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LICENSING COMMITTEE

Monday, 18 February 2019

PRESENT: Councillor E.G. Thomas (Chair)

Councillors:

F. Akhtar, J.M. Charles, C.A. Davies, P.M. Edwards, W.T. Evans, A.L. Fox, J.K. Howell, H.I. Jones, J.E. Williams and D.E. Williams

The following Officers were in attendance:

R. Edgecombe, Legal Services Manager
R. Edmunds, Consumer and Business Affairs Manager
E. Jones, Principal Licensing Officer
J. Power, Senior Licensing Officer
M. Heath, Licensing Officer
E. Bryer, Democratic Services Officer

Representing the Police Authority – Mr. M. Price

Chamber, - County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP. - 10.00 am - 1.20 pm

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. McPherson and S. Phillips.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS.

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DUAL DRIVERS LICENCE - MISS JADE MARIE JONES

The Committee considered an application from Miss Jade Marie Jones of 50 Caergar, Llanelli for the grant of a hackney carriage/private hire dual drivers licence.

The Committee interviewed Miss Jones with regards to her application and issues raised by the Senior Licensing Officer.

The Senior Licensing Officer recommended that Miss Jones' application be granted with a warning as to her future conduct.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that, in line with the Council's guidelines, the application submitted by Miss Jade Marie Jones for the grant of a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Dual Drivers licence be granted with a warning as to her future conduct.

Reasons

On the evidence presented, the Committee was satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

4. APPLICATION TO RENEW A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DUAL DRIVERS LICENCE - MR ALAN LEE RAVENHILL-PATTERSON

As Mr Ravenhill-Patterson was not in attendance, the Senior Licensing Officer asked that consideration of the application be deferred.

RESOLVED that consideration of the application submitted by Mr Alan Lee Ravenhill-Patterson to renew his hackney Carriage/Private Hire Dual Drivers Licence be deferred to the next meeting.

5. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DUAL DRIVERS LICENCE - MR MARK ANTHONY LLOYD

The Committee considered an application from Mr Mark Anthony Lloyd of 13 Maes y Deri, Pontyberem, Llanelli for the grant of a hackney carriage/private hire dual drivers licence.

The Committee interviewed Mr Lloyd with regard to his application.

The Senior Licensing Officer recommended that Mr Lloyd's application be granted with a warning to his future conduct.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the application submitted by Mr Mark Anthony Lloyd for the grant of a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Dual Drivers Licence be granted with a warning as to his future conduct.

Reasons

On the evidence presented, the Committee was satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

6. HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DUAL DRIVERS LICENCE - MR REGINALD JOHN PROTHEROE

The Committee was informed that Mr Reginald John Protheroe of 14 Maes Penrhyn, Llanelli was a licensed hackney carriage/private hire dual driver with the Authority and that an issue had arisen with his licence.

The Committee interviewed Mr Protheroe with regard to that issue.

The Senior Licencing Officer recommended that Mr Protheroe be issued with a warning as to his future conduct.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that in line with the Council's guidelines, Mr Reginald John Protheroe be issued with a warning as to his future conduct.

Reasons

On the evidence presented, the Committee was satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

7. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DUAL DRIVERS LICENCE - MR RICHARD GORDON JONES

The Committee considered an application from Mr Richard Gordon Jones of 89 Burgess Meadows, Carmarthen for the grant of a hackney carriage/private hire dual drivers licence.

The Committee interviewed Mr Jones with regard to his application and issues raised by the Senior Licencing Officer.

The Senior Licensing Officer recommended that Mr Jones' application be refused.

The Committee thereupon

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to retire into private session in order to receive legal advice pursuant to Paragraph 16 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Following the adjournment the Committee reconvened to advise of its decision.

RESOLVED that, in line with the Council's guidelines, the application submitted by Mr Richard Gordon Jones for the grant of a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Dual Drivers Licence be refused.

Reasons

Having considered all the evidence presented, the applicant's answers to the Committee and the facts admitted by him, the Committee found that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

8. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON REFORMING THE LICENSING OF TAXI'S AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES IN WALES

At the Licensing Committee Meeting on the 8th January 2019, members were informed of a recent Welsh Government Consultation paper titled "Improving Public Transport".

This is a Welsh Government White paper on proposals to legislate for reforming the planning and delivery of local bus services and licensing of taxis and private hire vehicles.

Part of this consultation sought views on proposals in relation to reforming the Licensing of Taxis and Private Hire vehicles. This included the proposal to redirect all of the existing taxi and PHV licensing functions away from the local authorities and into a national licensing authority, a JTA. (Joint Transport Authority).

Members were required to provide their responses to Questions 22 to Questions 38.

During the meeting Members were provided with the Authority's draft responses to the questions. The Committee considered the responses provided by the Senior Licencing Officer.

The Committee thanked the Officers for preparing the report.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve the responses to Questions 22 to Question 38 subject to the following:

8.1 Question 33 – to add that Parochialism would be lost if JTA created.

8.2 Question 37 –to add it is also felt that should a JTA be formed, then it must be located in a Welsh speaking area.

8.3 Question 38 – to add no detail of where JTA would be based.

9. LICENSING ACT 2003 FILM CLASSIFICATION REQUEST

[**Note:** At 12:15 pm the Committee adjourned for 15 minute comfort break and reconvened at 12:30pm]

The Committee considered a request received from Mrs Mair Craig, on behalf of Llansadwrn Reading Rooms, seeking a recommendation regarding the admission of children to view four previously unclassified short films.

The applicant intended to screen the four films, “Swci Delic – The Accidental Artist”, “Bright Lights”, “Deffro” and “A Thousand Ukuleles” prior to the screening of a certificated feature film at the community cinema. Furthermore, the premises intended operating the community cinema under the community premises exemptions set out in paragraph 6A of Schedule 1 of the Licensing Act 2003.

The Committee noted that in order to satisfy the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003, the films shown must have a recommendation concerning the admission of children issued by either the British Board of Film Classification Body (BBFC) or relevant Licensing Authority.

To enable the Committee to make the required recommendations regarding the admission of children to view the films, it was afforded the opportunity of viewing the four short films and took into consideration the guidelines in relation to age ratings produced by the BBFC.

Having considered all the evidence before it, the Committee

RESOLVED that

9.1 the film entitled “Swci Delic – The Accidental Artist” be classified with a PG rating;

9.2 the film entitled “Bright Lights” be classified with a 12A rating;

9.3 the film entitled “Deffro” be classified with a 12 rating;

9.4 the film entitled “A Thousand Ukuleles” be classified with a U rating.

10. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE "A" HELD ON 17TH JANUARY, 2019.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Sub Committee “A” held on the 17th January 2019 be signed as a correct record.

11. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 8TH JANUARY, 2019.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on the 8th January 2019 be signed as a correct record.

CHAIR

DATE

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