked by members of the committee.

The committee agreed to a short adjournment. On reconvening, all members were present as per the sederunt.

Decision

The committee agreed to grant the notice of exemption from carrying all dogs including guide, hearing and assistance dogs until the licence expires.

Prior to consideration of the following item of business Depute Provost Ritchie declared a non financial interest in item 7 (CL26) by virtue of having prior knowledge of the applicant, in consequence of which she recused herself from consideration of the item, having regard to the objective test in the Code of Conduct. Councillor Ritchie thereafter left the meeting.

CL26. Application for the Grant of a New Taxi Driver Licence

The applicant, Mr McC, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer providing details on an application for the grant of a new taxi driver licence, the consultations carried out, the responses received, and detailing the applicant's record.

Mr McC was heard in support of his application.

Questions were then asked by members of the committee.

The committee agreed to a short adjournment. On reconvening, all members were present as per the sederunt, with the exception of Depute Provost Ritchie.

Decision

The committee agreed to grant the taxi driver licence, subject to the standard conditions.

Councillor Ritchie re-entered the meeting following consideration of the foregoing item of business.

CL27. Application for the Grant of a New Taxi Driver Licence

The applicant, Mr M, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer providing details on an application for the grant of a new taxi driver licence, the consultations carried out, the responses received, and detailing the applicant's record.

Mr M was heard in support of his application. Thereafter a copy of a letter from the applicant's consultant psychiatrist was circulated.

The committee agreed to a short adjournment. On reconvening, all members were present as per the sederunt.

Decision

The committee agreed to grant the taxi driver licence for a period of twelve months, subject to (a) a review after six months by officers from the Licensing section; and (b) the standard conditions.

CL28. Application for the Grant of Two New Taxi Operators Licences

The applicant, Mr B, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer providing details on applications for the grant of two new taxi operators licences, the consultations carried out, the responses received, and detailing the applicant's record.

Mr B was heard in support of his application.

Questions were then asked by members of the committee.

The committee agreed to a short adjournment. On reconvening, all members were present as per the sederunt.

Decision

The committee agreed to grant the two new taxi operators licences subject to the standard conditions.