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ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

31 MAY 2022

Present: Councillors Jobson (Chair), Marlow-Eastwood (Vice-Chair), Cooke, Roberts and Sinden.

175. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Councillor Hay. Councillor Cooke was present as a substitute for Councillor Hay.

176. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

177. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2022 be approved as a true record.

178. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Councillor Marlow-Eastwood proposed a motion to exclude the public, seconded by Councillor Roberts.

RESOLVED (unanimously) – That the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the items of business listed below because it is likely that, if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of ‘exempt’ information as defined in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

179. LICENSED DRIVER WITH EXCESS PENALTY POINTS ON HBC DRIVER LICENCE

The Licensing Lead Officer submitted a report to consider if the driver is a “fit and proper” person to continue holding a Hastings Borough Council Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire dual driver’s licence as a result of accumulating excess penalty points on their licence.

The Licensing Lead Officer gave an overview of his report and answered questions from the Committee.

The driver and her representative made a submission to the Committee and answered questions from Councillors.

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RESOLVED (unanimously):

The Environment and Safety Committee for and on behalf of Hastings Borough Council has considered the report of the licensing officer and the submissions made by the driver and her representatives and have decided the driver is a “Fit and Proper person” to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicle Driver’s Licence and instruct the Environmental Health and Licensing Manager to issue a warning letter.

Reasons:

1. The Committee saw that the driver’s actions created no physical danger.
2. The Committee noted the driver had made a mistake but felt she learned her lesson and was remorseful.
3. The Committee were confident that the driver would not make a mistake which put her livelihood in jeopardy again.
4. The Committee believed the driver had paid for her mistake and saw she wanted to change her ways.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.45pm)