

MINUTES of MEETING of PLANNING, PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE
held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD
on MONDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2013

Present: Councillor Sandy Taylor (Chair)

Councillor Rory Colville	Councillor Robert G MacIntyre
Councillor Robin Currie	Councillor Donald MacMillan
Councillor Fred Hall	Councillor Alex McNaughton
Councillor Alistair MacDougall	Councillor Richard Trail

Attending: Charles Reppke, Head of Governance and Law
Graeme Forrester, Solicitor
Kate Connelly, Trainee Solicitor
Scott Robertson, Applicant
Inspector Harper, Strathclyde Police

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were intimated from Councillors Gordon Blair, Mary-Jean Devon, George Freeman, David Kinniburgh and James McQueen.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

3. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982: APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF TAXI DRIVER'S LICENCE (S ROBERTSON, OBAN)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. Thereafter he outlined the procedure that would be followed and invited the Applicant to speak in support of his Application.

Applicant

Mr Robertson advised that he was applying for a Taxi Driver's Licence and confirmed that it was his fault for not declaring his previous conviction on the Application form as he thought it had been spent and that he had not meant to hide anything. He advised that he was previously employed as a Support Worker working with people with learning difficulties and his conviction had not come up in his disclosure.

As Inspector Harper had no questions the Chair invited him to speak in support of the Police representation.

Police

Inspector Harper advised that the Chief Constable wished to make a representation due to the Applicant's previous conviction not being declared on his Application form. He advised that the Applicant had been charged with failing to declare his conviction and that he was not aware of the Fiscal decision

on this charge.

Applicant's Questions to Police

Mr Robertson asked Inspector Harper to note that he had received confirmation from the Fiscal that the case would not be taken any further.

Members' Questions

Councillor Colville noted that the Applicant's driving licence would expire in 2014 and sought clarification on this.

Mr Robertson advised that he was a diabetic and was required to renew his licence every 3 years.

Councillor Currie sought and received clarification on the nature of the Applicant's conviction.

Councillor Trail sought and received confirmation that Mr Robertson's diabetes was under control.

Councillor Trail referred to Mr Robertson previously having a Taxi Driver's Licence.

Mr Robertson confirmed that he did have a Taxi Driver's Licence a number of years ago but never used it.

Councillor Trail asked if he was granted a licence now would he use it and Mr Robertson confirmed that he would as he was currently unemployed.

The Chair invited Inspector Harper and Mr Robertson to sum up.

Summing Up

Police

Inspector Harper advised that he had nothing further to add.

Applicant

Mr Robertson apologised again for not declaring his previous conviction on the application form.

The Chair invited both parties to confirm they had received a fair hearing and they both confirmed this to be the case.

Decision

Agreed to grant a Taxi Driver's Licence to Mr Scott Robertson.

(Reference: Report by Head of Governance and Law, submitted)