

## **Minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2012 from 7.00 p.m. to 7.26 p.m.**

**Present:** Chris Hersey (Chairman)  
Mims Davies (Vice-Chairman)

David Dorking  
Kathleen Dumbović  
Bruce Forbes  
Richard Goddard

Ginny Heard  
Margaret Hersey  
Jim Knight  
Jacqui Landriani\*

Bob Mainstone  
Gary Marsh\*  
John O'Brien\*  
Peter Reed\*  
Emily White

\* Absent.

### **3. SUBSTITUTES AT MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE – COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 4**

The Committee noted that no substitutes had been appointed in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4 – Substitutes at Meetings of Committees etc.

### **4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Landriani and Reed.

### **5. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No Declarations of Interest were made.

### **6. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> March and 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **7. LICENSING OF INSULIN DEPENDENT DRIVERS**

The Committee considered whether Mid Sussex District Council should licence insulin dependent diabetics to drive licensed Hackney Carriages and Private Hire vehicles.

Alec Lee, the Council's Licensing Officer, introduced the report and highlighted the amendments to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) Medical Standards of Fitness to Drive in relation to Diabetes Mellitus and the best practice guidance published by The Department of Transport and The Secretary of State's Honorary Medical Advisory Panel.

Alec Lee confirmed that at this time MSDC do not licence insulin dependent diabetics. In light of the change in EC law and guidance issued by the Government the Committee was being asked to consider a change to the policy to bring MSDC into line with EC law and Government Guidance.

The Members asked about the safe guards for the public of licencing a person insulin dependent and Alec Lee directed them to the procedure set out in Appendix A in which a doctor had to confirm a set of criteria was met before someone could present themselves for a drivers licence.

One member asked Alec Lee to confirm that in the event of a licensed driver becoming insulin dependent the procedure as set out in Appendix A would apply. He confirmed it did. Alec Lee confirmed that unless the medical criteria set out were met in full no person would be licensed to drive a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire. He also told the Committee that a medical for insulin dependent drivers would be required every year before their licence was due for renewal.

## **RESOLVED**

That drivers with insulin treated diabetes be allowed to hold a hackney carriage or private hire driver's licence provided they can meet the criteria contained within Appendix 1 to the report and can otherwise satisfy all the licensing requirements set by the Council.

## **RECOMMENDED to the Portfolio Holder for Health and Community:-**

That the procedure in Appendix 1 to the report, for licensing insulin dependent diabetics as hackney carriage and or private hire drivers, be included in the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy before its approval by Council in July 2012.

### **8. APPOINTMENT TO LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE A**

The following nominations were received for members to serve on Licensing Sub-Committee A:-

Conservatives (4)

Liberal Democrats (1)

Bruce Forbes

Kathleen Dumbović

Ginny Heard

Gary Marsh

Jacqui Landriani

## **RESOLVED**

That Licensing Sub-Committee A comprises Councillors Dumbovic, Forbes, Heard, Marsh and Landriani

### **9. LIQUOR LICENSING PANEL MINUTES**

The Committee received and noted the minutes of the meetings of the Liquor Licensing Panels held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012; 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012 and 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012. These minutes were signed by the Chairman of the Licensing Committee.

### **10. URGENT BUSINESS**

**[Note: The Chairman considered an item of urgent business as a result of joint inspections with other statutory agencies. The Chairman asked the Licensing Officer to update the Committee on the recent his recent inspection on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012.]**

The Licensing Officer explained that, on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012, multi-Agency checks had been held with the Police, Vosa, MSDC Benefits and WSCC School Transport. He then went on to explain, in detail, the results of those inspections.

He also updated Members with regard to hackney carriage matters and confirmed that electronic data management had now been introduced in the Licensing Section.

Chairman.