

## LICENSING BOARD

**Minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2020 at 10.00 am in Online Only.**

**Present:** Councillor Sam Bambridge (Chairman); Councillors Rogers, Currie, Dexter, Green, Huxley, Potts, M Saunders, Scobie, Shrubbs, Wing and Wright

All Members attended the meeting via Google Hangouts.

### **502. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **503. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **504. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Dexter and Members agreed the minutes as a correct record of the Licensing Board meeting held on the 14 April 2020.

### **505. LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Rogers, seconded by Councillor Dexter and Members agreed the minutes as a correct record of the Licensing Sub-Committee meeting held on the 3 March 2020.

### **506. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was proposed by Councillor Scobie, seconded by Councillor Rogers and Members agreed:

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting on agenda item 6 (minute 507) as it contains exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 4 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

### **507. REVIEW OF LICENCE TO OPERATE PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES**

Alison Stocker, Licensing Officer, presented the report.

The Applicant addressed the Board.

Members asked questions of the Applicant.

Further to debate, the Licensing Board agreed:

“This was a hearing to review the Private Hire Operator Licence held by the Applicant.

The Licensing Board has heard evidence that the Applicant engaged the services of an individual to drive Private Hire Vehicles, without that person holding the correct licence. It has been accepted that the individual was properly licensed to drive a Hackney Carriage, but did not, at the relevant time, hold a licence to drive a Private Hire Vehicle.

The Licensing Board has noted that the Operator Licence does specifically refer to the requirement that records be kept by the operator evidencing that licences to drive Private Hire Vehicles are held by any driver engaged by them.

The Applicant has been a licensed Private Hire Operator for 14 years, his business operates largely outside the Thanet area and involves the provision of high end chauffeuring services. The Applicant has accepted that he made a mistake when engaging the services of the driver concerned and has apologised without reservation for this error.

The Applicant's business provides work on a self-employed basis to seven drivers.

The Licensing Board is, unanimously, content that this was a genuine error and accordingly we are satisfied that it is not necessary to take any formal action at this stage. However, we would like to remind the Applicant of his responsibilities under the law and the terms of his Operators Licence.”

**Meeting concluded : 10.45 am**