

LICENSING APPLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE 3 MINUTES - 1 NOVEMBER 2017

Present: Councillor Woodward (Chair);

Councillors Dennis, Livingston, McDonald and Skeats (items 16 to 18 only).

Apologies: Councillors D Edwards.

16. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 27 September and 10 October 2017 were confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chair.

17. REVIEW OF STREET TRADING CONSENT LOCATIONS, DELEGATIONS AND PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL SITES WITHIN THE READING TOWN CENTRE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report asking the Sub-Committee to consider approving two additional town centre pitches in respect of street trading. The report also asked the Sub-Committee to delegate authority to officers to vet and issue consents in the town centre where applications were not of a controversial nature and to approve the criteria for officers to use when issuing street trading consents to applicants.

The report stated that at present street trading was restricted to six consent pitches all located on Broad Street. A plan of Broad Street marked with the six current consent pitches was attached to the report at Appendix 1. Licensing officers had worked with the Highways team to confirm that two additional town centre sites on the site of the Civic Offices on Bridge Street would be suitable for street trading. A map identifying the proposed two additional sites was attached to the report at Appendix 2.

A set of the standard conditions which were attached to Street Trading consents was attached to the report at Appendix 3.

The report stated that following consultation with Thames Valley Police, Highways and local Councillors no comments had been received, and Network Management had submitted comments but had not objected to the proposal. A copy of the consultation document was attached to the report at Appendix 4.

The report sought delegated authority for the Head of Planning, Development and Regulatory Services to make available the two additional sites to suitable applicants. The site locations and the effectiveness of each street trading pitch would be reviewed in 12 months. Any applications that officers decided might be controversial would be referred to the Sub-Committee.

The report set out a framework for granting Street Trading consents in the Town Centre which took into account a set of criteria designed to achieve a minimum level of suitability for licensing street traders. It also provided guidance for prospective applicants to work towards and would be used when making any decision on granting a consent. The proposed framework was set out in section 8 of the report.

Resolved -

- (1) That the two additional town centre street trading pitches, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;

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- (2) That the Head of Planning, Development and Regulatory Services be delegated authority to vet and issue consents in the town centre where applications are not of a controversial nature;
- (3) That the criteria as set out in section 8 of the report be approved for use by officers when issuing street trading consents to applicants.

18. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved -

That, pursuant to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), members of the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following items of business as it was likely that there would be disclosures of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act.

19. APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT, RENEWAL, SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER LICENCES

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report asking the Sub-Committee to consider an application for the renewal of a three year hackney carriage vehicle driver's licence and the application for the grant of a three year private hire vehicle driver's licence.

A summary of the circumstances of each case was appended to the report.

The applicants were both present at the meeting and addressed the Sub-Committee. HAK was accompanied by his wife who also addressed the Sub-Committee.

Resolved -

- (1) That the application by UM for the renewal of a three year hackney carriage vehicle driver's licence be granted for six months and that the Head of Planning, Development and Regulatory Services be authorised to renew the licence for a further six months, subject to no breaches of licence conditions, offences being committed or complaints being received and then for a further 24 months subject to no breaches of licence conditions, offences being committed or complaints being received;
- (2) That the application by HAK for the grant of a three year private hire vehicle driver's licence be refused due to him not being considered a fit and proper person by reason of:
 - (a) the nature of the offences, as detailed in the report;
 - (b) insufficient time had elapsed since his convictions for some offences, as detailed in the report;
 - (c) his breaches of licence conditions, traffic regulations and legislation, as detailed in the report;
 - (d) the Sub-Committee was not satisfied as to the honesty of the applicant.

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(Exempt information as defined in paragraph 1, 2, 3 and 5)

(The meeting started at 6.43pm and closed at 8.38pm)