

General Licensing Committee

A meeting of General Licensing Committee was held on Tuesday, 16th August, 2022.

Present: Cllr Paul Kirton(Chairman), Cllr Eileen Johnson(Vice-Chair), Cllr Jacky Bright, Cllr Norma Stephenson (Sub Cllr Robert Cook), Cllr Mick Moore, Cllr Maurice Perry, Cllr Marilyn Surtees, Cllr Hilary Vickers, Cllr Bill Woodhead MBE

Officers: Nigel Hart, Natalie Hodgson, Rebecca Jackson, (D o CS), Elliot Beevers, John Wynn (D o AH),

Also in attendance: Applicant - 121592

Apologies: Cllr Robert Cook, Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Cllr Ken Dixon, Cllr Tina Large, Cllr Lee Spence, Cllr Julia Whitehill.

GLC 8/22 Evacuation Procedure

The Evacuation Procedure was noted.

GLC 9/22 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

GLC 10/22 Draft Minutes from the General Licensing Committee which was held 24th May 2022

Consideration was given to the draft minutes from the General Licensing Committee which was held on the 24th May 2022 for approval and signature.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

GLC 11/22 Draft Minutes of the General Licensing Committee meeting which was held 5th July 2022

Consideration was given to the draft minutes from the General Licensing Committee which was held on the 5th July 2022 for approval and signature.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

GLC 12/22 Exclusion of the Public

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

GLC 13/22 Private Hire Driver Application – 121592

Members were asked to determine an application for a Private Hire Drivers Licence from Applicant – 121592 who had previously had his licence revoked by this Authority.

Applicant - 121592 attended the meeting and made representations.

Committee papers and reports had been provided to all relevant parties prior to the meeting.

The report detailed the following:

- A copy of Applicant – 121592's application including a DBS check showing no relevant information.
- A copy of a police disclosure and revocation letter relating to Applicant – 121592.
- A copy of an email dated 20/11/2020 to Middlesbrough's Designated Officer from police disclosure confirming the Police did not take any action against Applicant – 121592.
- A copy of a redacted report dated 17/11/2020 from Middlesbrough Councils Safeguarding Children's Care Department concluding that Applicant – 121592 was not deemed a risk to his children and which also detailed that care proceedings had been withdrawn.

The Committee noted that they had been asked to consider an application for a Private Hire Drivers Licence from Applicant – 121592, who had had his Private Hire Drivers Licence revoked by this Authority in May 2020 by way of a delegated decision after his arrest on the 26 May 2020 for the alleged offence of 'Distributing indecent photographs or pseudo photographs of children'. The Committee also noted that Cleveland Police had confirmed that Applicant - 121592 was not charged with any of the alleged offences from May 2020. Also, after a court hearing Applicant - 121592 was again allowed contact with his children and any person under the age of 18.

The Committee, having considered all of the information before them found that Applicant – 121592's application did comply with the current Private Hire & Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy. The Committee was satisfied that Applicant – 121592 was policy compliant and was a fit and proper person. Applicant - 121592 gave assurances to Members of the Committee that they could trust him to be a responsible licensed driver. The Committee had placed their trust in Applicant - 121592 and agreed to grant Applicant – 121592 his licence, with a warning, that he should repay this trust and should not act in any way that would bring Applicant - 121592 to the Committee's attention in the future. The Committee also expressed that Applicant - 121592 should not give his mobile phone or any other device to another person in order to safeguard him in the future. It was also confirmed that following the request of the Committee Applicant - 121592 provided a DVLA check code, which showed no points on his licence.

RESOLVED that Applicant - 121592 be granted his private hire drivers' licence for the reasons as specified above.

