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MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Licensing and Regulatory Committee
Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA and remote attendance
on Tuesday, 24th May, 2022 at 2.00 pm**

PRESENT: County Councillor A. Easson (Chair)
County Councillor A. Webb (Vice-Chair)

County Councillors: J. Butler (substitute), J. Crook, L. Dymock, C. Edwards, S. Howarth, J. Lucas, D. Rooke, J. Strong and A. Watts

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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

APOLOGIES:

County Councillors: A. Neill and S. Riley

1. Election of Chair

We elected County Councillor A. Easson as Chair.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chair

We appointed County Councillor A. Webb as Vice-Chair.

3. Declarations of Interest

County Councillor C. Edwards declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 7 due to his knowledge of a close relative of the applicant. He left the meeting taking no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

County Councillor A. Webb declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 7 due to her knowledge of the applicant. She left the meeting taking no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

County Councillor D. Rooke declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 8 due to his knowledge of the applicant. The applicant operates a business near his home area and he has used the business occasionally. He left the meeting taking no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

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4. To confirm the following minutes:

4.1. Licensing and Regulatory Committee - 8th March 2022

The minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee dated 8th March 2022 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4.2. Licensing and Regulatory Sub Committee - 8th March 2022

The minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Sub Committee dated 8th March 2022 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

5. Exclusion of the Press and Public

We excluded 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, as amended, 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.

6. Renewal application for a street trading consent

The Chairman welcomed the applicant and their representative 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 receipt of additional information received by the Licensing Department in respect of this matter 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, the Licensing and Regulatory Committee and the Legal representative left the meeting to deliberate and discuss the findings.

Upon re-commencement, the Chair advised that the Committee had considered the issues and had resolved to allow the renewal and issue a Street Trading Consent for 12 months back dated to commence from 14th March 2022 until 14th March 2023.

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7. 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. To consider if the Private Hire Vehicle Licence will be retained

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, the Licensing and Regulatory Committee and the Legal representative left the meeting 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 applicant was not a fit and proper person to continue holding a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver Licence.
- (ii) the applicant's Private Hire Operator licence be revoked.

8. Next Meeting

Tuesday 28th June 2022 at 10.00am.

The meeting ended at 5.05 pm.

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