

DRAFT

MINUTE of MEETING of the CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on WEDNESDAY 18 MAY 2016 at 9.30 a.m.

COUNCILLORS: Jim Blackwood

Gordon Hughes

Baillie Joan Paterson (Convener) Depute Provost John Patrick

Ann Ritchie Sandy Turner

OFFICERS: Bryan Douglas, Licensing Co-ordinator

Arlene Fraser, Committee Services Officer Rose Mary Glackin, Chief Governance Officer

Frances Kobiela, Senior Solicitor

Brian Samson, Enforcement Officer (Items CL13-CL17)

CL13. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Baillie Buchanan and Provost Reid.

CL14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were intimated.

CL15. MINUTE

Decision

The minute of the meeting of the Civic Licensing Committee held on 20 April 2016 was approved.

CL16. LIST OF APPLICATIONS GRANTED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS IN MARCH 2016 AND NOTIFICATIONS OF PUBLIC PROCESSIONS PENDING

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer detailing (a) applications granted under delegated powers between 1 March and 31 March 2016 in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, and (b) notifications of pending public processions.

Decision

The committee noted the report.

Councillor Hughes entered the meeting during discussion of the previous item of business.

CL17. CIVIC LICENSING ENFORCEMENT - MARCH 2016

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer giving an overview of enforcement action taken with regard to Civic Licensing activities during March 2016.

Decision

The committee noted the report.

CL18. 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 ground 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.

CL19. APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF A LATE HOURS CATERING LICENCE

The applicant, Mrs D, entered the meeting accompanied by Mr P, the day to day manager of the premises.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on an application received for the renewal of a late hours catering licence (a) advising of the background to the application; (b) referring to the recent amendments made to the policy and conditions applicable to late hours catering licences as it relates to Falkirk Town Centre, and (c) detailing the consultations undertaken and the responses received.

Mrs D spoke in support of the application.

Decision

The committee agreed to renew the late hours catering licence for a period of three years, subject to the standard conditions.

CL20. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A NEW SECOND HAND DEALER LICENCE (USED VEHICLES)

The applicant, Mr K, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on an application received for the grant of a new second hand dealers licence (used vehicles) (a) advising on the background to the application; (b) summarising the consultations undertaken and responses received, and (c) detailing the applicant's record.

Mr K spoke in support of the application.

Questions were then asked by members of the committee.

Decision

The committee agreed to grant the new second hand dealer licence (used vehicles) for a period of three years, subject to the standard conditions.

CL21. APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT OF 4 NEW PRIVATE HIRE CAR OPERATOR LICENCES

Mr B, an employee and representative of the applicant company, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on applications received for the grant of 4 new private hire car driver licences (a) advising on the background to the applications, and (b) summarising the consultations undertaken and responses received.

Decision

The committee agreed to grant the four new private hire car operator licences for a period of one year, subject to the standard conditions.

CL22. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A NEW PRIVATE HIRE CAR OPERATOR LICENCE

Mr A, a Director of the applicant company, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on an application received for the grant of a new private hire care operator (a) advising on the background to the application, and (b) summarising the consultations undertaken and responses received.

Questions were asked of Mr A by members of the committee.

Decision

The committee agreed to grant the new private hire car operator licence for a period of one year, subject to the standard conditions.

CL23. APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF A TAXI DRIVER LICENCE

The applicant, Mr M, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on an application for renewal of a taxi driver licence (a) advising on the background to the application; (b) summarising the consultations undertaken and responses received, and (c) detailing the applicant's record.

Mr M spoke in support of the application.

Questions were then asked by members of the committee.

Decision

The committee agreed to renew the taxi driver licence for a period of one year subject to the standard conditions and with a warning letter.

CL24. APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF A TAXI DRIVER LICENCE

The applicant, Mr I, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on an application for renewal of a taxi driver licence (a) advising on the background to the application; (b) summarising the consultations undertaken and responses received, and (c) detailing the application's record.

Mr I spoke in support of the application.

Questions were then asked by members of the committee.

Decision

The committee agreed to renew the taxi driver licence for a period of one year subject to the standard conditions and with a warning letter.

CL25. APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF A TAXI DRIVER LICENCE

The applicant, Ms C, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on an application for renewal of a taxi driver licence (a) advising on the background to the application; (b) summarising the consultations undertaken and responses received, and (c) detailing the application's record.

Ms C spoke in support of the application.

Questions were then asked by members of the committee.

Decision

The committee agreed to renew the taxi driver licence for a period of one year subject to the standard conditions and with a warning letter.

CL26. APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF A TAXI DRIVER LICENCE

The applicant, Mr F, entered the meeting.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer on an application for renewal of a taxi driver licence (a) advising on the background to the application; (b) summarising the consultations undertaken and responses received, and (c) detailing the application's record.

Mr F spoke in support of the application.

Questions were then asked by members of the committee.

Decision

The committee agreed to renew the taxi driver licence for a period of one year subject to the standard conditions and with a warning letter.

The committee agreed to a short adjournment. The committee adjourned at 10.30 a.m. and reconvened at 10.35 a.m. with all members present as per the sederunt.

CL27. SUSPENSION HEARING IN RELATION TO TAXI DRIVER LICENCE NO. 1899

Sergeant M White and Inspector G Capes, both representatives of Police Scotland, entered the meeting. The licenceholder, Mr S, was not in attendance.

The committee considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer (a) referring to a letter of complaint dated 8 April 2016, submitted by Police Scotland requesting the immediate suspension of the licenceholder's taxi driver licence; (b) setting out the details of the complaint; (c) summarising the decision taken by the Chief Governance Officer, and (d) advising that a hearing under paragraph 11 of schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 required to be held.

The Licensing Co-ordinator advised that he had received an email on 16 May 2016 from the licenceholder, Mr S, requesting that the matter be continued and the reasons for the request. He also advised that he had received an email from the licenceholder's partner, the contents of which related to the complaint referred to in Police Scotland's letter of complaint.

The committee agreed to the circulation of the letter of complaint dated 8 April from Police Scotland, the email from Mr S and the email from the licenceholder's partner.

Sergeant White was heard in relation to the letter of complaint.

Discussion took place on the continuation request made by the licenceholder.

The committee agreed to a short adjournment. The committee adjourned at 10.55 a.m. and reconvened at 11.00 a.m. with all members present as per the sederunt.

Decision

The committee agreed to continue the matter to the next meeting of the Civic Licensing committee to be held on 15 June 2016.