

LICENSING COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Licensing Committee held in the Council Chambers, Council Offices, Rosebery Place, Clydebank on Wednesday, 6 August 2003 at 11.00 a.m.

Present: Provost Alistair Macdonald and Councillors Dennis Brogan, Jack Duffy, Linda McColl and Raymond Young.

Attending: Tim Huntingford, Chief Executive; Nigel Ettles, Principal Solicitor and Craig Stewart, Administrative Assistant.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Denis Agnew, Duncan McDonald and Connie O'Sullivan.

APPOINTMENT OF CONVENER

345 With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of Council held on 25 June 2003 (page 55, paragraph 192 refers) concerning the membership of Committees and the appointment of Conveners thereto, the Committee considered the appointment of Convener of the Licensing Committee.

346 The Principal Solicitor requested nominations for the position of Convener and the Committee unanimously agreed that Councillor Duffy be appointed. Accordingly, Councillor Duffy assumed the Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

347 The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Committee held on 25 June 2003 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER'S LICENCE

<u>Name and Address of Applicant</u>	<u>Date Applied</u>
John Joseph Drummond Flat 1/2 2 Adelaide Court Dalmuir Clydebank	24 June 2003

- 348 A report was submitted by the Head of Legal and Administrative Services concerning an application for grant of a Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence by the above named person.
- 349 It was noted that an objection to the application had been submitted on behalf of the Chief Constable and that the applicant and a representative of the local Police authority had been invited to attend the meeting in order that a hearing may take place.
- 350 The applicant and the representative of the Police, Sergeant Jeffrey, who were in attendance, were invited to come forward.
- 351 Sergeant Jeffrey was then invited to address the Committee in support of the objection which had been submitted. It was noted that the objection was on the grounds that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to be the holder of a Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence for the reasons detailed in the report.
- 352 The applicant was then given the opportunity to address the Committee in support of his application.
- 353 After consideration it was agreed that the application be granted.

TAXI ACCESSIBILITY IN THE DUMBARTON AND VALE OF LEVEN AREA

- 354 A report was submitted by the Head of Legal and Administrative Services proposing the introduction of conditions which would eventually require all taxis operating in the Dumbarton and Vale of Leven Taxi Licensing Zone to be fully accessible to people with disabilities, including wheelchair users, in advance of the introduction of proposed Taxi Accessibility Regulations.
- 355 Having heard the Chief Executive and Principal Solicitor in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed, subject to the West Dunbartonshire Access Panel being given the opportunity to provide any comments in relation to this matter:-
- (a) that steps should now be taken to improve the accessibility of taxis to disabled people within the Dumbarton and Vale of Leven areas, in advance of the introduction of taxi regulations by the government, through the imposition of relevant conditions to taxi licences held by operators within the Dumbarton and Vale of Leven Taxi Licensing Zone;
 - (b) that from 1 January 2006 all taxis, except those which have been licensed continuously by West Dunbartonshire Council from an earlier date than 1 January 2006, should require to be wheelchair accessible; and

- (c) that all taxis should require to be wheelchair accessible by 1 January 2009.

LICENSING OF LATE HOURS CATERING

- 356 A report was submitted by the Head of Legal and Administrative Services concerning the introduction of a licensing scheme for late hours catering within West Dunbartonshire.
- 357 Having heard the Chief Executive and Principal Solicitor in elaboration and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-
- (a) in principle to the introduction of licensing of late hours catering within the West Dunbartonshire Council area in terms of the Proposed Resolution which was appended to the report;
 - (b) that the Proposed Resolution would be published with any representations received being reported to the next appropriate meeting of the Committee;
 - (c) that a provisional policy guideline be approved whereby the closing time for late hours catering premises would generally be no later than 12.30 a.m. each day; and
 - (d) to recommend that the application fee for a late hours catering licence be set at £220 and that consideration of this aspect be remitted to Council for approval as the matter was outwith the delegated powers of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 11.27 a.m.