

**EXTRAORDINARY DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND LICENSING
COMMITTEE held at COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD SAFFRON
WALDEN at 6.30 pm on 31 JULY 2003**

Present: Councillor Cant – Chairman
Councillors E C Abrahams, P Boland, J I Loughlin,
J E Menell and A R Thawley

Officers in Attendance: M Hardy, R Haylock, M Perry, R M Secker and
A Turner

DCL40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors W F Bowker,
J F Cheetham, K J Clarke, R J Copping, C M Dean, C D Down, R F Freeman
and E J Godwin.

DCL41 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act
1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting on the
grounds that the business to be transacted involves the likely
disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 4 and 7 of
Part 1 of the Schedule 12 (a) of the Act.

DCL42 DETERMINATION OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Committee considered an application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence
where the Applicant did not meet the standard licensing conditions. The
Chairman explained to the Applicant the procedure to be followed in
considering the application.

The Council's Licensing Officer explained the reasons why the application had
come before the Licensing Committee. The Applicant was invited to question
the Licensing Officer and to comment on the accuracy of the Licensing
Office's report.

The Applicant was then invited to answer the observations of the Council's
Licensing Representative and give reasons in support of his application. The
Applicant's prospective employer spoke in support of the application. A friend
of the Applicant also spoke in support of the application. The Licensing
Representative then asked questions of the Applicant, as did Members at the
invitation of the Chairman.

The Applicant made a final statement and then confirmed that he had said all
he wished to say and had nothing further to add.

The Applicant and the Licensing Officers then left the meeting and the
Committee considered its decision. The Applicant was later readmitted and
informed of the decision.

RESOLVED that a Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted.

DCL43 DETERMINATION OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Committee considered an application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence where the Applicant did not meet the standard licensing conditions. The Chairman explained to the Applicant the procedure to be followed in considering the application.

The Council's Licensing Officer explained the reasons why the application had come before the Licensing Committee. The Applicant was invited to question the Licensing Officer and to comment on the accuracy of the Licensing Officer's report.

The Applicant was then invited to answer the observations of the Council's Licensing Representative and give reasons in support of his application. The Licensing Representative then asked questions of the Applicant, as did Members at the invitation of the Chairman.

The Applicant made a final statement and then confirmed that he had said all he wished to say and had nothing further to add.

The Applicant and the Licensing Officers then left the meeting and the Committee considered its decision. The Applicant was later readmitted and informed of the decision.

RESOLVED that a Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted.

DCL44 DETERMINATION OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Committee considered an application for a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence where the Applicant did not meet the standard licensing conditions. The Chairman explained to the Applicant the procedure to be followed in considering the application.

The Council's Licensing Officer explained the reasons why the application had come before the Licensing Committee. The Applicant was invited to question the Licensing Officer and to comment on the accuracy of the Licensing Officer's report.

The Applicant was then invited to answer the observations of the Council's Licensing Representative and give reasons in support of his application. The Applicant's prospective employer spoke in support of the application. The Licensing Representative then asked questions of the Applicant, as did Members at the invitation of the Chairman.

The Applicant made a final statement and then confirmed that he had said all he wished to say and had nothing further to add.

The Applicant and the Licensing Officers then left the meeting and the Committee considered its decision. The Applicant was later readmitted and informed of the decision.

RESOLVED that a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence be granted.

DCL45 HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE FEES

Members considered the report which advised the Committee of the need to increase the scale fees in respect of drivers' licences, vehicle transfers and vehicle testing to cover the costs incurred and recommended the revised fees be charged from 1 September 2003.

The Head of Environmental Services reported that the licensing function of local authorities required that fees and charges are set to cover the costs associated. Therefore, the Council should not over a period make any surplus through the provision of this service. Members agreed that the increases in fees were justified and necessary to cover the Council's expenses.

RESOLVED that as from 1 September 2003:-

- (i) The hackney carriage and private hire drivers' licence fees be increased to £80 per year and the joint drivers' licence be increased to £100 per year.
- (ii) The vehicle transfer fee be increased to £50.
- (iii) The vehicle inspection fee be increased to £35.

The meeting ended at 8.30 p.m.