

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the
Miscellaneous Licensing Sub-Committee
held in Committee Room Two, Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney, Oxon
at 10:00am on Thursday 25 April 2019

PRESENT

Councillors: Norman MacRae MBE (Chairman), Steve Good (Vice-Chairman),
Dave Jackson and Geoff Saul.

38. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

39. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS

Apologies were received from Councillor Ed James.

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor MacRae advised that he had been approached by a relative of the taxi driver in question, offering to leaflet for him. Councillor MacRae did not accept the offer and did not feel that this would prejudice him from the decision making process.

Councillor Good advised that he was aware that the driver was standing for election to the Conservative Party for Witney Town Council but did not know him personally.

41. PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC

No submissions were received from the public in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure.

42. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the Sub-Committee being of the opinion that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that if members of the public were present during the following item of business there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)), the public be excluded from the meeting.

43. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS LICENCES

The Sub-Committee received and considered the report of the Group Manager of Professional Services regarding an application for a Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence.

The Sub-Committee noted that the applicant had been a licensed driver with West Oxfordshire District Council since 2007 and had notified officers on 26 March 2019 that he had received three points for speeding.

Due to previous speeding endorsements, the applicant now had a total of nine points on his DVLA Drivers Licence.

The applicant explained the circumstances that had led to each of the incidents and answered a number of questions from the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee then withdrew to determine the application and, having considered the report and the evidence given by the driver, the Sub-Committee:-

RESOLVED: That, in view of the evidence submitted by the driver, his Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence be suspended for one week from the date of this decision.

The Sub-Committee advised the driver of their decision and explained the importance of maintaining high standards of professionalism across all drivers licenced with West Oxfordshire District Council. Members had initially been minded to suspend his licence for two weeks due to the last two instances of speeding having occurred within the space of a fortnight.

However, information had come to light from a member of the public which had highlighted that the gentleman was an honest and trustworthy individual and this was to his credit. Therefore, Members had agreed to reduce the suspension from two weeks to one week.

The meeting closed at 10:16am

CHAIRMAN