

## Licensing Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting of Wyre Borough Council held on Thursday, 25 October 2018 at the Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

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**Licensing Committee members present:**

Councillors C Birch, Cartridge, Catterall, Lees, Ormrod, Robinson, Matthew Vincent, Walmsley and Wilson

**Apologies for absence:**

Councillor(s) Barrowclough, Pimbley, Smith, A Turner and S Turner

**Other councillors present:**

None

**Officers present:**

Mary Grimshaw – Senior Solicitor

David Parry – Taxi Licensing Officer

Mandy Seddon – Manager of Food Health & Safety & Licensing

Carole Leary – Democratic Services Officer

The Applicant and his wife attended the meeting for Item 5 only.

No members of the public or press attended the meeting.

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**33            Declarations of Interest**

None.

**34            Confirmation of minutes**

The minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting for 27 September 2018, were confirmed as a correct record.

**35            Exclusion of the Public and Press**

**RESOLVED** That the public and press be excluded from the meeting whilst agenda item 5 (New applicant for a dual drivers licence) was being considered, because it referred to exempt information as defined in category 1 (information relating to any individual) of Part 1 of Schedule 12(a) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access

to Information) Variation Order 2006 and, that the public interest in maintaining the exemptions outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

**36 New Applicant for a Wyre Dual Drivers Licence with an historic criminal conviction**

The Service Director Health and Wellbeing submitted a report to provide members of the Licensing Committee with information to assist them at a hearing.

The Applicant was present at the meeting and supported by his wife, but he was not legally represented.

The Manager of Food Health & Safety & Licensing, in the Licensing Manager's absence, introduced the report.

The Applicant spoke to the Committee, explaining the circumstances of his historic criminal conviction 38 years ago and of a more recent motoring offence in 2015, as set out in the report.

His wife also spoke to the Committee in support of her husband.

Members of the Committee and the Senior Solicitor asked questions of the applicant, and he provided explanations of the two incidents.

The Applicant, his wife, the Taxi Licensing Officer and the Manager of Food Health & Safety & Licensing, left the room whilst the Committee Members considered the application in closed session.

The Applicant, his wife, the Taxi Licensing Officer and the Manager of Food Health & Safety & Licensing were brought back into the room and the Licensing Committee reconvened and the Chairman announced the Committee's decision.

**RESOLVED** that the Applicant be granted a three year dual driver's licence.

**The reasons for the decision were:**

The Committee were satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a dual driver's licence.

After listening to his explanation of the one historic offence and the one motoring offence, it was considered that there were exceptional circumstances to depart from the council's policy, as the historic offence was an isolated offence which had occurred 38 years ago and also, almost 3 years had elapsed since the SP30 motoring offence.

The Committee also noted that the applicant had a full clean driving licence and had no other recorded convictions, except for the two disclosed within the report.

It was explained to him how seriously Wyre Council takes its duty to protect the travelling public and to assure the public that all drivers of Wyre licensed vehicles are checked and scrutinised to an appropriately high standard.

The meeting started at 6pm and finished at 6.23pm

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