

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at the County Borough Council Offices, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale on Tuesday, 21 October 2014 at 5:00pm.

PRESENT

County Borough Councillor A. S. Fox – in the Chair

County Borough Councillors

S. A. Bradwick	S. Powderhill
(Mrs) S. J. Jones	J. Rosser
(Mrs) C. Leyshon	G. Smith
C. J. Middle	L. G. Walker
I. Pearce	E. Webster
B. Morgan	

Officers in Attendance:

Mr P J Mee - Service Director, Public Health & Protection
Mrs R. Smith –Solicitor
Mrs M. D. Williams – Licensing Manager
Mr L. Morgan – Assistant Licensing Manager

31. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from County Borough Councillors R. B. McDonald, (Mrs) T. A. Bates and T. Williams

32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of personal interests in matters pertaining to the agenda.

33. HUMAN RIGHTS ACT 1998 AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT

RESOLVED – to note that when Members determine the licensing and registration matters before them, they have a duty not to act in a manner that is incompatible with the convention on Human Rights and the Crime and Disorder Act.

34. MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve as an accurate record the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on the 2 September 2014.

REPORTS OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND PROTECTION

35. LICENCES AND REGISTRATIONS ISSUED UNDER THE PROVISION OF DELEGATED POWERS

In his report, the Service Director, Public Health and Protection presented Members with details of licences and registrations issued during the period 18th August 2014 to the 5th October 2014 and following consideration of the report it was **RESOLVED** to note the content.

36. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended) for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in paragraph 12 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely, information relating to a particular individual. Transparency in the conduct of Local Authority business is desirable; however personal data relating to the conduct and capabilities of individuals will be discussed and considered. Consequently, it is considered the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing information

37. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 – APPLICATION FOR REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER LICENSES

At this juncture in the proceedings it was announced that Ms M. E. M-A of Tonypany was not yet in attendance therefore with the permission of the Chair it was agreed to consider the remainder of the agenda items until such time that the Licensee arrives.

38. ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

The Service Director, Public Health & Protection presented his report outlining recent enforcement activity in respect of Taxi & Miscellaneous Licences for the period 18th August 2014 to the 5th October 2014.

Members were provided with details of the complaints concerning the taxi trade such as illegal taxis, inappropriate driving and illegal parking as well as a diverse range of complaints in respect of other miscellaneous licences.

Members of the Committee were advised that random checks had been carried out at the taxi ranks in Aberdare and Pontypridd following a complaint regarding the refusal of short fares however, no breaches of conditions of licence were identified.

Further updates were supplied in respect of a late night exercise at the University of Glamorgan which had taken place with the intention of investigating complaints of vehicles being overloaded when collecting fares from the University. The Joint exercise with South Wales Police resulted in no offence or breaches of conditions of licence and was commended by members of the Committee.

In response to a query from a member of the committee the Service Director, Public Health & Protection provided an update in respect of ongoing issues at the Pontypridd taxi rank.

It was reported that there was one appeal for the period and details were supplied in relation to the case.

39. SUMMARY OF LICENCES ISSUED UNDER PROVISION OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY

In his report the Service Director, Public Health and Protection provided a summary of Licences and/or Registrations issued under provisions of Delegated Authority for the period 18th August 2014 to the 5th October 2014 and it was **RESOLVED** to note the report.

40. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 – APPLICATION FOR REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER LICENSES

- 1) In accordance with adopted procedures the Committee received Ms M.E.M-A of Tonypany, who was before Members so that a review of her Joint Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence could be undertaken following information provided by South Wales Police in respect of an incident involving the licensee and the Hackney Carriage vehicle that was being leased at the time.

The Licensee confirmed that the details within the report were accurate and provided an account of the circumstances leading up to the incident. The officer present from South Wales Police concurred with the series of events described by the licensee and added that no formal action is to be taken as a result of the incident detailed within the report.

Following consideration of the report by the Licensing Committee it was **RESOLVED** to allow the licence to continue with a warning in respect of behaviour subject to receipt of an acceptable medical assessment; failure to submit to medical examination as required by the Licensing Authority will result in immediate suspension of the licence.

A. S. Fox
Chairman

The meeting closed at 5.40pm