

LICENSING AND APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 7 March 2018 in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer at 10.00 am.

Sub-Committee Dr P Bütikofer (Chairman)
Mr J Rest
Mr S Shaw

Officers in Attendance: Public Protection Manager, Legal Advisor and Democratic Services & Governance Officer (Regulatory)

1 APOLOGIES

None.

2 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to the Act.

5 Application for a Licence to Drive Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicles in North Norfolk (WK/180000174)

Present: Applicant

The Members of the Sub-Committee and Officers introduced themselves.

The Legal Advisor outlined the purpose of the hearing and explained the procedure for the meeting.

The Public Protection Manager presented the report. The applicant had applied for a licence to drive hackney carriage or private hire vehicles in North Norfolk. There were historic matters on his DBS report which required consideration by the Sub-Committee. She suggested that Members might wish to question the applicant on the way he had completed section 8 of the application form.

The Chairman invited the applicant to put his case.

The applicant apologised for his failure to declare convictions at section 8 of the form. He stated that his convictions had been a long time ago and he had

since become a father and grandfather. He considered that he was a fit person to drive a taxi. He had been under the impression that his DBS would filter out his convictions and he would not have to reveal them. He had had an enhanced DBS for a number of years and had worked at a special school without any issues. He thought his convictions were in the past and forgotten about, but when he received his DBS for this application he realised they had not disappeared. He apologised again for filling out his application incorrectly. He did not wish to make any further representations.

The Public Protection Manager stated that the officer had mentioned the DBS at the initial interview with the applicant.

The applicant stated that he had already filled out the form prior to the interview and had not noticed note 14 (relating to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act).

The Public Protection Manager confirmed that applicants were advised at their initial interview that any spent convictions would show up on the DBS. The offences had come to light when the DBS was received.

The Chairman asked the applicant who he would be working for if he received his licence.

The applicant explained that he wished to work as a sole trader. It was a coincidence that one of his referees was a taxi operator but this person was a friend and not an employer.

There were no further questions.

The Public Protection Manager summarised the case and outlined the options for determination.

The applicant did not wish to make a closing statement.

The Sub-Committee retired at 10.10 am and returned at 11.00 am.

RESOLVED

That the licence be granted.

The meeting closed at 11.05 am

Chairman