LICENSING AND APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 6 February 2019 in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer at 10.00 am.

Sub-Committee Mr R Reynolds (Chairman)

Mr M Knowles Mrs V Uprichard

Officers in Attendance: Public Protection Manager, Legal Advisor and

Democratic Services & Governance Officer

1 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Mrs A Claussen-Reynolds. Councillor R Reynolds attended as her substitute.

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. (WK/180023492) - Review of a Licence to Drive Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicles in North Norfolk

Present: Licence Holder

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, which related to the review of a licence to drive Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicles where the driver had received DVLA points on his licence and failed to inform the Licensing Authority in accordance with the NNDC Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy and Handbook.

There were no questions relating to the report.

The Chairman invited the Licence Holder to put his case.

The Licence Holder put his case. He had turned his life around since he had started work with his current employer. He apologised for not informing the Authority of his points. He worked hard and looked after his customers well. He explained why he had not attended the previous meeting at the time stated and the reason why he was agitated when he arrived after the meeting had finished.

The Licence Holder answered questions from the Public Protection Manager and the Panel regarding his speeding offence and other traffic offences which he had not declared on his original application but had declared on his renewal application. He gave details of his personal situation at the time of the earlier offences.

The Chairman stated that he was concerned that the Licence Holder had been agitated as he considered that the Council had been wasting his time. He reminded him that he had been asked to attend at 10.00 am. He asked the Licence Holder if he would normally be agitated if someone was late for a pick-up.

The Licence Holder explained that it was a different scenario. He would not get agitated if he was in a taxi and someone was late. He was professional, had never fallen out with anybody and customers asked for him. If someone was late he would contact his employer and ask what to do.

The Chairman asked the Licence Holder if he was aware, and kept himself aware, of the taxi handbook.

The Licence Holder explained that he did not read it at first because he wanted to get on with the job. He accepted that he should have gone through the handbook and read it more. He was more aware of the procedures and how important they were.

The Legal Advisor stated that the Licence Holder had previously been given a probationary one year licence as he had not disclosed previous convictions when applying for his first licence. He asked the Licence Holder if he had any further convictions.

The Licence Holder stated that he had not. He had changed and wanted to succeed.

There being no more questions, the Chairman asked the Licence Holder to make his closing statement.

The Licence Holder stated that he had made mistakes and was not perfect but he tried his best for people. He worked hard and was trying to do things right.

The Public Protection Manager stated that she had nothing further to add. She reminded the Sub-Committee of its options for determination.

The Sub-Committee retired at 10.25 am and returned at 11.15 am.

The Chairman read the determination notice.

RESOLVED

To issue a warning to the Licence Holder.

The meeting closed at 11.20 am.	
	
Chairman	