

LICENSING COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Licensing Committee held in the Council Chamber, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 14 February 2018 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Jim Brown, Ian Dickson, Jim Finn, John Mooney, Jonathan McColl, Marie McNair and Brian Walker.

Attending: Raymond Lynch, Section Head (Licensing); Robert Mackie, Senior Officer (Licensing Services); Lawrence Knighton, Licensing Standards Officer and Nuala Borthwick, Committee Officer.

Also Attending: Constable Alison Simpson, Police Scotland.

Apology: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Lawrence O'Neill.

Councillor Jim Finn in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of previous meetings were submitted and approved as correct records as undernoted:-

- (1) Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 6 December 2017.

In response to a question from Councillor Mooney concerning the Committee's request for the Clerk to write to Police Scotland in respect of information regarding a Suspension Request Hearing, it was noted that the Licensing Sergeant was currently absent and therefore the Section Head (Licensing) would discuss the matter with the incoming Licensing Sergeant and advise Members of Police Scotland's response; and

- (2) Minutes of Special Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 23 January 2018.

**APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT OF A TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE
CAR DRIVER'S LICENCE**

(a) <u>Name and Address of Applicant</u>	<u>Date Applied</u>
Alexander Mullen Flat 1/2, 12 Boon Drive Drumchapel Glasgow G15 6AT	30 October 2017

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regulatory concerning an application for Grant of a Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence by the above named person.

Having heard the Section Head (Licensing), it was noted:-

- (a) that a letter had been received from the Chief Constable of Police Scotland on 24 November 2017 advising that Police Scotland had a representation to make in relation to the application;
- (b) that in view of the representation, the applicant and a representative of Police Scotland had been invited to attend the meeting of the Committee in order that a hearing could take place;
- (c) that the applicant and a representative of Police Scotland, Constable Simpson, were in attendance.

The Committee then heard from Constable Simpson in relation to the letter of representation from Police Scotland. Mr Mullen was then given the opportunity to address the Committee in support of his application.

DECIDED:-

After consideration, the Committee agreed that the application be granted.

(b) <u>Name and Address of Applicant</u>	<u>Date Applied</u>
Christopher Cuthill 14C Dunswin Court Dalmuir Clydebank G81 4AW	24 November 2017

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regulatory concerning an application for Grant of a Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence by the above named person.

Having heard the Section Head (Licensing), it was noted:-

- (a) that a letter had been received from the Chief Constable of Police Scotland on 19 December 2017 advising that Police Scotland had a representation to make in relation to the application;
- (b) that in view of the representation, the applicant and a representative of Police Scotland had been invited to attend the meeting of the Committee in order that a hearing could take place;
- (c) that the applicant and a representative of Police Scotland, Constable Simpson, were in attendance at the meeting.

The Committee then heard from Constable Simpson in relation to the letter of representation from Police Scotland. Thereafter, Mr Cuthill was given the opportunity to address the Committee in support of his application and in answer to questions from Members relating to the circumstances of the incident detailed in the letter from Police Scotland.

DECIDED:-

After consideration, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) that the application be granted; and
- (2) that the Section Head (Licensing) would seek further details from Police Scotland in respect of Members' questions and advise Members thereon.

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

Name and Address of Applicant

Date Applied

John McKenna
252 Faifley Road
Clydebank
G81 5EQ

11 January 2018

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regulatory concerning an application for Grant of a Temporary Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence by the above named person.

Having heard the Section Head (Licensing), it was noted:-

- (a) that a letter had been received from the Chief Constable of Police Scotland on 18 January 2018 submitting a comment in relation to the application;
- (b) that in view of the letter from Police Scotland, the applicant and a representative of Police Scotland had been invited to attend the meeting of the Committee in order that a Hearing could take place; and
- (c) that the applicant and a representative of Police Scotland, Constable Simpson, were in attendance.

The Committee then heard from Constable Simpson in relation to the letter from Police Scotland. Thereafter, Mr McKenna was given the opportunity to address the Committee in support of his application and was heard in answer to Members' questions.

DECIDED:-

After consideration, the Committee agreed that the application be refused on the grounds that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to be the holder of a Temporary Taxi Driver/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence.

**CONSIDERATION OF ISSUING ADDITIONAL TAXI LICENCES FOR
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE VEHICLES IN THE DUMBARTON AND VALE OF
LEVEN TAXI ZONE**

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regulatory advising of a proposal from a holder of a taxi booking office licence to apply for additional taxi licences that would be conditioned by way of the licence to be wheelchair accessible and available 24/7.

It was noted that members of the taxi trade from the Dumbarton and Vale of Leven area were in attendance at the meeting.

DECIDED:-

Having heard the Section Head (Licensing) and the Licensing Standards Officer in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to continue consideration of the issues in the proposal to a future meeting of the Committee when the findings of an updated demand survey on taxi provision would be published;
- (2) to note that there would be engagement and consultation with the taxi trade at a meeting of the West Dunbartonshire Taxi Licensing Forum in relation to the demand survey on taxi provision; and

- (3) to note that continuation of the report would not prevent individual applications for a new taxi licence being made, and where necessary for these applications to be considered by the Committee, in the interim period.

The meeting closed at 10.40 a.m.