



<b>Committee and Date</b>
Strategic Licensing Committee
7 <sup>th</sup> September 2011

<b>Item/Paper</b>
<b>5</b>
Public

**Minutes of the South Licensing Committee meeting held on Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011**

9.30 am – 1.41 pm

**Responsible Officer** Linda Jeavons  
Email: [linda.jeavons@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:linda.jeavons@shropshire.gov.uk) Telephone: 01743 252738

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**Present**

Councillors: David Evans  
Mary Nicholls  
Rosanna Taylor-Smith  
Robert Tindall  
Tina Woodward

**73. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Gwilym Butler (Sub: Councillor David Evans).

**74. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2011, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**75. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions, statements or petitions received.

**76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

**77. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:**

That in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and Paragraph 10.4 (1) of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules, the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following items.

**78. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Prior to the consideration of the report, the Committee noted that the applicant (case no. 1) was not in attendance. In the absence of case no. 1, the report to consider case no. 3 was taken as the next item of business.

**RESOLVED:**

That consideration of the application (case no. 1) for a renewal of a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence be deferred to a future meeting of the South Licensing Committee.

Reason: To allow for the applicant to be in attendance.

**79. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MH) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 3, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB). He confirmed the applicant had disclosed all relevant convictions on the application form.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed he did not require a representative to be in attendance during consideration of his case, and was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant presented his case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offences.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, he confirmed that he had been licensed with Telford and Wrekin for nine years, and confirmed the name of his employer.

The South Licensing Officer summed up the application. The Chairman invited the applicant to make any final comments prior to the Committee making its decision, but he declined.

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 9.50 am and reconvened at 9.51 am to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

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

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

**80. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MH) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 2, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB and Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) checks. He confirmed the applicant had disclosed all relevant convictions on the application form.

In response to a question from a Member of the Committee, the applicant confirmed that he currently had six points on his licence.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed he did not require a representative to be in attendance during consideration of his case, and was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant presented his case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offences.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the applicant confirmed that he had been licensed with Telford and Wrekin for approximately 5 ½ years without any complaints, and confirmed the name of his employer.

The South Licensing Officer summed up the application. The Chairman invited the applicant to make any final comments prior to the Committee making its decision, but he declined.

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 10.05 am and reconvened at 10.07 am to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

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

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The Chairman advised the applicant of the importance of reporting all convictions and cautions to the Licensing Officer within 7 days, in accordance with the conditions of licence.

#### **81. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MH) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 4, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB and DVLA checks. He confirmed the applicant had disclosed all relevant convictions on the application form.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed he did not require a representative to be in attendance during consideration of his case, and was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant presented his case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offences.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the applicant confirmed that he had been licensed with Telford and Wrekin for approximately five / six years; the licence had never been revoked or suspended; confirmed the name of his employer; and provided further information on the circumstances surrounding the offences.

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

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 10.19 am and reconvened at 10.20 am to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

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

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The Chairman advised the applicant of the importance of driving safely at all times and to refrain from using mobile phones while driving taxis.

## **82. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MH) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 5, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB check, and confirmed the applicant had not disclosed all relevant convictions on the application form.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the applicant explained that he had attended an open session at Wem organised by Shropshire Council to which all drivers had been invited to apply for a hackney carriage / private hire vehicle driver's licence. Officers from Shropshire Council were in attendance and filled in the form on behalf of applicants. He further explained the procedure at Telford and Wrekin whereby applicants had to re-apply for their licence on an annual basis and only had to declare new convictions from the previous 12 months, and he had understood this to be the case on this occasion.

In response to a question from a Member of the Committee, the South Licensing Officer confirmed that details from the DVLA were still awaited.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed he did not require a representative to be in attendance during consideration of his case, and was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant presented his case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offences detailed in the report, and stated that he currently had six points on his licence for speeding and a traffic violation. He confirmed that he had been licensed with Telford and Wrekin for five years without complaint, and the licence had never been revoked or suspended.

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

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 10.40 am and reconvened at 10.44 am to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

That the application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted, subject to receipt of a satisfactory DVLA check.

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The Chairman advised the applicant of the importance of reporting all new convictions and cautions to the Licensing Officer within 7 days, in accordance with the conditions of licence.

**83. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

In the absence of Case No. 6, the report to consider Case No. 7 was taken as the next item of business.

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MW) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 7 to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB check. Members noted that details from the DVLA were still awaited, and the applicant had failed to declare the information as detailed in section one of the report, but did declare two motoring convictions.

The applicant and his representative were in attendance during consideration of the case, and confirmed that he was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant's representative presented the case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the allegation detailed in the report, and confirmed that the applicant currently had six points on his licence, which would shortly lapse as valid endorsements.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee and the Licensing Officer, the applicant's representative gave more detailed clarification on the allegation, and confirmed that the applicant had been initially suspended for six weeks by Telford and Wrekin while an investigation had been conducted. The representative confirmed the applicant had been in hospital at the time of the allegation, and was actively pursuing removal of the allegation from his record.

The South Licensing Officer summed up the application. The Chairman invited the applicant's representative to make any final comments prior to the Committee making its decision.

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 11.32 am and reconvened at 11.55 to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

That the application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted, subject to confirmation from Telford and Wrekin that the details of the allegations were as stated at the meeting.

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

**84. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MH) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 6, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB check. Members noted that the applicant had declared the conviction on his application form; and details from the DVLA were still awaited.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed he did not require a representative to be in attendance during consideration of his case, and was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant presented his case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offences.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the applicant confirmed that he had six points on his licence; he had been licensed with Telford and Wrekin for approximately 4½ years; and his badge had never been suspended or revoked.

The South Licensing Officer summed up the application. The Chairman invited the applicant to make any final comments prior to the Committee making its decision, but he declined.

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 12.08 pm and reconvened at 12.12 pm to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

That the application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted, subject to receipt of a satisfactory DVLA check.

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

**85. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MW) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 8, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB check. Members noted that the applicant had declared the conviction on his application form, and the DVLA check was clear.

The applicant and his representative were in attendance during consideration of the case. The applicant confirmed that he was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant's representative presented the case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offence.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the applicant confirmed that he was licensed with Telford and Wrekin, and his licence had never been suspended or revoked.

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

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 12.25 pm and reconvened at 12.27 pm to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

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

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

## **86. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MW) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 9, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB and DVLA checks. Members noted that the applicant had declared all convictions on his application form.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed he did not require a representative to be in attendance during consideration of his case, and was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant presented his case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offences, and circulated a letter of support from his employer.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the applicant confirmed he had been licensed with Telford and Wrekin for approximately 10/15 years, and his licence had never been suspended or revoked.

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

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 12.38 pm and reconvened at 12.40 pm to announce their decision.

### **RESOLVED:**

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

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The Chairman advised the applicant of the importance of reporting all new convictions and cautions to the Licensing Officer within 7 days, in accordance with the conditions of licence.

**87. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MW) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 10, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB and DVLA checks. Members noted that the applicant had declared all convictions and offences on the application form.

The applicant and her representative were in attendance during consideration of the case. The representative confirmed that the applicant wished to remain anonymous, and presented the case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offences.

In response to questions from the South Licensing Officer and Members of the Committee, the representative confirmed the applicant was currently licensed with Telford and Wrekin; her licence had never been suspended or revoked; provided further clarification on the offences; and was self-employed.

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

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 12.53 pm and reconvened at 12.54 pm to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

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

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

**88. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MW) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 11, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB

check. Members noted that the applicant had declared all convictions on his application form, and the DVLA check was clear.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed he did not require a representative to be in attendance during consideration of his case, and was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant presented his case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offences.

In response to questions from the Licensing Officer and Members of the Committee, the applicant confirmed he was currently licensed with Telford and Wrekin; his licence had never been suspended or revoked; provided further clarification on the offences; and confirmed the name of his employer.

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

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 1.12 pm and reconvened at 1.13 pm to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

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

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

**89. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the South Licensing Officer (MW) in respect of an application for a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The South Licensing Officer presented the report, in respect of Case No. 12, to the Committee, providing information on the offences disclosed by the CRB check. Members noted that the applicant had declared all convictions on his application form, and the DVLA check was clear.

The applicant was in attendance and confirmed he did not require a representative to be in attendance during consideration of his case, and was agreeable to Members and Officers knowing his name. The applicant

presented his case to the Committee, providing background information on the circumstances surrounding the offences.

In response to a question from the Licensing Officer, the applicant confirmed he was currently licensed with Telford and Wrekin, and his licence had been suspended once approximately 14/15 years ago.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the applicant confirmed he had been employed with his current employer for approximately 3½ years without complaint; and had recently undertaken the Driving Assessment Exam.

The South Licensing Officer summed up the application. The Chairman invited the applicant to make any final comments prior to the Committee making its decision, but declined to do so.

Members of the Committee retired to consider the application, in private, at 1.33 pm and reconvened at 1.40 pm to announce their decision.

**RESOLVED:**

That the application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted, subject to a satisfactory check being received from the DVLA.

Reasons: 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 were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence.

**90. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED:**

That the next meeting of the South Licensing Committee be held at 9.30 am on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....