

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 10 AUGUST 2016

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 10 August 2016 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Ahlfeld, Brennan, Brooks, Campbell-Sturgess, Dorrian, Jones, Loughran, McIlwee, McColgan, Nelson and Shepherd.

Chair: Councillor Dorrian presided.

In attendance: Mr D Keenan (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms L Carrick (Legal & Property Services) Inspector J McDonald and PC A Whitelaw, Police Scotland.

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

432 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 432

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Rebecchi with Councillor Shepherd substituting.

Councillor Ahlfeld declared an interest in Agenda Item 4 (Request for Suspension of Taxi Driver's Licence – Andrew Hunter).

433 Taxi Fares Review 2016 433

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services to consider the annual review of taxi fare scales for the purposes of advertisement as the first formal stage of the statutory process.

Mr J Bradley was present, representing the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services and Mr M Hambley was present, representing Inverclyde Taxis Ltd, ABC Taxis (Inverclyde) Limited and the Operators' Liaison Group.

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

Mr Keenan advised the Board that the additional requests made by the Trade in their submission would be discussed at a later date and not as part of the Fares Review.

Decided:

(1) that flag fall to be maintained across Tariffs 1, 2, 3 and 4 with yardage reduced by 3% on Tariffs 1, 2 and 3 with Tariff 4 remaining at 1 mile, combined with a 3% reduction in yardage thereafter and that the trade's point 5 proposal to bring Tariff 4 yardage in line with Tariff 3 after the initial mile be adopted;

(2) that it be remitted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to arrange for public advertising of proposals as the first stage of the statutory process; and

(3) that the additional requests made by the Trade in its submission be discussed at a future meeting of the Board.

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434 Application for the Grant of a Late Hours Catering Licence – Pizza Cake (Greenock) Ltd 434
Premises – Domino’s Pizza, 2-4 Brymner Street, Greenock

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Property Services on an application for the grant of a late hours catering licence by Pizza Cake (Greenock) Ltd for premises known as Domino’s Pizza, 2-4 Brymner Street, Greenock.

Mr Keenan advised on the background to the report.

The Board heard Mr G Tobias for Pizza Cake (Greenock) Ltd, together with Mr L McDowell, Store Manager of the premises at Brymner Street, Greenock.

Decided: that the application as submitted be refused, but that it be granted with the hours set out in the Council’s policy.

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 consideration of the following item 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.

435 Request for Suspension of Taxi Driver’s Licence: Andrew Hunter 435

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services requesting the Board to consider the suspension of Mr Hunter’s taxi driver’s licence which expires on 30 April 2017, following a letter submitted by Dr Sykes, Regent Medical Practice dated 29 June 2016.

Councillor Ahlfeld declared a non-financial interest in this item as a personal acquaintance of Mr Hunter and left the meeting.

Mr Hunter was present for this item.

Mr Keenan advised on the background to the report. The Board heard Mr Hunter in support of his licence.

Decided:

(1) that the suspension be upheld and that a further period of suspension be imposed until such times as a satisfactory medical report is received; and

(2) that it be remitted to the Clerk to lift the suspension upon receipt of a satisfactory medical report.

Councillor Ahlfeld returned to the meeting at this juncture.

436 Application for the Renewal of Taxi Driver’s Licence: Joseph McCafferty 436

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services requesting the Board to consider an application for renewal of a taxi driver’s licence by Joseph McCafferty following a representation by Police Scotland dated 4 May 2016.

Mr McCafferty was present together with Mr J O’Donnell, Solicitor, Bradley Campbell & Co.

Mr Keenan advised on the background to the report.

The Board heard Inspector McDonald in support of Police Scotland’s representation and Mr O’Donnell in support of Mr McCafferty’s application.

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Following discussion, Councillor Loughran moved that Mr McCafferty's application be granted. As an amendment, Councillor Nelson moved that Mr McCafferty's application be refused.

On a vote 1 Member voted for the amendment and 10 for the motion which was declared carried.

Decided: that the application be granted.

437 Request for Suspension of Taxi Driver's Licence: Robert O'Neill

437

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services requesting the Board to consider the suspension of Mr O'Neill's taxi driver's licence which expires on 31 August 2016.

Mr O'Neill was not present or represented.

Mr Keenan advised on the background to the report and informed Members that Mr O'Neill's taxi driver's licence had been immediately suspended on 14 July 2016 following a letter submitted by Police Scotland dated 13 July 2016.

The Board heard Inspector McDonald in support of the Chief Superintendent's recommendation.

Decided:

(1) that the suspension be upheld and that a further period of suspension be imposed until such time as a satisfactory medical report is received; and

(2) that in the event that a satisfactory medical report is received before the expiration of Mr O'Neill's licence on 31 August 2016, it be remitted to the Clerk to lift the suspension.

**438 Application for the Renewal of Late Hours Catering Licence: Hamid Ghareh
Premises: Three In One, 17 Kempock Street, Gourrock**

438

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services on the renewal of a late hours catering licence by Mr Ghareh for premises known as Three In One, 17 Kempock Street, Gourrock following receipt of an objection from a member of the public.

Mr Ghareh was present together with Mr F Collins, Solicitor, Brunton Miller Solicitors.

Mr Keenan advised on the background to the report.

The Board heard Mr Collins in support of Mr Ghareh's application.

Decided: that the application be granted.

**439 Application for the Renewal of Late Hours Catering Licence – Waheed Ahmed
Premises: Manzil Tandoori, 29 Regent Street, Greenock**

439

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services on the renewal of a late hours catering licence by Mr Ahmed for premises known as Manzil Tandoori, 29 Regent Street, Greenock following a letter of objection by Police Scotland dated 19 May 2016.

Mr Ahmed was present.

Mr Keenan advised on the background to the report.

The Board heard Inspector McDonald in support of the Police objection and Mr Ahmed in support of his application.

Decided: that the application be granted.