MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held at County Hall, Usk on Tuesday 9th June 2015 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT: County Councillor: L. Guppy (Chairman)

County Councillors: R. Chapman, R. Edwards D.J. Evans, P. Jones, J. Prosser, B. Strong, P. Watts and A.E. Webb.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. D. Jones	-	Head of Public Health and Culture
Mrs. L. O'Gorman	-	Principal Licensing Officer
Mr. C. Rann	-	Senior Licensing Officer
Mrs P. Perkins	-	Legal Assistant
Mr. R. Williams	-	Democratic Services Officer

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Nominations for Chairman were received and seconded for County Councillors R.F. Chapman and L. Guppy.

Upon being put to the vote, the following votes were recorded:

In favour of County Councillor R.F. Chapman - 3 votes. In favour of County Councillor L. Guppy - 6 votes.

We elected County Councillor L. Guppy as Chairman.

The Chairman welcomed County Councillor P. Jones to her first Licensing and Regulatory Committee meeting.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

We appointed County Councillor B. Strong as Vice-Chairman.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

We received apologies for absence from County Councillors R.J. Higginson and F. Taylor.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. MINUTES

We confirmed and signed the minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 21st April 2015.

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The Committee agreed that the agenda order would be changed, as follows:

- Item 8. Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Divers Licence
- Item 9. Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Divers Licence
- Item 6i. Draft Statement of Gambling Policy

Item 6ii. Proposal for Casinos.

6. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

We resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

7. HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE

We resolved to defer consideration of the hearing to a future Licensing and Regulatory Committee following a request by the applicant, as they were currently on holiday.

8. HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE

The Chairman welcomed the applicant to the meeting and introduced Members of the Committee and the attending Officers and explained the protocol for the meeting.

The applicant confirmed their name and address to the Committee and confirmed that they were content to proceed without legal representation.

The Principal Licensing Officer presented a report which recommended that members consider and determine whether the applicant for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire drive was a fit and proper person to continue to hold a licence.

The key issues and details of the application were read out to the Committee.

The applicant was then provided with the opportunity to address the Committee, to put forward any relevant explanations. Following this, Members of the Committee put forward questions to the applicant and discussion ensued.

Following questioning, officers and the applicant left the meeting to allow the Committee the opportunity to deliberate and discuss the findings.

Upon re-commencement, the Chairman advised that the Committee had considered the application and had resolved to defer consideration of the application to a Special Meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee on 25th June 2015 at 10.00am to allow officers to obtain further information which would be presented to the Committee for consideration.

9. RE-ADMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The press and public were re-admitted to the meeting.

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10. DRAFT STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY

We considered the proposed draft Statement of Gambling Policy 2015 prior to submission to submission to Full Council.

We resolved that the report be presented to Full Council.

11. PROPOSAL FOR CASINOS

We considered the approach to be adopted by Monmouthshire County Council with regard to any casino application for premises within the County.

We resolved to endorse the current policy and that it be presented to Full Council.

12. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Special Meeting – 25th June 2015 at 10.00am. Ordinary Meeting – 21st July 2015 at 10.00am

The meeting ended at 11.55am.