

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 13 AUGUST 2014

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 13 August 2014 at 3.00 pm

Present: Provost Moran, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brennan, Brooks, Dorrian, Jones, Loughran, McIlwee and Rebecchi.

Chair: Councillor Dorrian presided.

In attendance: Mr F Jarvie (for Head of Legal and Property Services) and Chief Inspector Brown and PC McLeod, Police Scotland.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Board.

463 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 463

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Campbell-Sturgess, Grieve and McColgan with Provost Moran substituting for Councillor McColgan.

Councillor Brooks declared an interest in Agenda Item 8 (Application for Street Trader Licence – Hugh Ferns).

464 Taxi Fares Review 2014 464

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Property Services requesting the Board to consider the annual review of taxi fares, scales and charges for the purposes of public advertisement as the first formal stage of the Statutory Process. Mr Bradley was present, representing the Head of Environmental and Commercial Services, Mr Hambley was present, representing Inverclyde Taxis Limited, ABC Taxis (Inverclyde) Limited and Operators Liaison Group.

The Board heard Mr Hambley in support of the Trade recommendations and Mr Bradley in respect of Environmental and Commercial Services submissions.

After discussion, Councillor Brennan moved increase in fares and charges as per Environmental and Commercial Services Illustration 2 of Appendix 2. Councillor Loughran seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed.

Councillor Ahlfeld commented on other aspects of the Trade's letter, which they wished to be considered. The Chair advised that meetings between the Trade and the Service are ongoing and these additional matters could be discussed at that time. The Clerk advised a number of Services would be involved in some of the issues raised and agreed to be included within the meetings held.

Decided:

(1) a 10p increase in the flagfall across all four tariffs as per existing distances combined with a 3% increase thereafter to be achieved by a reduction in yardage as per Environmental and Commercial Services Illustration 2 of Appendix 2;

(2) remit to Head of Legal and Property Services to arrange for public advertising of proposals as the first formal stage of the Statutory Process; and

(3) Mr Jarvie to be included in the meetings to be held between Environmental and Commercial Services and the Trade when required.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during

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consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

- 465 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Graham Cleisham 465**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Property Services requesting the suspension of the Taxi Driver's Licence held by Mr Cleisham following a Police representation.
Mr Cleisham was present.
The Board heard Chief Inspector Brown in support of the Police representation and Mr Cleisham in support of his Licence.
Decided: to suspend the Licence for the unexpired portion to 30th June 2015.
- 466 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: James Mahon 466**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Property Services on the grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence by Mr Mahon following a Police objection.
Mr Mahon was present.
The Board heard Chief Inspector Brown in support of the Police objections and Mr Mahon in support of his application.
Decided: the application be refused.
- Mr Jarvie advised the Board that Agenda Item 5 (Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Robert Carswell) has been replaced with Item 5 (Request for Suspension of Taxi Driver's Licence: Robert Carswell) and 5a (Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Robert Carswell) which were circulated prior to Board.
- 467 Request for Suspension of Taxi Driver's Licence: Robert Carswell 467**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Property Services requesting the Board to uphold the decision to immediately suspend Mr Carswell's licence on 6th August 2014 following a medical report dated 21st July 2014 and whether or not the suspension is extended.
Mr Carswell was present with his representative Mr McVey, Employer.
Mr Jarvie advised the Board on the background of the immediate suspension and intimated that a Police representation had also been submitted.
The Board heard Chief Inspector Brown in support of the Police representation and Mr McVey in support of Mr Carswell's Licence.
Decided:
- (1) to uphold the immediate suspension;
 - (2) to continue suspension until a further medical examination can be carried out after 13th October 2014; and
 - (3) remit Delegated Powers to the Head of Legal and Property Services to remove suspension on a clear Medical Report.
- 468 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Robert Carswell 468**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Property Services on the renewal of a Taxi Driver's Licence by Mr Carswell following a Police representation and medical examination.
Mr Carswell was present with his representative Mr McVey, Employer.

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Mr Jarvie advised the Board on the background of the report and current medical information.

The Board heard Chief Inspector Brown in support of the Police representation and Mr McVey in support of Mr Carswell's Licence.

Decided:

- (1) the application be granted;
- (2) to suspend licence until a further medical examination can be carried out after 13th October 2014; and
- (3) remit Delegated Powers to the Head of Legal and Property Services to remove suspension on a clear Medical Report.

469 Review of Late Hours Catering Licence 469
Levensale Restaurants Limited t/a McDonald's Restaurant, 5 East Hamilton Street, James Watt Dock, Greenock

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Property Services on the annual review of the Late Hours Catering Licence granted to Levensale Restaurants Limited t/a McDonald's Restaurant for the premises at 5 East Hamilton Street, James Watt Dock, Greenock.

Mr Rae, Premises Manager, was present.

Mr Jarvie advised the Board that on the initial grant of their licence the Board requested an annual review and confirmed no public objections or complaints had been received and referred the Board to the report submitted by Police Scotland.

The Board heard Chief Inspector Brown in relation to their report and Mr Rae in support of their Licence.

Decided:

- 1) the terms of the annual review have been met and satisfied with the report; and
- 2) no further annual reviews are required.

Councillor Brooks declared a non-financial interest in the next Item and left the Meeting.

470 Application for Street Trader Licence: Hugh Ferns, Site at Drumfrochar Road, Greenock 470

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Property Services on the grant of a Street Trader Licence by Mr Ferns following an objection from Environmental and Commercial Services and a Councillor objection.

Mr Ferns was present.

Mr Jarvie advised the Board on the background of the report and advised that Mr Ferns had lodged written submissions to his application. The written submissions were circulated to Members.

The Board heard Mr Ferns in support of his application.

Decided: the application be granted.

471 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Sharon Robertson 471

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Property Services on the renewal of a Taxi Driver's Licence by Ms Robertson following a Police representation.

Ms Robertson was not present or represented.

Mr Jarvie advised the Board on the background of the report and intimated that Ms Robertson had lodged written submissions. The written submissions were circulated to Members.

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The Board heard Chief Inspector Brown in support of the Police representation.

Decided: to continue consideration of the application to the October Meeting of the Board.