

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22nd February 2011
10.00 a.m. – 10.50 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Castle View, Oswestry.**

Responsible Officer Emily Marshall
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PRESENT

Councillors: W. Benyon (Chairman)
 A. Davies
 C. Mellings

42. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S. Jones and R. Hughes.

43. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the North Licensing Committee held on 7th December 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

44. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no public questions, statements or petitions received.

45. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

46. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 and paragraph 10.4(1) of the Council's Access to Information

Procedure Rules, the public and press were excluded during consideration of the following items.

47. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS' LICENCE

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Licensing Team Leader in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicle Drivers' Licence.

The Licensing Officer presented the report to the Committee, providing background to the application.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed that he did not require a legal representative to be present during consideration of his case, but did have with him a friend who would give him a character reference and was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant presented his case to the Committee stating that he deeply regretted his past and had turned his life around.

The applicant was asked to give further detail on the most recent conviction in March 2006. The applicant described the personal circumstances that led to him committing the offence in 2006.

The applicant's friend confirmed that he had known the applicant for some time and made reference to the applicant's good character, adding that if the Licence were granted he would employ the applicant as a driver.

The Licensing Officer summed up. The Chairman invited the applicant to make any final comments prior to the Committee making its decision. The applicant confirmed that he had nothing further to add.

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 10.15 a.m. and reconvened at 10.22 a.m. to announce their decision

RESOLVED:

That the application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence be granted. The Chairman issued a cautionary warning that if the applicant were to come before the Committee again the past offences would be taken into consideration.

Reason: In making their decision, members of the Committee took into account the guidelines relating to the relevance of convictions, and had regard to the offences detailed in the Officer's report and, having considered the representations made at the hearing, were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

48. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS' LICENCE

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Licensing Team Leader in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicle Drivers' Licence.

The Licensing Officer presented the report to Committee. Clarification was sought as to whether the applicant had declared the cautions on the application form. In response, the Licensing Officer confirmed that the applicant had fully declared the cautions on the application form.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed that he did not require a legal representative to be present during consideration of his case. The applicant presented his case to the Committee, providing further detail on the circumstances that lead to the two cautions detailed in the report.

The Licensing Officer summed up. The Chairman invited the applicant to make any final comments prior to the Committee making its decision. The applicant stated that he was a trustworthy employee who could be relied upon to transport vulnerable clients.

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 10.44 a.m. and reconvened at 10.50 a.m. to announce their decision

RESOLVED:

That the application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence be granted.

Reason: In making their decision, members of the Committee took into account the guidelines relating to the relevance of convictions, and had regard to the offences detailed in the Officer's report and, having considered the representations made at the hearing, were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

49. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the next scheduled meeting of the North Licensing Committee be noted as 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 5th April 2011.

The meeting ended at 10.50 a.m.

CHAIRMAN:.....

DATE:.....