

**LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD AT 6.30pm at COUNCIL OFFICES
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN on 10 JANUARY 2001**

Present:- Councillor R C Dean – Chairman
Councillors E C Abrahams, Mrs C A Cant, Mrs S Flack,
A R Row and R B Tyler
Officers in attendance:- P Anderson – Services Officer, Mrs J Harrison –
Legal Officer, Mrs J Postings – Head of Legal Services,
Mrs C Roberts – Committee Officer, R Secker – Head of
Environmental Services and Mrs A Turner – Licensing Officer

L39 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M A Hibbs.

The Head of Legal Services explained why only those Members who had attended the meeting on 13 December 2000 had been invited to this meeting. Councillor Mrs S Flack, who had not been present on 13 December, expressed herself willing to leave the meeting. The Head of Legal Services informed Members of possible courses of action and it was agreed that the Committee would continue with the original hearing which had started on 13 December 2000, in the absence of Mrs Flack. She then left the meeting and took no further part in the proceedings.

L40 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2000 were received, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

L41 BUSINESS ARISING

Minute L37 – Determination of a Private Hire Driver's Licence

Councillor R B Tyler expressed the hope that on future occasions a full history of offences would be placed before Members. The Head of Environmental Services advised that the DVLA at Swansea did not maintain records of any pre-disqualification driving offences.

L42 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 4 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

L43 **DETERMINATION OF A JOINT PRIVATE HIRE LICENCE/HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE APPLICATION**

The Sub-Committee considered further an application for a joint private hire licence/hackney carriage driver's licence where the criteria to enable the officers to determine the application under delegated authority were not satisfied. The Chairman explained to the applicant the procedure to be followed in considering the application. The applicant who was present with her prospective employer made representations in support of her case. Members questioned the applicant and officers. The applicant had the opportunity to question the officers and sum up her case. The applicant confirmed that she considered she had had a fair hearing and then she and the licensing officers left the meeting whilst the Sub-Committee considered its decision. They were later readmitted and informed of the decision.

RESOLVED that the application for a joint private hire licence/hackney carriage driver's licence submitted by the individual named in the report be granted and that the applicant be given a strong warning concerning the standard of her driving in the future.

L44 **INFORMATION ABOUT APPLICANTS' HISTORY OF OFFENCES**

In answer to questions from Members, the Services Officer explained the difficulties which were being encountered in obtaining information to verify applicants' histories. He agreed to pursue Members' requests that the application form and reports on applications be reviewed to achieve any possible improvements in this aspect of licensing.

The meeting ended at 7.05 pm.