

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Licensing and Regulatory Committee held
In The Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA with remote
attendance on Tuesday, 21st May, 2024 at 10.00 am**

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

County Councillors: Tony Easson, Christopher Edwards,
Simon Howarth, Jane Lucas, Alistair Neill, Sue Riley, Dale Rooke,
Jackie Strong and Armand Watts

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

David Jones	Head of Public Protection
Linda O'Gorman	Principal Licensing Officer
Emma Watkins	Licensing Officer
Julian Sanders	Solicitor
Anna Hawker	Trainee Solicitor
Richard Williams	Democratic Services Officer

APOLOGIES:

County Councillor Lisa Dymock

1. Election of Chair

We elected County Councillor Tudor Thomas as Chair.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chair

We appointed County Councillor Jayne McKenna as Vice-Chair.

3. Declarations of interest

None received.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee Meeting dated 9th April 2024 were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

5. Statement of Gambling Policy and Proposals for Casinos

The Principal Licensing Officer presented the Draft Statement of Gambling Policy 2025' prior to submission to Full Council.

Following presentation of the report, Committee Members were invited to ask questions:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/6nlirrJdkH0?si=LuV80PJsfKV79Wu6&t=325>

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We resolved:

- (i) to retain the current resolution not to issue casino licences within the County of Monmouthshire prior to it being considered at Full Council.
- (ii) that having reviewed the proposed updated Gambling Policy statement for the period 31st January 2025 to 30th January 2028, that approval be sought to commence the statutory consultation process prior to determining the new statement.

6. 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.

7. To consider whether the driver is "Fit and Proper" to hold a 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. The applicant 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 applicant 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 applicant and discussion ensued. The applicant was then given the opportunity to sum up.

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 Chair advised that consideration of the application to hold a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver's Licence would be deferred to a future meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee to allow the applicant the opportunity to have a translator and legal advisor present with them.

8. Next Meeting

Tuesday 9th July 2024 at 10.00am.

The meeting ended at 12.13 pm.