

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 7 January 2016 at 10.10am.

Present: Councillors ALEX KING, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, BRIAN BOYD, LYNNE DEVINE, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, IAIN GAUL, JIM HOUSTON, DAVID LUMGAIR and PAUL VALENTINE.

Councillor KING, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Bob Spink.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Fotheringham declared an interest in Item 9(a) as the applicant was known to him and he regularly frequented the premises. He advised that he would not participate in any discussion and voting and would leave the meeting during consideration of this item.

3. MEMBERSHIP OF CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE

With reference to Article 6(1) of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 10 December 2015, the Committee noted that Councillor Iain Gaul had formally been appointed to the Civic Licensing Committee to replace Councillor Hands who had resigned as a member of the Committee.

4. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 5 November 2015 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

5. DELEGATED APPROVALS

There was submitted Report No 4/16 by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, detailing applications for licences under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other miscellaneous Acts which had been granted/renewed by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation appended to Standing Orders.

The Committee agreed to note the applications detailed in the Appendix to the Report, granted/renewed under delegated powers during the period 16 October to 9 December 2015.

6. TAXI FARES REVIEW

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 15 May 2014, there was submitted Report No 5/16 by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services regarding the proposed review of the taxi fare structure for Angus and representations received following public advertisement of the proposed new scales.

The Committee heard from Mr Mitchell Murray, Taxi Operator, Forfar who urged the Committee to approve option 2 as detailed in the appendix to the Report and amended by himself. He advised that an increase was required due to the rise in garage costs, servicing costs and Angus Council fees.

The Committee then heard from Mr Colin Watt, on behalf of Arbroath Taxi Drivers who advised the Committee that due to the recent reduction in fuel costs, they would be content with no increase in the fare structure.

After discussion and in light of the representations received, the Committee agreed that there be no increase in the current fare structure.

7. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee resolved, in terms of Standing Order 28(2) that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, so as to avoid the possible disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, paragraphs 3 and 6.

8. NEW APPLICATION

There was submitted Report No 6/16 by the Strategic Director – Resources regarding an application received for a new licence under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 which required to be determined by the Committee, as detailed in the Appendix to the Report.

(a) Private Hire Car Drivers Licence (PHCD36)

The Committee considered an application for a private hire car drivers licence received on 12 August 2015.

The Committee noted that the applicant had now passed a satisfactory medical examination and that the application had been granted under delegated authority.

9. RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

There was submitted Report No 7/16 by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services regarding applications received for the renewal of licences under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other miscellaneous acts which was required to be determined by the Committee as detailed in the appendix to the Report.

Councillor Fotheringham, having declared an interest in Article 2 above, left the meeting during consideration of the following item (9(a)).

(a) Late Hours Catering Licence (LHC16)

With reference to Article 11 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 5 November 2015, the Committee considered an application for the renewal of a Late Hours Catering Licence (LHC16) received on 15 September 2015 in respect of premises at Kohenoor/Iannarellis, 141-145 East High Street, Forfar.

The applicant was present and addressed the Committee.

Sergeant Bethway, Police Scotland, then addressed the Committee on the contents of the letter from Police Scotland dated 2 October 2015.

The Committee agreed that the application be renewed but that the applicant be given a warning of the possible consequences of any future adverse reports.

(b) Taxi Operator's Licence (TO5)

The Committee considered a letter of objection received from Police Scotland dated 22 October 2015 in relation to an application for a Taxi Operator's Licence (TO5) received on 24 September 2015.

The Committee noted that the application had been withdrawn by the applicant.