

## LICENSING (GENERAL) SUB - COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2007

#### Present:

Councillor Parnell (Chair)  
Councillor Galton (Vice Chair)  
Councillors Cunio, Drake, Noon and Norris.

#### Apologies:

Councillors Blatchford and Johnson.

#### 17. CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

The Sub-Committee noted that in accordance with Council Procedure Rules 4.3 and 4.4, Councillors Noon and Norris had replaced Councillors Blatchford and Johnson respectively on the Sub-Committee.

#### 18. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Licensing (General) Sub Committee meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2007 and 21<sup>st</sup> August 2007 be approved as a correct record (Copy of the minutes circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

#### 19. MR J BURKE – LICENSING OFFICER

The Sub-Committee noted the recent illness of Mr J Burke, Licensing Officer.

RESOLVED that the Sub-Committee sent its best wishes to Mr Burke, wishing him a swift and full recovery from his illness.

#### 20. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Rules contained within the Constitution, 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's. 20-23 on grounds based on Category 4 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.

21. FIT AND PROPER PERSON – CONVICTIONS

The Sub-Committee considered the confidential report of the Solicitor to the Council concerning a review of a private hire driver's licence (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

The driver was in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Sub-Committee considered the decision in confidential session in accordance with Category 4 of Paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules.

RESOLVED that the driver in question be allowed to continue to hold a private hire driver's licence.

REASON FOR DECISION

Having regard to the Home Office guidelines the Sub-Committee was satisfied that the driver was a fit and proper person to hold a private hire driver's licence but that he should be warned that any further caution or conviction would be viewed seriously.

22. APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Sub-Committee considered the confidential report of the Solicitor to the Council detailing an application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

The driver was in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Sub-Committee considered the decision in confidential session in accordance with Category 4 of Paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules.

RESOLVED that the application be granted.

REASON FOR DECISION

Having regard to the Home Office Guidelines the Sub-Committee was satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person.

23. APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Sub-Committee noted that the application had been withdrawn by the applicant

24. FIT AND PROPER PERSON – CONVICTION

The Sub-Committee considered the confidential report of the Solicitor to the Council concerning a review of a private hire driver's licence (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

The driver was in attendance together with his employer and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

The Sub-Committee considered the decision in confidential session in accordance with Category 4 of Paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules.

RESOLVED: that the driver in question be allowed to continue to hold a private hire driver's licence.

REASON FOR DECISION

Having regard to the Home Office Guidelines the Sub-Committee was satisfied that the driver was a fit and proper person to hold a private hire driver's licence but that he should be warned that any further caution or conviction would be viewed seriously.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

25. HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Solicitor to the Council detailing objections received in relation to the advertised table of fare changes for taxi charges (Copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

Mr C Johnson, Chair of the Southampton Taxi Consultative Council, and Mr I Hall, Chair of Southampton Hackney Association (objectors) were in attendance and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

RESOLVED that the fares as advertised not be implemented and representatives of the taxi trade and the Licensing Officer meet to develop an appropriate table of fares and report to the Sub-Committee in due course.