

LICENSING AND APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 11 July 2018 in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer at 10.00 am.

Sub-Committee Mr R Shepherd (Chairman)
Mrs P Grove-Jones
Mr P Rice

Officers in Attendance: Public Protection Manager, Legal Advisor and Democratic Services Manager

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 Review of Licence following a complaint relating to a North Norfolk District Council (NNDC) Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Driver (WK/180010000)

Present: Applicant

The Chairman introduced the Panel Members and Officers.

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

The Public Protection Manager presented the report. She explained that the Council had received a complaint in respect of an NNDC licenced Hackney Carriage or Private Hire driver which merited further consideration and review.

The Chairman invited the applicant to present his case.

The Applicant accepted that he had been convicted of common assault and that he had failed to notify the Council. He said that the complaints subsequent to this were unfounded and malicious.

The applicant answered Members' questions regarding the incident and confirmed that he had not been drinking on the evening in question. He said that driving taxis was his only job.

There were no further questions.

The applicant closed by informing the Panel that this was a one off incident and it would not happen again.

The Legal Advisor advised that the Sub-Committee Members needed to consider this matter. The onus was on the Council to prove that the Applicant was no longer a fit and proper person to hold a taxi licence in the District. She advised them that it was not in dispute that the applicant had a conviction for common assault and that he had failed to inform the Council of this. The Sub-Committee should give consideration for the two complaints that had been received whilst acknowledging that they were both anonymous, so less weight should be given to them.

The Sub-Committee retired at 10.30 am and returned at 10.49 am.

RESOLVED

That six local authority penalty points be added to the applicant's local authority licence to drive a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicle in North Norfolk. Three penalty points for the common assault and three penalty points for failing to notify the Council of the conviction. These points would remain on the licence for 3 years.

The meeting closed at 10.53am

Chairman