

Cheltenham Borough Council Licensing Sub-Committee - Miscellaneous Minutes

Meeting date: 2 October 2024

Meeting time: 18:30

In attendance:

Councillors:

Angie Boyes, Helen Pemberton, Julie Sankey, Simon Wheeler and
Dr David Willingham

Also in attendance:

Louis Krog (Head of Public Protection and DEPLO) and Vikki Fennell (Senior
Lawyer)

1 Apologies

There were none.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3 Application for a Hackney Carriage Vehicle

The Licensing Officer introduced the report as published.

In response to a Member question it was confirmed that the Council is moving
towards a more mixed vehicle fleet.

The driver then addressed the committee and made the following points:

- He has been a driver for Cheltenham Borough Council for 15 years.

- There were financial issues with him getting a WAV and he had been struggling with it.
- His car was very uncomfortable.
- When doing airport transfers a WAV is not suitable.

The matter then went to Member questions, their responses were as follows:

- The uncomfortable seats in the vehicle have given him sciatica, he has no real problems now with his private hire vehicle.
- The driver stated that he did not know that the policy had changed until other people had changed their vehicles.

The matter then went to Member debate where the following points were made:

- The drivers health condition has improved since he has been driving a private hire.
- It seems rational to allow the non WAV vehicle as the policy is in the middle of being changed.
- We have recently dealt with a similar case and granted it so there does not seem to be a reason to not grant this application.

The applicant was then given the final right of reply where he commented that he has a much more comfortable vehicle with heated seats. He also has received massage treatment for his sciatica.

The matter then went to the vote on 1.4.1 – to grant
5 in favour to grant (unanimous)

4 Local Government Act 1972

Voted unanimously to enter exempt session.

5 Review of a Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence

The driver asked for an adjournment due to his lack of legal representation.

The committee considered the Human Rights Act and the offence that had been committed.

After much discussion and debate it was agreed to go to the vote to suspend the drivers licence with immediate effect until the next committee when he can bring legal representation.

For: 5

Against: 0

6 BRIEFING NOTES

There were none.

7 Any Other Items the Chairman Determines Urgent and Which Requires a Decision

There were none.