

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE**  
**10.00 A.M., TUESDAY 5 AUGUST 2008**  
**IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**  
**PART 1**

PRESENT: Councillors

Bennett, K. L. (Chairman)  
Williams, Mrs. P. (Vice-Chairman)

Allen, F.W.C.	Carr, I.R.
Ansell, Mrs. P.A.	Green, M.R.
Burnett, J.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M.J. Holder and R.G. Meaden).

**7. Exclusion of Public**

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 2, Part I, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972.

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**PART 2**

**8. Application for a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence**

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Head of Environmental Health (Enclosure 4.1 – 4.12 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Applicant attended the meeting to present his case.

The Chairman invited all those present to introduce themselves.

The Officer presented the Council's case by taking the Committee through the report outlining the relevant issues for consideration. He advised that the application for a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence had been made by the Applicant on 15 July 2008. The Applicant was aware of the Council's age policy and that an exemption applied for "exceptional vehicles". The vehicle had previously been licensed by the Authority as a hackney carriage vehicle. Members of the Committee had determined at a meeting on 26 July 2007 that the vehicle was exceptional and a 12 month licence had been granted subject to some additional repairs being made. The Officer then outlined the findings of the Enforcement Officer's inspection of the vehicle (included at Annex 5 of the report).

Members were asked to determine the application and consider whether the vehicle was an "exceptional vehicle".

The Applicant was afforded the opportunity of asking questions of the Officer. In response to the Officer outlining the findings of the inspection of the vehicle the Applicant stated that most of the items on the inspection were due to general wear and tear of the vehicle and a number of items were due to the accident. The paintwork and interior of the vehicle had both been attended to since the inspection had been undertaken.

Members of the Committee were then afforded the opportunity of asking questions of the Officer. Following this, Members then examined the Applicant's vehicle.

The Applicant was then asked to present his case. He stated that Members had viewed the vehicle and he considered that it was in an exceptional condition given that it was 9 years old. He added that the vehicle had been serviced regularly, well maintained and repaired with only genuine parts. He considered that the vehicle was a big part of his business as it was versatile and his customers enjoyed travelling in it. He looked after the vehicle and was proud of it being in the Council's taxi fleet.

Copies of the vehicle's service history and appropriate paperwork were circulated to Members of the Committee.

The Committee were then given the opportunity of asking questions of the Applicant. In response to a question, the Applicant confirmed that the vehicle had passed an MOT on 19 September 2007. He confirmed that only minor works to attend to rust on the front passenger seat mountings had to be carried out in order for the vehicle to pass the MOT.

When afforded the opportunity to ask questions of the Applicant, the Officer indicated he had no questions.

The Officer then summed up the Council's case.

The Applicant was then afforded the opportunity to sum up his case.

The Committee then deliberated in private accompanied by the Council's Legal Adviser and Secretary to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That having regard to all the circumstances the application for a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence be approved as the Committee was satisfied that the vehicle was an "exceptional vehicle" as defined by the Council's policy for the age restriction of Hackney Carriage vehicles, subject to the following conditions:-
  - (i) The repair of the rust to the back door frame.
  - (ii) The repair of the rust to the back door sill.
  - (iii) The repair of the rust to the top of the wheel arches on the back seats.
  
- (B) That subject to the satisfactory completion of the conditions referred to in (A) above, the Hackney Carriage Proprietor's Licence be granted for 12 months.

(The Committee encouraged the Applicant to source an alternative newer vehicle within the next 12 months).

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CHAIRMAN