

**General Purposes Committee
Tuesday 31 March 2015
Item No 4 (a)**

MINUTES of MEETING of the MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday 24 February 2015 at 2.00pm.

Present:- Councillors Coventry (Chair), Baxter, Bennett, Johnstone, Montgomery, Muirhead, Pottinger, Rosie, Russell, Wallace and Young.

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Beattie, Imrie, Milligan, Thompson and de Vink.

1 Order of Business

The Committee noted that the proposed item about the Dalkeith Common Good Fund had been withdrawn.

2 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Montgomery declared an interest in Item 3 (a), in that he knew one of the of the applicants and said that he would withdraw when the relative application was being considered.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of Meeting of 6 January 2015 were approved as a correct record, on the motion of Councillor Wallace, seconded by Councillor Baxter.

4 Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982

(a) (i) Procedure for Disposing of Applications for Licences

There was submitted report, dated 12 February 2015, by the Director, Resources, concerning the procedure for disposing of applications for licences, in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

Decision

To note the report.

(ii) Hire Car Licensing

There was submitted report, dated 17 December 2014, by the Director, Resources, concerning the treatment of hire cars fitted with devices that were not part of the original specification and, therefore, were not in compliance with the conditions of licensing as they had not been approved by the Council.

In his report, the Director suggested that, rather than consider amending the Conditions of Licensing, in order to cater for similar approaches in the future which were largely of a technical nature and did not compromise the safety of the driver, passengers and other road users, delegated power be given to him, in consultation with the Chair, to approve such installations, subject to satisfactory prior inspection.

Decision

To remit to the Director, Resources, in consultation with the Chair, to approve alterations in the original specifications of hire cars, subject to satisfactory prior inspection.

3 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 items, as contained in the Addendum hereto, as there might be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraph 3, 12 and 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

Decision

- (a) Private Hire Car Driver's Licence (1) – Application – to grant the licence;
- (b) Private Hire Car Driver's Licence (2) – Application – To enable the Applicant to be present, to continue consideration of the Application; and
- (c) Second Hand Dealer's Licence – Application – To refuse to grant the Licence as the Applicants were not fit and proper persons to be the holders of such a licence.

The Meeting terminated at 3.30pm.