

Minute of Meeting



General Purposes Committee

Date	Time	Venue
27 August 2019	10.00 am	Council Chamber, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

Present:

Councillor Munro (Chair)	Councillor Alexander (from Item No. 6 onwards)
Councillor Cassidy	Councillor Curran
Councillor Hackett	Councillor Imrie
Councillor Lay-Douglas	Councillor Milligan
Councillor Muirhead	Councillor McCall
Councillor Parry	Councillor Russell
Councillor Wallace	Councillor Winchester

In attendance:

Alan Turpie, Legal Services Manager	Verona MacDonald, Democratic Services Team Leader
Inspector E. Smith, Police Scotland	Inspector J. Morrison, Police Scotland
Andy King, Senior Trading Standards Officer, Midlothian Council	

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received for Councillors Hardie, Johnstone and Smaill.

In the absence of the substantive Committee Chair, Councillor Smaill, the Democratic Services Team Leader invited nominations for the position of Chair for the meeting. Councillor Munro was nominated by Councillor Lay-Douglas, seconded by Councillor Winchester. There were no other nominations and Councillor Munro assumed the role of Chair for the meeting.

2. Order of Business

The order of business was as set out on the Agenda together with an additional item raised under Item 5.

3. Declarations of interest

Councillor Curran indicated he would be declaring an interest in the applications on the agenda relating to private hire and taxis on the basis of his business interests in the taxi trade.

4. Minute of Meeting

Following a Motion by Councillor Hackett, seconded by Councillor Cassidy, the Minute of Meeting of 14 May 2019 was unanimously approved. Thereafter, the Chair was authorised to sign it as a correct record of the meeting.

5. Public Reports

The Legal Services Manager, with the authority of the Chair, requested that an urgent matter, not included in the agenda circulated, be considered by the Committee on the basis that it related to an event being held prior to the next scheduled meeting of the Committee. The Committee unanimously agreed to consider the matter. The Legal Services Manager explained that an application for a temporary public entertainment licence which would normally be delegated to the Director, Resources to grant had attracted an objection. He suggested that the application be considered by a sub-Committee consisting of the 3 Ward Members who would determine the application by way of written submissions. He further advised that one of the Ward Members may not be able to sit on the sub-Committee because of their involvement with the application and on that basis the Committee should elect a substitute Member. Councillor Parry advised that she was declaring an interest in the application which related to an event proposed in her Ward and was therefore unable to sit on the sub-Committee. Councillor Muirhead moved that the application be considered at a Special Meeting of the Committee, his Motion was seconded by Councillor Curran. As an amendment, Councillor McCall, seconded by Councillor Cassidy moved that the sub-Committee be created for the purpose outlined by Mr Turpie and on a vote being taken by way of a show of hands, 5 votes were cast for the motion and 6 for the amendment which therefore became the decision of the Committee. It was further unanimously agreed that the sub-Committee consist of the 2 Ward

Members, namely, Councillors Imrie and Winchester together with Councillor McCall as a substitute for Councillor Parry.

Sederunt: Councillor Curran having previously declared an interest, left the meeting and returned at 11.27 am. Councillor Alexander entered the meeting and remained until its conclusion.

Exclusion of Members of the Public

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the Committee agreed that the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the undernoted item, as contained in the Addendum hereto, as there might be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 6 and 14 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:-

- 6.1 Application for a Private Hire Car Driver Licence – G. Black
- 6.2 Application for a Private Hire Car Driver Licence – J. Kay
- 6.3 Application for a Private Hire Car Driver Licence – R. Lambert
- 6.4 Application for a Taxi Driver Licence – G. McCabe
- 6.5 Application for a Private Hire Car Driver Licence – A. Stirling
- 6.6 Application for a Second Hand Car Dealer Licence – N. Younas

The meeting terminated at 11.56 am