

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 27 March 2024 at 7.00 pm**

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**Present:** Councillors Gary Collins, Aaron Green and Cathy Kent

### **Apologies:**

**In attendance:** Paul Adams, Principal Licensing Officer  
Lois Bland, Legal Representative  
Paula Parrot, Licensing Officer  
Carly Parker, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Luke Tucker, Senior Democratic Services Officer

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Before the start of the Meeting, all present were advised that the meeting may be filmed and was being recorded, with the audio recording to be made available on the Council's website.

### **5. Items of Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

### **6. Declarations of Interests**

No interests were declared.

### **7. New Application for a Private Hire Driver Licence**

The Chair of the Sub-Committee advised all present of the process of the hearing. The Chair then invited the Licensing Officer to introduce the report as outlined within the agenda on pages 5 – 18.

Members and the Licensing Holder were provided the chance to ask questions of the Licensing Officers. There were none from the Licensing Holder.

During questions from members, Councillor Green asked how far back applicants must declare convictions. Any live convictions must be declared.

The Licence Holder was then given the opportunity to present his case, during which Members heard the new application for a Private Hire Driver Licence and that he was not aware he had to declare the points on the licence as the incidents occurred over 3 years ago.

Members and the Licensing Officers were provided with the chance to ask questions of the Licence Holder and his representatives.

During questions from members, the members of the Sub-Committee asked if the points on the licence holders driving licence were spent. The points were over 3 years old. Points are valid for 3 years but are shown for 4 years for court purposes.

The Licencing Officers summarised their case and the policy of the Local Authority.

The License Holder had nothing else to add.

*The Sub-Committee retired for deliberation at 19:11pm*

*The Sub-Committee returned at 19:32pm*

The Legal Advisor read out the Sub-Committee decision.

## **RESOLVED:**

### **1.1 (b) The Sub-Committee refuse the Private Hire Driver's licence application**

*The meeting of the Sub-Committee is paused to allow for the next item at 19:33pm.*

*The meeting of the Sub-Committee resumed at 19:37pm.*

## **8. Determination of a request for a hackney carriage vehicle to be licensed beyond the age limit**

The Chair of the Sub-Committee advised all present of the process of the hearing. The Chair then invited the Licensing Officer to introduce the report as outlined within the agenda on pages 19 – 92.

Members and the Licensing Holder were provided the chance to ask questions of the Licensing Officers

The Chair queried the date of the MOT. The Licence Holder stated he had a new MOT 2 days ago.

The Licence Holder was then given the opportunity to present his case, a request for a hackney carriage vehicle to be licensed beyond the age limit. The Licence Holder has a hybrid car and uses official parts for repairs. He services car often and there were no advisories on his MOT. He has poor credit due to income and as a result cannot get a new car.

Members and the Licensing Officers were provided with the chance to ask questions of the Licence Holder.

There were no questions from the Licensing Officers.

During questions from members, The Chair asked when will the car be 10 years old. The Car will be 10 years old on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

Councillor Kent asked the Licence Holder about price of a new car and car finance options. The price would be around £16,000 - £17,000. Finance is hard for the Licence Holder due to low credit.

The Licencing Officers summarised their case and the policy of the Local Authority. Licencing Officers clarified the car last registered at 195000 miles, 215000 at latest MOT, this is above average.

Photos of vehicle were presented to the committee.

The License Holder and his representatives gave a closing statement. The Licence Holder stated the car is also for personal use and asked the committee for help.

*The Sub-Committee retired for deliberation at 19:55pm  
The Sub-Committee returned at 20:08pm*

The Legal Advisor read out the Sub-Committee decision.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**1.1 (b) The Sub-Committee refuse to grant the renewal application of this vehicle as it does not meet the pre licensing criteria by reason of its age**

*The meeting of the Sub-Committee is paused to allow for the next item at 20:10pm.  
The meeting of the Sub-Committee resumed at 20:11pm.*

#### **9. Review of a Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire Drivers License**

Due to the Licence Holder not being able to attend, the Sub Committee decided to adjourn item 6 to a future date.

**The meeting finished at 8.11 pm**

Approved as a true and correct record

**CHAIR**

**DATE**

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
Democratic Services at [Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk)**