

**LICENSING BOARD  
15 October 2015**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Andrew Morgan - Chair, David Kesley - Vice-Chair, Norman Decent, Bobbie Dove, Beverley Dunlop, Pat Oakley, Susan Phillips, Anne Rey, John Trickett and Chris Wakefield

Keith Evans - Taxi Licensing Officer  
Claire Meakin - Senior Licensing Officer  
Linda Cole - Senior Solicitor  
Nananka Randle - Licensing Team Manager

The meeting commenced at 09.46am

The meeting finished at 12:04pm

The meeting adjourned at 10:06am until 10:16am and at 10:58am until 11:04am.

**SECTION I - BUSINESS RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL**

No items

**SECTION II - BUSINESS DECIDED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

**96. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies received.

**97. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Wakefield declared an interest in relation to Minute no. 99 that the applicant was an acquaintance.

**98. PUBLIC ITEMS**

There were no public questions or deputation requests received for the meeting.

**99. APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICE - MEYRICK HALL,  
45A CHRISTCHURCH ROAD**

The Board considered an application for a temporary event notice relating to an event to take place at Meyrick Hall, 45A Christchurch Road. The Senior Licensing Officer introduced the report, circulated at '4' with the agenda and summarised the features of the application. It was explained that an objection had been

received from Environmental Health on the grounds of undermining the licensing objection 'prevention of public nuisance' based on the information submitted and the history of recent complaints relating to events at the same site.

The following persons attended the Board on behalf of the applicant and the event organisers, Bournemouth Emerging Arts Fringe and gave verbal evidence:

- Daniel Broadbent
- David Nock

The evidence given by the persons attending the Board on behalf of the applicant and the event organisers informed the Board that the event for which a temporary event notice was being sought had been scaled back and that the event organisers only wished to hold the exhibitions in the daytime and no longer sought to do a closing party at the site and that it was no longer desired to supply alcohol. The Senior Solicitor clarified for the Board that a temporary event notice would still be required for the dance performance scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

The decision, as outlined below, was moved by the Chair moved and seconded by Councillor Trickett.

#### **DECISION MADE:**

1. That a temporary event notice be granted for dance performance on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2015 from 6:00pm until 7:30pm

#### **100. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

The Licensing Team Manager introduced the report circulated at '6'. It was explained that in light of the recent training session undertaken by the Board and the national focus on preventing child sexual exploitation - CSE - that there was a need to review the training provided to taxi drivers. The Board was told that as a Local Authority the Council had a duty to protect children from harm and that it was vital that drivers were made aware of the implications of transporting a child to and from exploitation. It was explained that there were various proposed options in the report that would look to achieve greater awareness of CSE and equip drivers with the knowledge to recognise the signs of CSE and to ensure they are not trafficking children to exploitation.

The Board members made a number of comments and raised a number of questions on the item of business including the following:

**E-Learning** - Members of the Board commented on the practicalities of e-learning and the difficulty of ensuring remote learning was carried out by the intended persons. It was however highlighted by Councillor Oakley that it would be useful, as an ancillary to other training methodologies, to make available training material via platforms such as YouTube.

**Testing** - Board Members highlighted that there would need to be a test that drivers sat after training so that the Council could be assured that training had been understood. The Senior Solicitor raised concerns over how this would be implemented and what timeframe would be used. The Taxi Licensing Officer explained that a test certificate would enable drivers to show they were fit and proper persons should the failure to undertake CSE training become a criterion upon which that test could hinge.

**Joint-Working** - Members of the Board requested that training be approached in the spirit of co-operation with the taxi trade so that it was seen as a positive and not a bureaucratic burden foisted upon them. Members of the Board also expressed a desire that no charge be made to drivers to take up any training provided. The Licensing Team Manager agreed that it would be counter-productive to charge for the training.

**Option 7.1** - Members of the board highlighted paragraph 7.1 of the report which detailed the following option for CSE training - 'require all existing drivers within a specified time period, to be determined by the Licensing Board, to undergo the training, in default of which their licence is suspended' as the preferred option. Members discussed the length of time that the training should be offered over and at what point a licence be suspended.

The decision, as outlined below, was moved by Councillor Kelsey and seconded by Councillor Wakefield.

#### **DECISION MADE:**

1. That the Licensing Board recommends paragraph of 7.1 as the preferred option with a testing arrangement to verify understanding and that the timescales relating to implementation and suspension be discussed by the relevant Officers.

#### **101. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCE**

The Taxi Licensing Officer introduced the report circulated at '5'. It was explained that the application centred on a proposal to provide a pedicab service to transport passengers along fixed routes. It was further explained that given the nature of the electrically assisted pedal cycles, as opposed to a traditional motor vehicle for hire, there were a number of issues for the Board to consider including the introduction of a new bye-law to facilitate operation of the pedicab service and the need to draft new licenses based on the pedicab service. The Taxi Licensing Officer explained that the Council had a limit on the number of Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licenses so the Board would have to issue new licenses for the application to proceed or licenses specific to the novel vehicles included in the proposal.

The following persons, the applicant and a representative on behalf of the applicant, attended the Board hearing and gave verbal evidence based on their written submissions:



- Gergely Kosis - Applicant
- Andrew Hutchinson - Managing Director, Veloform UK

In considering the issue the Board had regard to the proposals put forward by the applicant and the information relating to process provided by the Taxi Licensing Officer. The Board welcomed the innovative business proposal but did stress the importance of fixed routes and rules of operation.

The decision, as outlined below, was moved by Councillor Kelsey and seconded by Councillor Rey.

**DECISION MADE:**

1. That an 'in-principle' decision be made to grant up to 10 Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licenses subject to the Taxi Licensing Officer, Senior Solicitor and Applicant meeting to discuss and confirm fixed routes, fee structure and the drafting of bye-laws and amended policies were appropriate to be brought back to the Board.

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