

Licensing and Safety Committee

Wednesday, 28 November 2007

Present: Councillor Iris Smith (Chair), Councillor Edward Smith (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Judith Boothman, Terry Brown, David Dickinson, Mrs Doreen Dickinson, Pat Haughton, Margaret Iddon, Hasina Khan, Marion Lowe, Thomas McGowan, Ralph Snape, John Walker and Mrs Stella Walsh

07.LS.68 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Magda Cullens, Keith Iddon and Margaret Lees.

07.LS.69 WELCOME TO NEW LICENSING MANAGER

The Chair welcomed the new Licensing Manager, Steve Culleton, to his first meeting of the Committee.

07.LS.70 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were received.

07.LS.71 MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing and Safety Committee held on 17 October 2007 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

07.LS.72 PROPOSED INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Governance outlining a request made by the local Hackney Carriage Association for an increase in hackney carriage fares.

Hackney carriage fares were last increased in November 2005 and due to the increases in fuel prices and rises in the cost of living, an increase has been requested. The Committee were also addressed by Mr. Y Illahi.

It is the responsibility of the Council to set hackney carriage fares, after having considered the request by the hackney association. Members considered a comparison chart of neighbouring authorities enclosed with the report.

RESOLVED – That the proposed increase in Hackney Carriage fares be agreed, subject to the necessary notice being advertised and no objections being received.

07.LS.73 LICENSING AND REGISTRATION - SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY FROM 2 OCTOBER 2007 TO 2 NOVEMBER 2007

The Committee received and noted a report of the Corporate Director of Governance on the activity of the Licensing Section for the period 2 October 2007 to 2 November 2007 under the Licensing Act 2003.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

07.LS.74 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item on the ground that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

07.LS.75 APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO DRIVE A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE IN CHORLEY BOROUGH

The Committee received a report of the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services requesting the Committee to consider an application for a licence to drive Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles within the Borough of Chorley.

The applicant attended the meeting to make representations and answer questions from the Committee.

RESOLVED -

- 1. The Licensing and Safety Committee considered carefully the representations made in support of the application.**
- 2. The Licensing and Safety Committee took a serious view of the number and nature of convictions recorded against the applicant. The Committee were not satisfied that sufficient time had elapsed since the last conviction in 2005 for the applicant to demonstrate that he was a fit and proper person and could remain free of convictions.**
- 3. The Licensing and Safety Committee considered the Human Rights Act and the proportionality principle and considered that the protection of the public was paramount.**

07.LS.76 APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO DRIVE A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE IN CHORLEY BOROUGH

(Councillor Iris Smith declared an interest in the above item and left the room prior to consideration and voting. Councillor Edward Smith took the Chair for the following item).

The Committee received a report of the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services requesting the Committee to consider an application for a licence to drive Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles within the Borough of Chorley.

The applicant attended the meeting to make representations and answer questions from the Committee.

RESOLVED -

- 1. The Licensing and Safety Committee considered carefully the representations made in support of the application.**
- 2. The Committee determined that a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence be granted to the applicant.**

Chair