

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE B - TUESDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2014

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE B HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES ANGEL STREET BRIDGEND CF31 4WB ON TUESDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2014 AT 9.30 AM

Present

Councillor DRW Lewis – Chairperson

GW Davies MBE PA Davies E Dodd

Officers:

Katia Daw	Lawyer
Jeannie Monks	Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Rachel Morris	Senior Licensing Assistant
Yvonne Witchell	Team Manager Licensing

455. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the following Members:

Councillor C J James	- Hospital
Councillor P N John	- Unwell

456. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

457. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business as it contains exempt information as defined in Paragraph 12 of Part 4, and Paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Following the application of the public interest test it was resolved that pursuant to the Act referred to above to consider this item in private, with the public excluded from the meeting, as it was considered that in all the circumstances relating to the item, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, because the information would be prejudicial to the applicants.

458. APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF NEW LICENCE

459. TO RE-ADMIT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The press and public were then re-admitted.

460. APPLICATION TO LICENCE HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE

The Assistant Chief Executive - Legal and Regulatory Services submitted a report regarding an application by Philip Evans to licence a Ford Transit vehicle, registration number LV04 FVK, as a hackney carriage vehicle to seat eight persons.

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The applicant was present in support of the application and the Sub-Committee adjourned the meeting in order to view the vehicle.

On inspecting the vehicle the mileage was confirmed as being 274,338 miles.

Upon their return, the Licensing and Registration Officer informed Members that the vehicle was previously licensed as a hackney carriage wheelchair accessible vehicle with Bridgend County Borough Council since 23006. The applicant had indicated that the vehicle was no longer wheelchair accessible and was applying for a licence for a hackney carriage only.

The Licensing and Registration Officer informed the Sub-Committee that the vehicle licence expired on the 20th November 2014 and no application was made prior to the expiry date, and therefore the application was treated as new one.

The Licensing and Registration Officer then questioned the applicant, and in response he confirmed that he had recently purchased the vehicle, on the 10th November 2014, which was then transferred to him from the previous owner prior to the 20th November 2014. She asked for an explanation as to why he had not previously made an application to renew the licence.

The applicant explained that he had not owned a taxi before and the taxi regulations were new to him. He did not put the application in the post until the 20th November 2014, and then found out that he should have submitted it sooner, and assured the Sub-Committee that he would in future submit applications earlier. He informed the Sub-Committee that he then brought along a photocopy of his check and application to the Licensing Department and was not aware that it had not been received.

The Licensing and Registration Officer advised that the Authority had never received his application. She asked whether he had carried out any work on the vehicle.

The applicant advised that he had spent £500 on repairs in preparation for the vehicle testing.

RESOLVED: That the Sub-Committee considered the application to licence a private hire vehicle, registration number LV04 FVK.

The Sub-Committee noted that the vehicle was previously licensed with the Authority, but the licence expired on the 20th November 2014, a few weeks after the applicant obtained the vehicle on the 10th November 2014. Under the Authority's policy this was now being dealt with as a new application.

The Sub-Committee noted that the applicant had stated that he had sent the renewal application, but that the Licensing Department had never received it. The Sub-Committee accepted that in future the applicant would submit applications earlier and that the taxi regulations were new to him.

The Sub-Committee heard from the application that he after purchasing the vehicle; he spent money on it to get it through the vehicle testing.

The Sub-Committee considered the above and felt that the applicant's personal situation were exceptional circumstances, as

outlined under the Authority's policy and therefore granted a Private Hire Vehicle Licence.

461. APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF NEW LICENCE

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463. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

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464. APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF NEW LICENCE

465. DISCIPLINARY HEARING FOR EXISTING LICENCE HOLDER

466. TO RE-ADMIT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The press and public were then re-admitted.

467. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

The meeting closed at 1.55 pm