

# Minutes of Licensing Sub Committee 2

**Monday 12 April 2021 at 10.00am  
Online Virtual Meeting**

**Present:** Councillor Rouf (Chair)  
Councillor Dhallu, Eaves and I Jones.

**Officers:** Andy Poulton (Senior Licensing Officer), Geeta Bangerh (Licensing Officer), David Elliott (Solicitor), Trisha Newton (Senior Democratic Services Officer) and Connor Robinson (Democratic Services Officer)

## 4/21 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Preece.

## 5/21 **Declarations of Interest**

An interest was declared by Councillor Dhallu in relation to minute no. 7/21, Renewal of Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence for Angels Gentlemen's Club, as he knew the applicant personally.

An interest was declared by Councillor Rouf in relation to minute no. 9/21, application for the renewal of a private hire driver's licence, as he knew the applicant personally.

## 6/21 **Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.



7/21      **Renewal of Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence for Angels Gentlemen's Club**

The applicant was present, however, as Councillor Dhallu had declared an interest, the meeting was inquorate. The matter was therefore deferred for consideration at a future meeting of the Sub Committee.

8/21      **Exclusion of Public and Press**

**Resolved** that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) Order, 2006, relating to any individual and information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

**Matters Delegated to the Sub Committee to consider Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 – Private Hire Driver's/Vehicles/Operators Licensing related matters**

(Councillor Rouf left the meeting, Councillor I Jones joined the meeting and Councillor Dhallu took the Chair)

9/21      **Application for the renewal of a Private Hire Drivers Licence in respect of Mr J S**

As Councillor Rouf had declared an interest and left the meeting, Councillor Dhallu was elected as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Members considered an application for the renewal of a Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of Mr J S. Mr J S was in attendance at the meeting, accompanied by his legal representative.



The Committee was advised that Mr J S had been invited to attend Committee following his application to renew his licence and lift the suspension imposed in March 2020. Mr J S had had his licence suspended with immediate effect in late March 2020 following his discussions with the Licensing Office after an alleged breach of a court order.

Mr J S had applied to renew his licence in early January 2021 and had subsequently been convicted of the breach of the court order and had reported this to the Licensing Office. Mr J S explained that the order related to a breakdown in family relationships.

Mr J S's representative presented the case and related to Mr J S communicating with members of his family, in violation of the court order. The breach of the order did not involve any threats or acts of violence. Mr J S had been a driver in Sandwell for over 20 years and had in the past been praised for his good conduct and often requested for his service.

The Sub Committee took advice from its Legal Advisor before adjourning to make a decision on the application.

The Sub Committee was of the view that, taking into consideration all of the evidence, the breach of the order was an offence of unauthorised communication and misunderstanding rather than harassment or violence. It was understood that Mr J S had moved on and members were also mindful of the previous good record and long service.

Having considered all the information before them the Committee was minded to lift the suspension and renew the Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of Mr J S. However, the Sub Committee reminded Mr J S that should he appear before the Sub Committee in similar circumstances the outcome may not be the same.

**Resolved** that the suspension in relation to the licence of Mr J S be lifted and the Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of Mr J S be renewed.

Meeting ended at 12.15pm

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