
LICENSING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 NOVEMBER 2008

Present:

Councillors Mrs Blatchford, Cunio, Drake, Fuller, Holmes, Norris, Thomas, Wells (except minute numbers 4 and 5) and Willacy.

4. APOLOGIES

Councillors Letts, Galton and Odgers

COUNCILLOR MRS BLATCHFORD IN THE CHAIR

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 2nd June 2008 be approved and signed as a correct record. (Copy of the minutes circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

COUNCILLOR WELLS IN THE CHAIR

6. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Rules, the press and public be excluded from the meeting at a predetermined point in the hearing in respect of any consideration of the following matters and specifically in respect of any consideration of Minute No 8 and 9 on grounds based on Categories 1 and 2 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules because failing to do so would constitute a breach of the Data Protection Act 1998 as well as a breach of a Common Law duty of confidentiality.

7. LICENSING ACT 2003 CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Solicitor to the Council setting out a draft Licensing Act 2003 Cumulative Impact Policy for the City, as approved by Council on 17th September 2008 as a consultation draft in response to formal representations received from Hampshire Constabulary; including a report identifying three areas of the City, namely London Road/Bedford Place, Above Bar and Bevois Valley Road, and substantive evidence linking crime to the night time economy. (Copy of the minutes circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the report be noted and the inclusion of the Cumulative Impact Policy into the City Council's Licensing Policy be supported.

8. HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER

The Committee considered the confidential report of the Solicitor to the Council concerning an application for the grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver's licence. (Copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

The applicant was in attendance with a friend and, with the consent of the Chair, they addressed the meeting.

The Committee considered the decision in confidential session in accordance with Categories 1 and 2 of Paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules.

RESOLVED that the application be refused.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

Having regard to the Home Office Guidelines, the Sub-Committee was satisfied that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence.

In light of the nature and seriousness of the latest recorded offence the Committee did not feel that it had sufficient grounds to depart from the provisions of the Guidance relating to the Relevance of Convictions.

9. PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER

The Committee deferred consideration of the application for the grant of a Private Hire Driver's licence to a future meeting of the Licensing (General) Sub-Committee to allow the applicant the opportunity to attend the hearing. (Copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).