

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Licensing and Regulatory Committee held at The Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA with remote attendance on Tuesday, 5th September, 2023 at 10.00 am

PRESENT: County Councillor Tudor Thomas (Chairman)
County Councillor Jayne McKenna (Vice Chairman)

County Councillors: Tony Easson, Christopher Edwards, Simon Howarth, Jane Lucas, Alistair Neill, Sue Riley, Dale Rooke, Jackie Strong, Armand Watts and Malcolm Lane (substituting for Lisa Dymock)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

David Jones	Head of Public Protection
Linda O'Gorman	Principal Licensing Officer
Emma Watkins	Licensing Officer
Ben Davies	Solicitor
Richard Williams	Democratic Services Officer

County Councillors Simon Howarth and Armand Watts joined the meeting during consideration of Minute 4 and therefore, did not take part in the voting procedure for this item.

APOLOGIES:

County Councillor Lisa Dymock

1. Declarations of interest

None received.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee meeting held on 13th June 2023 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

3. Exclusion of the Press and Public

We excluded the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 12 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

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4. To consider whether the driver is "Fit and Proper" to continue to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence. To consider if the licensed Private Hire Operator should continue to hold such licence.

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

The driver confirmed their name and address to the Committee. The driver confirmed receipt of the report and acknowledged that they would proceed without legal representation.

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

The driver was then given the opportunity to address the Committee, to put forward any relevant explanations. Following this, Members of the Committee put forward questions to the driver and discussion ensued. The driver was then given the opportunity to sum up.

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

Upon re-commencement, the Chair advised that the Committee had considered the issues and had resolved that:

- i) the driver was not a fit and proper person to continue holding a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver Licence;
- ii) the Private Hire Operator Licence be revoked.

5. Next Meeting

Tuesday 17th October 2023 at 10.00am.

The meeting ended at 12.11 pm.