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LICENSING BOARD

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2019 at 10.00 am in Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

Present: Councillor Sam Bambridge (Chairman); Councillors Currie, Ara, L Potts, M Saunders, Scobie and Wright

451. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Dexter, Green, Paul Moore, Rogers and Wing.

452. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

453. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by Councillor Potts, seconded by Councillor M Saunders and Members agreed the Board minutes as a correct record of the meeting held on 12 February 2019.

454. LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES 26-3-2019

It was proposed by Councillor Potts, seconded by Councillor M Saunders and Members agreed the Licensing Sub-Committee minutes as a correct record of the meeting held on 26 March 2019.

455. LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES 25-4-2019

It was proposed by Councillor Potts, seconded by Councillor M Saunders and Members agreed the Licensing Sub-Committee minutes as a correct record of the meeting held on 25 April 2019.

456. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting on agenda items 7 and 8 as they contain exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 4 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

457. APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF LICENCE TO DRIVE PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

Alison Stocker, Licensing Officer presented the report.

Members asked a question of the Licensing Officer.

The Applicant addressed the Board.

Members asked questions of the Applicant.

Further to debate, Members agreed:

Having considered the relevant policies of this district authority, the Human Rights Act 1998 so far as it applies and the factors in this case, the Licensing Board's decision is that:

1. A licence is to be granted for one year.

The reasons given were that this gentleman has been a taxi driver for 14 years and has a previously exemplary record. The board noted that they had concerns until his divorce is finalised and had that in mind when they chose a period of one year for the licence. It is noted that this decision is a departure from the district authority's policy on criminal convictions of this nature, however the board decided to so depart for the same reasons set out above.

Mr Berry was informed of his right to appeal to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days.

458. APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF LICENCE TO DRIVE PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

Councillor Potts left the meeting.

Penny Button, Head of Safer Neighbourhoods introduced the report.

The Applicant addressed the Board.

Members asked questions of the Applicant.

The Head of Safer Neighbourhoods asked a question of the Applicant.

Further to debate, Members agreed:

Having considered the relevant policies of this district authority, the Human Rights Act 1998 so far as it applies and the factors in this case, the Licensing Board's decision is that:

1. A licence is to be granted for one year.

The reasons given were that whilst there are previous offences which can be considered they are historic with the last offence having been committed some 24 years ago. The other offences were largely football related.

The Applicant was informed of his right to appeal to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days.

459. LICENSING OF A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE

Alison Stocker, Licensing Officer introduced the report.

Members asked a question of the Licensing Officer.

The Applicant addressed the Board.

The Licensing Officer asked a question of the Applicant.

Members asked questions of the Applicant.

Further to debate, Members agreed:

Having considered the relevant policies of this district authority, the Human Rights Act 1998 so far as it applies and the factors in this case, the Licensing Board's decision is that:

1. The board refuses to renew the licence in this case.

The reasons given were that the vehicle does not meet the criteria set by this district authority to determine vehicle suitability in the policy document known as *Guidelines on the Assessment of Vehicles to be Licensed as Hackney Carriages or Private Hire Vehicles*. The Board asked that it be noted that in their view this application falls at the first hurdle.

The Applicant was informed of his right to appeal to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days.

Meeting concluded : 11.30am

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