At a meeting of the REGULATORY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on MONDAY, 24th MARCH, 2014 at 2.15 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor A. Wilson in the Chair

Councillors Bonallie, Farthing, P. Gibson, Macknight, Marshall, Mordey, Richardson, D. Smith, Thompson, Waller and Wiper.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Bell, Dixon and Emerson

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 24th February, 2014

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 24th February, 2014, Part I (copy circulated) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 – Application for Renewal of Consent To Trade in a Designated Area – Site Located at Land Outside of the Old Fire Station next to the Dun Cow Public House, High Street West, Sunderland

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which requested Members to give consideration to an application received from Mrs Melanie Dorrian for renewal of consent to trade in a designated area in respect of a site situated outside of the old Fire Station next to the Dun Cow Public House, High Street West, Sunderland.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Ernie Humphrey, Senior Licensing Officer, presented the report and advised that Mrs Dorrian had been licensed to trade since 2007 and that there had been objections received in relation to this application for renewal of her licence. The objections were set out in appendix 2 to the report.

Mrs Dorrian advised that she had been trading from this site since September 2013 without any problems; she had moved to this site from a site on Crowtree Road next to New Look however had been forced to move due to the redevelopment works taking place in the area. This was the third site she had operated from. Prior to moving to Crowtree Road she had been trading from a site next to Argos on High Street West.

Councillor Bonallie expressed concerns that there had been what appeared to be grease left on the ground at the site next to Argos. Mrs Dorrian advised that this had been cleaned up and also the van had been inspected for cleanliness a couple of weeks ago and had passed the inspection with no problems.

Councillor MacKnight commented that whenever she had passed the van it always appeared to be very clean and tidy.

The application was discussed by Members and it was:-

2. RESOLVED that Mrs Dorrian's consent to trade from the site located at Land Outside of the Old Fire Station next to the Dun Cow Public House, High Street West, Sunderland be renewed

Age Policy for Applications for the Grant of Hackney Carriage Licences and Private Hire Vehicle Licences

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which requested the Committee to give consideration to the amendment of the current age policy as detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Mr Humphrey advised that the amendments were to change the wording of the policy so that vehicles which were not currently licensed but had been licensed previously would be considered using the criteria for vehicles which had never been licensed.

Councillor Farthing queried why vehicles with more than 5 seats were allowed to be older; she felt that all vehicles should be subject to the same age restrictions, especially with the increasing number of people carrier type vehicles which could carry 7 people. Mr Humphrey advised that this was historic and was to allow for minibuses. He agreed to look at the potential for changing this.

Councillor Richardson then expressed concerns that it was difficult to get out of the third row of seats in a people carrier type vehicle. Mr Humphrey advised that the rear seats in people carriers did not comply with the council policy on being able to easily exit the vehicle.

3. RESOLVED that approval be given to the amendment of the age policy as detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report.

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

4. RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it was considered likely to include the disclosure of exempt information relating to an individual and the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the Authority holding that information). (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1 and 3).

(Signed) A. WILSON, Chairman.

Note:-

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items during which the meeting was open to members of the public.

Additional minutes in respect of further items are included in Part II.