

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 4 January 2018 at 10.44 am.

Present: Councillors CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, RICHARD MOORE, COLIN BROWN, BRENDA DURNO, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, ALEX KING, DAVID LUMGAIR, GAVIN NICOL and BETH WHITESIDE.

Councillor FOTHERINGHAM, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Brian Boyd.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Committee agreed to note that no declarations of interest were made.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of meetings of this Committee of 2 and 8 November 2017 were approved as correct records and signed by the Convener.

4. DELEGATED APPROVALS

There was submitted Report No 12/18 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 11 October to 4 December 2017.

5. INSPECTION OF TAXIS AND PRIVATE HIRE CARS

With reference to Article 12 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 1 June 2017, there was submitted Report No 13/18 by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, updating members regarding the testing of taxis and private hire vehicles in Angus following a consultation exercise with a number of MOT garages between July and 31 August 2017.

The Report concluded that Angus Council currently had one supplier of vehicle inspections and moving to local vehicle inspections would create more suppliers which may result in an increased administrative burden on staff.

It was noted that should members wish to progress using local garages to conduct taxi and private hire vehicle inspections in Angus this may result in additional costs which would require to be reflected in increased fees to the trade.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the position as detailed in the Report;
- (ii) not to proceed to use local garages to conduct taxi and private hire vehicle inspections in Angus; and
- (iii) to continue the arrangements with Dundee City Council to provide the taxi and private hire vehicle inspections for Angus.

6. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee resolved, in terms 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.

7. NEW APPLICATION

There was submitted Report No 14/18 by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, 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 Driver's Licence (PHCD45)

The Committee considered a letter of objection received from Police Scotland dated 21 November 2017 in relation to an application for a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence (PHCD 45) received on 17 November 2017.

The applicant was present and addressed the Committee.

Constable Forsyth, Police Scotland, then addressed the Committee on the contents of the objection letter from Police Scotland dated 21 November 2017.

The applicant then summed up.

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

8. RENEWAL APPLICATION

There was submitted Report No 15/18 by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, regarding an application received for a renewal under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 which required to be determined by the Committee, as detailed in the Appendix to the Report.

(a) Taxi Driver's Licence (TD75)

With reference to Article 13 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 10 August 2017, the Committee considered a letter of objection received from Police Scotland dated 12 October 2017 in relation to an application for the renewal of a Taxi Driver's Licence (TD75) received on 3 October 2017.

The applicant was not present.

Constable Forsyth, Police Scotland, advised the Committee that the Procurator Fiscal had agreed not to proceed with the case.

The Committee agreed that the Licence be renewed, subject to the standard conditions.