

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK

LICENSING AND APPEALS BOARD

Minutes from the Meeting of the Licensing and Appeals Board held on Thursday, 13th April, 2017 at 10.00 am in the Committee Suite, King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn

PRESENT: Councillor D Tyler (Chairman)
M Hopkins and C Sampson.

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

2 **ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

4 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: That under Section 100(a)(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 it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

5 **APPLICATION FOR A COMBINED DRIVERS LICENCE**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Hearing and stated that the purpose of the Hearing was to consider an application for a Combined Drivers Licence. He introduced the Panel Members, Officers and Legal Advisor.

The Applicant, who was accompanied by his wife introduced himself.

6 **PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE LICENCE APPLICATIONS AND DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS**

The Legal Advisor outlined the procedure which would be followed at the Hearing.

7 **REPORT OF THE LICENSING MANAGER**

At the request of the Chairman, the Licensing Manager presented his report. He explained that the report was for Members to consider and determine whether the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a combined drivers licence. The Licensing Manager provided the Panel with information about the Applicant.

There were no questions to the Licensing Manager.

8 **APPLICANT'S CASE**

The Applicant presented his case and responded to questions from the Licensing Manager, the Panel and the Legal Advisor.

9 **SUMMING UP - LICENSING MANAGER**

The Licensing Manager summed up his case. He referred to his report and the representations put forward at the Hearing. He reminded those present that under Section 51(1)(a) and 59(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 that the Borough Council should not grant a licence to drive a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle unless they were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold such a licence.

He explained that the overriding reason for hackney carriage and private hire licensing was public safety and the Borough Council achieved this by setting standards for drivers, vehicles and operators. In relation to drivers, the Panel was made aware that any matter could be taken into consideration when determining fit and proper.

He requested that the Panel consider the report, including submissions put forward by the Applicant at the Hearing and dispose of the matter by either granting or refusing the licence.

10 **SUMMING UP - APPLICANT**

The Applicant summed up his case.

11 **LEGAL ADVICE**

The Legal Adviser provided advice to the Panel.

12 **DECISION**

The decision of the Panel was read out.

The meeting closed at 12.11 pm