

**Committee and Date**Licensing and Safety
Sub Committee11th September 2012**Item****2**

Public

**MINUTES OF THE LICENSING AND SAFETY SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY, 15TH AUGUST 2012**

10.00 a.m. – 10.32 a.m.

Responsible Officers Emily MarshallEmail: emily.marshall@shropshire.gov.uk Telephone: 01743 252726**Present**Councillors: P. Adams (Chairman)
B. Benyon, and Rosanna Taylor-Smith.**20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T. Barker (Councillor Rosanna Taylor-Smith was in attendance as his substitute), Councillor V. Bushell (Councillor Bushell was not in attendance as he knew the applicant very well), Councillor A. Davies and Councillor Beverley Baker.

21. MINUTES**RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Licensing and Safety Sub-Committee held on 3rd and 18th July 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

22. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no public questions, statements or petitions received.

23. DISCOLSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None received.

**24. APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE
LICENCE FOR A SALOON VEHICLE IN ZONE FOUR (FORMER BOROUGH OF
SHREWSBURY & ATCHAM)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Licensing Officer in respect of an

application for renewal of a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence for a saloon vehicle in Zone Four (former Borough of Shrewsbury & Atcham).

The Licensing Officer presented the report to the Sub-Committee, advising Members that the vehicle did not meet current policy for Zone 4, as it was not wheelchair accessible, and the Sub Committee needed to consider whether there were any exceptional circumstances to warrant licensing a vehicle outside of this policy.

Mr Croll (the applicant) was in attendance. The applicant presented his case to the Sub-Committee, providing an overview of his medical condition, explaining that his saloon vehicle had automatic transmission which enabled him to position his legs in such a way that his condition was not aggravated. The applicant went on to explain that he also owned a wheelchair accessible Hackney Carriage with a manual transmission which was usually driven by his wife. He had recently driven the wheelchair accessible vehicle while his saloon vehicle was off the road but this had worsened his condition. A letter from the applicant's doctor was circulated. The letter described the applicant's medical condition and how driving a certain type of vehicle caused his condition to worsen.

In response to questions raised by the Solicitor, Licensing Officer and Members of the Sub-Committee, the applicant confirmed that:

- He had a letter from the DVLA which confirmed that there were no restrictions on his licence;
- He owned a manual wheelchair accessible vehicle which was usually driven by his wife;
- His work consisted of some pre booked work, work from Shrewsbury Station and also Shropshire Council contracts;
- He had not considered changing to private hire work as he wanted to continue to work from Shrewsbury Station;
- His condition had not worsened until recently during the period he had been required to drive the wheelchair accessible vehicle

The Licensing Officer summed up the application and the Chairman invited the applicant to make any final comments prior to the Sub-Committee making its decision.

Members of the Sub-Committee retired to consider the matter, in private, at 10.13 a.m. and reconvened at 10.30 a.m. to announce their decision.

RESOLVED:

That the renewal application for a saloon Hackney Carriage in Zone Four (former Borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham) be refused, in line with policy.

Reasons: Members took account of the applicant's medical condition, however, they did not consider that such a condition alone warranted an exception to policy being made, or continued. Further, the initial licence had been granted on the basis that it would not be issued beyond its expiry in 2012, and the applicant had known that this was the case at all times.

The applicant was informed of his right to appeal to the magistrate's court.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....