

17 FEBRUARY 2012

NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Friday, 17 February 2012.

Councillors:

p J D Heron
p S S Wade

Councillors:

p P R Woods

Officers Attending

Ms L Clark, Ms M Stephens and P Weston.

Also Attending:

Mr Marlow - Applicant (Report B).

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr P R Woods be elected Chairman of the Sub-Committee for this meeting.

(Cllr Woods in the Chair).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

No declarations of interest were made by members in connection with any agenda items.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

No members of the public addressed the Sub-Committee during the public participation period.

4. MINUTES (REPORT A).

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2012 be approved.

5. TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATION FOR A RENEWAL OF A COMBINED HACKNEY AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE (REPORT B).

The Sub-Committee considered an application for a renewal of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence.

The application had been put before the Sub-Committee because the Applicant had been convicted on 4 March 2011 for an offence of 'Driving a Motor Vehicle with Excess Alcohol' committed on the 17 February 2011. The sentence imposed was disqualification from driving for 16 months (which was subsequently reduced by 4 months on 1 July 2011 for completing a course).

The Licensing Officer and the Applicant presented their respective cases and responded to Members' questions.

The Licensing Officer and the Applicant then withdrew, while the Sub-Committee deliberated the matter.

The Sub-Committee considered the Council's guidelines relating to the relevance of convictions for driving a motor vehicle with excess alcohol when determining applications of this nature. These guidelines state that an applicant shall not normally be granted a licence in such circumstances unless three years have elapsed since the restoration of the driving licence to that applicant. The guidelines also confirm that the overriding consideration is the protection of the public.

In coming to their decision, the Sub-Committee whilst mindful of the representations made by the Applicant, were of the view that in light of the nature and recentness of the relevant conviction, the Applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Drivers Licence.

As such it was,

RESOLVED:

That the application for renewal of the Applicant's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence be refused.

CHAIRMAN