



East Cambridgeshire District Council

Meeting: Licensing (Non-Statutory) Sub-Committee

Time: 1:00pm

Date: Wednesday 14 February 2024

Venue: Council Chamber, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, CB7 4EE

Enquiries regarding this agenda: Hannah Walker

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Committee membership

Conservative Members

Cllr Martin Goodearl

Cllr Julia Huffer

Cllr Kelli Pettitt

Liberal Democrat Member

Cllr John Trapp

Cllr Gareth Wilson

Substitute:

Substitutes:

Quorum: 3 Members

AGENDA

- 1. Declarations of Interest** **[oral]**
To receive declarations of interest from Members for any Items on the Agenda in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct.
- 2. Exclusion of the Press and Public**
That the press and public be excluded during the consideration of item no. 3 because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Categories 1, 2 and 7 of Part 1 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as Amended)
- 3. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Part II
Report to consider Relevant Enforcement Action against a Joint Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence**
To consider the above matter in accordance with the Hearings Procedure (attached).

NOTES:

1. Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting. Please report to the main reception desk on arrival at The Grange. Visitor car parking on-site is limited to 1h but there are several free public car parks close by: <https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/parking/car-parks-ely>

Admittance is on a “first come, first served” basis and public access will be from 10 minutes before the start time of the meeting. Due to room capacity restrictions, members of the public are asked, where possible, to notify Democratic Services (democratic.services@eastcambs.gov.uk or 01353 665555) of their intention to attend the meeting.

Further details about the meeting can be found at:

2. The Council has adopted a ‘Purge on Plastics’ strategy and is working towards the removal of all consumer single-use plastics in our workplace. Therefore, we do not provide disposable cups in our building or at our meetings and would ask members of the public to bring their own drink to the meeting if required.
3. Fire instructions for meetings:
 - If the fire alarm sounds please make your way out of the building by the nearest available exit i.e. the back staircase or the fire escape in the Chamber. Do not attempt to use the lifts.
 - The fire assembly point is in the front staff car park by the exit barrier.
 - The building has an auto-call system to the fire services so there is no need for anyone to call the fire services.

The Committee Officer will sweep the area to ensure that everyone is out.

4. Reports are attached for each agenda item unless marked “oral”.
5. If required, all items on the agenda can be provided in different formats (e.g. large type, Braille or audio tape, or translated into other languages), on request, by calling Main Reception on (01353) 665555 or e-mail: translate@eastcambs.gov.uk
6. If the Committee wishes to exclude the public and press from the meeting, a resolution in the following terms will need to be passed:

“That the press and public be excluded during the consideration of the remaining item no(s). X because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item(s) there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Category X of Part I Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”

HEARINGS PROCEDURE FOR LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES

1. Any hearing required under the legislation is to take the form of a discussion led by the Council. Hearings will be held in public unless the Members of the hearing consider that the public interest in excluding the public outweighs the public interest in the hearing or that part of it, taking place in public. For these purposes, a party to the hearing and any person assisting or representing a party may be treated as a member of the public.
2. The Chairman will introduce the Members and participants and explain the procedure to be followed. The Chairman will advise all parties that they must make their submissions succinctly, and that all parties will be afforded the same time which should generally not exceed 10 minutes.
3. If any party has advised the Council they do not intend to attend or be represented at the hearing, the hearing may proceed in their absence.
4. If any party has not indicated they do not intend to attend or be represented at the hearing, the Sub-Committee may:
 - where it considers it necessary in the public interest, adjourn the hearing to a specified date(s); or
 - hold the hearing in that party's absence.
5. Where a hearing is held in the absence of a party, any representations or notice made by that party shall be considered at the hearing.
6. Where a hearing is adjourned to a specified date(s), all parties will be notified forthwith of the date(s), time and place to which the hearing has been adjourned.
7. The Licensing Officer will appear first and will give:
 - a summary of the application/case
 - a summary of the representations made
 - a summary of how the application/case and any relevant representations relate to the provision of the Licensing Policy Statement, any guidance from the Secretary of State and the relevant legislation.

[In the case of enforcement/compliance hearings:

- 7a. *If a complainant is present, they will be asked to give details of their complaint. This procedure will be repeated if there is more than one complainant.*
- 7b. *The licence holder or their representative will be asked to present their case.*
- 7c. *Members, and Legal Officer will be able to ask questions of the licence holder.*
- 7d. *Licence holder or their representative will be asked to provide their closing statement.]*

[In the case of Licensing Act and Gambling Act review hearings:

- 8a. *The review applicant or their representative will be asked to present their case.*
- 8b. *Members, Legal Officer, any other party to the hearing will be able to ask questions of the review applicant.*
- 8c. *Representatives of the Responsible Authorities and/or Statutory Consultees, will appear next to explain their case.*

- 8d. *Members, Legal Officer, any other party to the hearing will be able to ask questions of the Responsible Authorities and/or Statutory Consultees.*
- 8e. *The licence holder or their representative will be asked to present their case.*
- 8f. *Members, Legal Officer, any other party to the hearing will be able to ask questions of the licence holder.*
- 8g. *The licence holder or their representative will be asked to provide their closing statement.]*

[In the case of all other application hearings:

- 9a. *The Applicant or their representative will be asked to present their case.*
- 9b. *Members, Legal Officer, any other party to the hearing will be able to ask questions of the applicant.*
- 9c. *Representatives of the Responsible Authorities and/or Statutory Consultees, and non-statutory Consultees (where applicable) will appear next to explain their case.*
- 9d. *Members, Legal Officer, any other party to the hearing will be able to ask questions of the Responsible Authorities and/or Statutory/Non-statutory Consultees.*
- 9e. *The applicant will be asked to provide their closing statement.]*
10. Members will be able to ask questions of any party at any time during the hearing but will at all times bear in mind the need for all parties to be afforded the same time to make their case.
11. Documentary or other information may be produced for consideration by the hearing by any party attending the hearing either before the hearing, or with the consent of all the other parties, at the hearing.
12. Information which is not relevant to:
- the application/case, representation or notice (as applicable);
 - the provision of the licensing objectives or (in relation to a hearing to consider a notice given by a chief officer of police) the crime prevention objective;
- will be disregarded.
13. For the avoidance of doubt, formal cross-examination will not be allowed at hearings, unless the Members of the hearing consider that it is required for proper consideration by them of any representation, application or notice as the case may require.
14. Should Members during the hearing be of the opinion that a site visit is necessary to enable them to make the decision then the meeting will be adjourned and a site visit carried out in accordance with the Council's Site Visit Guidance.
15. Following the presentations by and questioning of all the parties, the Members of the hearing will generally retire into closed session (either by leaving the room or asking all other parties to do so). The Members will make a decision and record reasons for this.
16. The authority will normally make its determination on the day and announce their decision and the reasons for it at the conclusion of the hearing. However, if stated otherwise by

Members before they retire, the decision will be communicated to all parties within 5 working days.

17. The Council shall provide for a record to be taken of the hearing in a permanent and intelligible form and kept for six years from the date of the determination or, where an appeal is brought against the determination of the authority, the disposal of the appeal. The right of appeal is 21 days from the date of notification of the decision.
18. For the avoidance of doubt, any irregularity resulting from any failure to comply with any provision of the Regulations before the authority has made a determination shall not of itself render the proceedings void.
19. In any case of such an irregularity, the authority shall, if it considers that any person may have been prejudiced as a result of the irregularity, take steps as it thinks fit to cure the irregularity before reaching its determination.
20. Clerical mistakes in any document recording a determination of the authority or errors arising in such document from an accidental slip or omission may be corrected by the authority.
21. Any person attending the hearing who in the opinion of the Members hearing the matter is behaving in a disruptive matter may be required to leave the hearing and may:
 - be refused permission to return; or
 - be permitted to return only on the conditions as may be specified by the Members and the hearing PROVIDED THAT such person may, before the end of the hearing, submit to the hearing in writing any information which they would have been entitled to give orally had they not been required to leave.

