

**MINUTES OF: LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**Date of Meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> August 2008**

**Present: Councillor Cheetham (in the Chair)  
Councillors Crawford, Dickinson, Evans, Morris, Neal,  
C. Pilling, Stansfield (substitute for Gledhill), H. Steen (for  
Eaton), Unsworth and Wilson**

**In Attendance: Tracy Brzozowski, Licensing Manager  
Heather Moore, Committee and Member Services Manager  
Danny Dobson, Licensing Enforcement Officer (for part of the  
meeting)**

**Also Present: 4 Members of the Public**

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## **BUSINESS MATTERS**

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Eaton (Councillor H. Steen substituting) and Councillor Gledhill (Councillor Stansfield substituting).

### **2. MINUTES**

#### **Resolved:**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### **3. URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS**

There were no urgent items of business.

### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made.

## **OPERATIONAL MATTERS**

### **5. CHAIR'S UPDATE**

The Vice-Chairman reported that there were no matters to report under this item.

### **6. CONVERTED VEHICLES LICENCED AS HACKNEY CARRIAGES/PRIVATE HIRE – SINGLE VEHICLE APPROVAL**

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director – Business, which outlined a proposal to licence modified vehicles as a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire vehicle if they held a single vehicle approval confirmation of compliance document from the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (VOSA).

Mrs Kenyon, on behalf of the Taxi Association spoke in support of the proposal and thanked the Licensing Unit as the liaison meetings were going forward in a positive manner.

**Resolved:**

That the Committee amends the previous decision on Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles to the following:

Converted vehicles will only be licenced as Hackney Carriage or Private Hire vehicles that:

- a) Have European Whole Body Type (M1) approval, Low Volume Vehicle Type Approval or Single Vehicle Type Approval (including a Certificate of Compliance issued by VOSA) as a minimum standard;
- b) Are existing vehicles on Rossendale Borough Council's hackney carriage and private hire register.

**7. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**Resolved:**

That the public and press be excluded from the following items of business under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 since they involve the disclosure of exempt information under Paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**N.B. The Licensing Enforcement Officer vacated the meeting prior to consideration of the following items of business**

**8. PROPOSED REVOCATION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS LICENCE – MR AI**

The Chair welcomed the applicant and his representative to the meeting.

The Licensing Manager presented the report detailing the circumstances surrounding the proposed revocation of the Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence.

The applicant's representative presented information in support of the application.

The applicant and the Licensing Manager left the room to enable the Committee to determine the application.

**Resolved:**

1. That the licence be revoked under s.61 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. The Committee consider that the applicant is no longer a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence.
2. That the applicant be notified in writing of the decision and their right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court, which must be exercised within 21 days of service of the decision letter.

**9. PROPOSED REVOCATION OF PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR'S LICENCE – MR RB**

The applicant was not present at the meeting and the Committee agreed to determine the matter in his absence.

The Licensing Manager presented a report detailing the circumstances surrounding the proposed revocation of the Private Hire Operator's Licence.

The Licensing Manager left the room to enable the Committee to determine the application.

**Resolved:**

That the decision be deferred pending the outcome of the investigation and therefore leaving the suspension of the Private Hire's Operator's Licence in place.

**10. NEW APPLICATION FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS LICENCE – MR AJ**

The applicant was not present at the meeting and the Committee agreed to determine the application in his absence.

The Licensing Manager presented a report detailing the circumstances surrounding the application for the Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence. The Licensing Manager provided additional information which had been received since the preparation of the report, for the consideration of the Committee.

The Licensing Manager left the room to enable the Committee to determine the application.

**Resolved:**

1. That the licence be refused under Section 59(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. The Committee considered that the Applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence.
2. That the applicant be notified in writing of the decision and his right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court, which must be exercised within 21 days of service of the decision letter.

**The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed at 7.35pm**

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CHAIRMAN