

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 25th June 2002 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillors C. Latif (Chair), L.. Harrington, J. Hollywell, M. Notley, R.G. Parker, D. Royall, CC, R.J. Smith, MBE, DL, CC, and J.M. Wallis Price.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors B.G. Dunnell (Vice-Chair) and A.T. Turner.

The Chair (Councillor C. Latif) and Councillor R.J. Smith, MBE, DL, CC declared their pecuniary/personal interests in respect of Minute 6 below, and stated that they would be withdrawing from the meeting during the consideration of this item.

As the Chair would have withdrawn from the meeting, and in the absence of the Vice-Chair, it was RESOLVED that Councillor D. Royall, CC be elected to Chair the meeting during the consideration of Minute 6 below.

2. MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 23rd August 2001, having been circulated, be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive detailing its terms of reference.

It was RESOLVED that the terms of reference be noted.

4. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

5. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was 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 they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 4 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

6. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE- MR C.H.

Prior to the consideration of this item, the Chair (Councillor C. Latif) and Councillor R.J. Smith, MBE, DL, CC declared their pecuniary/personal interests in respect of this matter and withdrew from the meeting. Councillor D. Royall, CC took the Chair.

The Chair introduced those present to the applicant and his representative and explained the procedure to be followed at the meeting, a copy of which had been sent to them in advance.

The Committee considered the report of the case prepared by the Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer. The applicant and his representative were invited to question the Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer and Members of the Committee were invited to ask questions.

The applicant's representative presented his case verbally to the Committee. The Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer and Members of the Committee were given the opportunity to ask questions of the applicant and his representative.

The Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer and the applicant's representative made closing speeches, following which they and the applicant withdrew whilst the Committee considered the matters raised.

Following consideration of the case, the applicant, his representative and the Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer were invited back into the meeting to hear the Committee's decision.

It was RESOLVED:

- (i) that the applicant be granted a renewal of his Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence for the 2002/03 Licensing Year.
- (ii) that should the applicant receive any new endorsable offences on his Licence between 25th June 2002 and 30th June 2003, he shall report these immediately to the Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer, who will bring the matter to the attention of the Committee.

The Principal Solicitor advised the applicant of his right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court should he be aggrieved with the above decision.

7. APPLICATION FOR PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR P.C.

(Councillor C. Latif in the Chair).

The Chair introduced those present to the applicant and explained the procedure to be followed at the meeting, a copy of which had been sent to him in advance.

The Committee considered the report of the case prepared by the Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer. The applicant was invited to question the Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer and Members of the Committee were invited to ask questions.

The applicant presented his case verbally to the Committee. In support of his case, the applicant called a character witness to appear before the Committee. The Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer and Members of the Committee were given the opportunity to ask questions of the applicant.

The Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer and the applicant made closing speeches, following which they withdrew whilst the Committee considered the matters raised.

Following consideration of the case, the applicant and the Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer were invited back into the meeting to hear the Committee's decision.

It was RESOLVED:

- (i) that, upon receipt of vetting clearance from the Criminal Records Bureau, the applicant be granted a Private Hire Driver's Licence for the remainder of the 2002/03 Licensing Year.
- (ii) that should the applicant receive any new endorsable offences on his Licence between 25th June 2002 and 30th June 2003, he shall report these immediately to the Hackney Carriage Licensing Officer, who will bring the matter to the attention of the Committee.

The Principal Solicitor advised the applicant of his right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court should he be aggrieved with the above decision.

8. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no Part II items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 7.13 pm

C. LATIF
Chair