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| Minutes of | General Licensing Sub-Committee |
| Meeting date | Tuesday, 8 November 2022 |
| Members present: | Councillors Jacky Alty (Chair), Jane Bell, Peter Mullineaux and Alan Ogilvie |
| Officers: | Chris Ward (Licensing Manager), Tasneem Safdar (Shared Legal Services Team Leader) and Clare Gornall (Democratic and Member Services Officer) |

6 Apologies for absence

There were none.

7 Declarations of Any Interest

There were none.

8 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved:-

That the press and public be excluded for the following item of business on the ground that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

9 New Taxi Driver Application

The Chair referred to the circulated established procedure for hearings and the process that would be followed.

The Licensing Manager presented a the report of the Director of Planning and Development outlining an application for a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence. The report explained that the applicant had declared one criminal conviction for battery.

The Licensing Manager indicated that paragraph 6.3 of the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy states that:-

Consideration may only be given to granting/issuing a licence if at least 10 years have passed since the completion of any sentence and/or licence period following conviction for an offence shown below:

•Common assault

The Licensing Manager advised members they would need to determine whether there were sufficient exceptional circumstances which would support a departure from this policy.

A supplement to the report contained a character reference from a Youth and Community worker who had known the applicant for 18 years. The reference had been verified by the referee in writing.

The applicant attended the meeting and made representations to the Sub Committee in support of his application and was asked questions.

The Licensing Manager and the applicant left the meeting while the Sub - Committee considered its decision.

In reaching its decision the panel took into account the following:

1. Both Written and Oral Evidence presented in connection with the hearing
2. The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976/Town Police Clauses Act 1847 (where applicable)
3. Statement of Policy and Guidelines relating to the relevance of convictions, formal/simple cautions, complaints and other matters which may impact on the granting of a licence – (revised 1/5/22)
4. The Statutory fit and proper person test.

Resolved:-

The application for a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence be refused, as the Sub-Committee were of the view that no exceptional circumstances had been demonstrated by the applicant to support a departure from the Council's policy.

Chair

Date