

A MEETING OF THE LICENSING BOARD

WAS HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2012

The Mayor (Councillor Carter CR) (ex-officio), Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Hook) (ex-officio), Councillors Allen (P), Ms Ballard (P), Beavis (P), Bradley (P), Carter CK, Mrs Cully (P), Edwards (P), Foster-Reed (P), Jacobs (P), Murphy (P), Scard (P) and Miss West (P).

47. APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of the Mayor and Councillor CK Carter.

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

49. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Board held on 10 January 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

50. DEPUTATIONS

There were none.

51. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none.

PART II

52. APPLICATION FOR FIRST RENEWAL OF A SIX MONTH STREET TRADING CONSENT IN GOSPORT HIGH STREET

Consideration was given to a report of the Community and Customer Services Manager which sought the determination of an application for a six month Street Trading Consent.

Members advised that at the granting of the initial consent in April 2011 the Licensing Board had requested that should an application for renewal be made it should be brought to the Board for evaluation and consideration.

Members felt that the previous six month street trading consent had been successful and acknowledged that Mr Goulding had established a good trade. The Board was advised that Burtons Gents outfitters had made no objection to the Ice Cream van being positioned outside their premises.

The Board agreed that the application for a six month trading street consent be granted and that any subsequent applications by Mr Goulding could be approved under delegated authority.

The Board requested that their thanks be extended to Mr Goulding for his work in making a success of the street trading consent.

RESOLVED That:

- a) the application for the renewal of street trading consent to allow for the sale of ice cream and frozen confectionary be approved; and
- b) any subsequent application for renewal be determined under delegated authority.

53. DRIVER AND VEHICLE LICENSING AGENCY (DVLA) DRIVER RECORD CHECKS FOR ALL HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS, DUAL DRIVERS AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS

Consideration was given to a report of the Community and Customer Services Manager requesting the introduction of DVLA Driver Record Checks for all Hackney Carriage Drivers, Dual Drivers and Private Hire Drivers on annual renewal applications and for all new applications.

The Board was advised that currently, if an application for a new licence is received and is to be presented to the Licensing Board, or if a driver is unable to produce their driving licence as required on renewal, a DVLA Driver Record Check is undertaken. Checks are postal based and take approximately 10 days.

The Board was advised that the Senior Licensing Officer had identified a national commercial company, Intelligent Data Systems which could offer the Council a 48 hour on-line service to supply copies of the Driver record for a fee of £5.75.

The Board were informed that in addition to a quicker response, the introduction of on-line checks would relieve Gosport Borough Council of the Data Protection Compliance procedures associated with the storage of paper that DVLA Driver Records currently supplied to the Council.

Members were advised that 70+ local authorities had already signed up to use Intelligent Data Systems as an alternative to the DVLA.

Members felt that the proposals were acceptable and agreed that a copy of the DVLA Drivers Record must support all applications for Hackney Carriage, Dual Driver and Private Hire Licences and that use of Intelligent Data Systems be approved to carry out such checks.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) a copy of the DVLA Drivers Record Checks must support all applications for Hackney Carriage, Dual Driver and Private Hire Licences; and
- b) the use of Intelligent Data Systems to carry out DVLA Driver Record Checks be approved.
- c) The Head of Environmental Health is approved to proceed to introduce independent checking of the up-to-date DVLA Driver record of all new and annual renewal applications for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers licences

54 GOSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL ACCREDITATION OF THE BLUE LAMP TRUST TAXI DRIVER ASSESSMENT

Consideration was given to the report of the Community and Customer Services Manager which sought accreditation of the Blue Lamp Trust Taxi Driver Assessment as acceptable proof of driver competence for persons applying to be granted Gosport Borough Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Licences.

Mr David Watkins from the Blue Lamp Trust was introduced to the Board.

Mr Watkins provided a presentation to the Board on the work of the Blue Lamp Trust and services that could be provided.

In answer to a Member's question the Board was advised that the driving assessors were trained to DSA standard and were advanced police driver instructors..

He advised that the Blue Lamp Trust could be more flexible with appointments than the DSA and could undertake assessments on Saturdays for no additional fee.

It was confirmed that applicants would be able to choose either the Blue Lamp Trust or the DSA for their Taxi Driver Assessment.

RESOLVED: That the use of the Blue Lamp Trust Taxi Driver Assessment be approved and accredited as an acceptable proof of driver competence for persons applying to be granted Gosport Borough Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Licences.

The meeting ended at 6.33 p.m.

CHAIRMAN