

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 9 NOVEMBER 2016

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 9 November 2016 at 3pm

Present: Provost Moran (for Councillor McColgan), Councillors Ahlfeld, Brennan, Brooks, Campbell-Sturgess, Dorrian, Jones, Loughran, McIlwee, Nelson and Rebecchi.

Chair: Councillor Dorrian presided.

In attendance: Mr J Douglas (for Head of Legal & Property Services) and Ms L Carrick (Legal & Property Services).

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

673 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 673

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor McColgan, with Provost Moran substituting.

Councillor Jones declared a non-financial interest in agenda item 5 (Mandatory Training of Taxi Drivers of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles).

674 Application for Variation of Late Hours Catering Licence: Mr Hamid Ghareh 674
Premises – Three in One, 17 Kempock Street, Gourock

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

Councillor Campbell-Sturgess entered the meeting during discussion of this item and accordingly could not participate or vote on this agenda item.

Mr Ghareh was present together with Mr A MacIver, Solicitor, Brunton Miller Solicitors.

Mr Douglas advised on the background to the report.

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

Following discussion, Councillor Dorrian moved that Mr Ghareh's application be granted. As an amendment, Councillor Ahlfeld moved that Mr Ghareh's application be refused.

On a vote, Councillors Brooks, Jones, Nelson and Rebecchi voted for the amendment and Councillors Brennan, Loughran, McIlwee, and Provost Moran for the motion.

There being equality in voting, the Chair exercised his casting vote in favour of the motion, which was declared carried.

Decided: that Mr Ghareh's application be granted.

675 Application for Renewal of Late Hours Catering Licence: Mr Lau Fong Chan 675
Premises – The Lucky House, 83-84 Shore Street, Gourock

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services on the renewal of a late hours catering licence by Mr Chan for premises known as The Lucky House, 83-84 Shore Street, Gourock following receipt of six public objections.

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 9 NOVEMBER 2016

Mr B Tomlinson, Solicitor, Neill Clerk & Murray Solicitors was present representing the applicant.

Mr Douglas advised on the background to the report.

The Board heard Mr Tomlinson in support of Mr Chan's application.

Decided: that Mr Chan's application be granted.

676 Taxi Fares Review 2016

676

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services requesting the Board to determine the taxi fare scale charges following the annual review.

Mr Douglas advised the Board that following the last meeting of the Board, Officers of the Council met with the trade to discuss the processes taken and the options available to the Board in determining the fares.

Mr Hambley was in attendance on behalf of ABC Inverclyde Taxis Ltd, Inverclyde Taxis and the Operators Liaison Group.

Mr Douglas advised the Board of the background to the report.

The Board then heard Mr Hambley.

Decided: 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 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.

677 Mandatory Training of Taxi Drivers of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles

677

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services requesting the Board to consider introducing mandatory training of taxi drivers of multi accessible vehicles.

Councillor Jones declared a non-financial interest in this matter as a Board Member of Inverclyde Council on Disability. She also formed the view that the nature of her interest and the item of business did not preclude her continued presence in the Chamber or her participation in the decision making process.

Following discussion, Councillor Loughran moved that it be remitted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to submit a report to the Board in two years' time to advise on whether mandatory training should be introduced at that time in the event that a need for such training has become apparent. As an amendment, Councillor Rebecchi moved that drivers of multi accessible vehicles should undertake mandatory training.

On a vote, Councillors Campbell-Sturgess, Jones and Nelson voted for the amendment and Councillors Ahlfeld, Brennan, Brooks, Dorrian, McIlwee and Provost Moran for the motion which was declared carried.

Decided: that it be remitted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to submit a report to the Board in two years' time to advise on whether mandatory training should be introduced at that time in the event that the need for such training has become apparent.

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.

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 9 NOVEMBER 2016

678 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence – Ian Baxter**678**

Mr Douglas requested the Board to continue consideration of this item to the next meeting to afford the applicant the opportunity to attend.

Decided: that consideration of this item be continued to the next meeting of the Board.