



MINUTES

Public Protection Committee

Date:	Wednesday, 18 November 2020
Venue:	Remote meeting via Zoom
Committee Members Present:	Councillor Shirley Green (Chairman) Councillor Gavin Harrison (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Frank Andrews, Brenda Blackshaw, Alan Clayton, Paul Hodgson, Angela Jacques, Michael Sayward, Ray Thomas, Stan Trudgill.
Other Councillors Present:	None
Officers Present:	Ian Curtis, Chris Hambly, Sharon Wadsworth
Other Attendees:	AR and Mr Young.

1. Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests should be declared as required by the Localism Act 2011 and any personal or prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members. No interests were declared on this occasion.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Public Protection Committee meeting held on 9 September 2020 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

3. Substitute Members

The following substitutions were reported under Council procedure rule 23 (c):

There were no substitutions on this occasion.

Decision Items

4. Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence – AR

Following an application made to Licensing Team for the grant of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence, the Committee was requested to consider the application and determine if they consider the applicant fit and proper to hold such a licence. In accordance with the standard procedure for all applications, the applicant was requested to submit a disclosure obtained through the Disclosure and Barring Service and undergo a medical examination.

The Disclosure has revealed convictions from 1995 and 2019, further information relating to the offences were provided to members at the meeting. The applicant had already declared the convictions on his application form for a driver's badge.

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The member heard from the applicant and following a full and frank discussion it was RESOLVED to refuse the application for the grant of a HC/PH driver badge in line with Appendix A. part 6.4 of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2017-2020.

5. Caravan Site Licensing – Mowbreck Caravan Park Holiday Caravan Site Licence

An application has been received from the site owner to amend the holiday caravan site licence to remove the closure period for the 2020-2021 season only.

Mowbreck Caravan Park had a holiday caravan site licence for 196 static holiday caravans to be stationed on the site and occupied between 29th January and 16th January the following year. It also had a residential caravan site licence for a further 30 caravans to be occupied all year round.

The application requested permission for the holiday site to remain open between 16th January 2021 and 29th January 2021 only. It was stated in the application that many holiday homeowners at Mowbreck park had their main residence abroad and were unable to travel there due to the current COVID-19 restrictions in place.

Government guidance had been issued in respect of applications of this nature and was considered.

The Committee considered the request and RESOLVED to add a condition to the holiday caravan site licence which will be effective for the 2020-2021 season only stating that static holiday caravans are permitted to remain occupied between 16th January 2021 and 29th January 2021.

It was noted that this decision was made due to the unique circumstances created by the COVID-19 restrictions and should not be seen as an endorsement of any breach of licensing conditions going forward.

6. Caravan Site Licensing – Larbreck Gardens Caravan Park Holiday Caravan Site Licence

An application has been received from the site owner to amend the holiday caravan site licence to remove the closure period for the 2020-2021 season only.

Larbreck Gardens holiday caravan park had a holiday caravan site licence for 58 static holiday caravans to be stationed on the site and occupied between 1st March and 16th January the following year. It also has a licence issued under the Public Health Act 1936 allowing for 25 chalets to be occupied all year round.

The application requested permission for the holiday site to remain open between 16th January 2021 and 1st March 2021. It was stated in the application that many holiday home owners at Larbreck Gardens who would usually go abroad, stay with relatives or find rented accommodation in the area during the period that the site was closed were now unable to do so due to the current covid 19 restrictions in place.

Government guidance had been issued in respect of applications of this nature and was considered.

The Committee considered the request and RESOLVED to add a condition to the holiday caravan site licence which will be effective for the 2020-2021 season only stating that static holiday caravans are permitted to remain occupied between 16th January 2021 and 1 March 2021.

It was noted that this decision was made due to the unique circumstances created by the COVID19 restrictions and should not be seen as an endorsement of any breach of licensing conditions going forward.

7. Caravan Site Licensing – Meadfoot Caravan Park Holiday Site Licence

An application has been received from the site owner to amend Condition 2 of the site licence to bring the spacing requirements into line with the model standards for holiday sites.

Amending the site licence would bring the condition in line with the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 (Section 5) Model Standards 1989 for holiday caravan sites which states that the minimum spacing distance between caravans made of aluminum or other materials with similar fire performance properties should not be less than 5 metres between units, 3.5 metres at the corners.

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services had been consulted on this application and, following confirmation from the site owners of the specifications of the caravans to be placed on site, confirmed that they had no further queries.

It was RESOLVED to amend condition 2 of the site licence from -

“Every caravan shall be not less than six metres from any other caravan in a separate occupation, and not less than 2 metres from a carriageway.” to

“Every caravan shall be not less than five metres from any other caravan in a separate occupation, and not less than 2 metres from a carriageway.”

8. Caravan Site Licensing – Fylde Trout Fishery – Stanley Villa Farm Touring Caravan Site Licence

An application has been received from the site owner to amend condition 1 of the touring site licence to increase the number of Camping Pods from 21 to 24 and to amend condition 3 to allow all year-round occupation of the camping pods on site.

Fylde Council Planning Department had been consulted and confirmed that that site has permission for all year-round use.

Mr. Curtis provided clarification to the members that any structure designed or adapted for habitation and which was capable of being moved from one place to another i.e. the camping pods were classed as a “caravan” under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.

Following a detailed discussion on the matter and the conditions in on the licence in general it was RESOLVED -

1. To amend condition 1 of the site licence to read *“The total number of camping pods stationed on the site at any one time shall be such as to enable compliance with the requirements of this schedule to be maintained and in any shall not exceed 24 (Twenty four).”*
2. To amend condition 3 of the site licence to read *“Camping pods shall be used solely for human habitation between 1st January to 31st December in any one year.”*
3. To notify the licence holder that the committee is minded to remove the following condition from the site licence –
 - Condition 6 - *Where the number of units on the site is to be limited by condition, it may be appropriate to prescribe maximum by references to specified periods so as to permit up to 10 more units during such peak holiday periods as may be agreed between the site licensing authority and the licence holder without the provision of additional facilities, provided that:*
 - (i) *the provisions of paragraph 6 above are complied with, and*
 - (ii) *the standards relating to spacing, as set out in paragraph 8-9 below, are complied with.*

And to insert the following condition:

- *Notwithstanding anything else in this licence, all caravans (within the meaning of section 29 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960) on the site shall be camping pods of substantially the same design and construction as those on the site on 18 November 2020 and no caravans of the kind commonly referred to as “static caravans” or “touring caravans” may be brought on to the site.*

The licence holder would have the opportunity to make representations to the removal of the conditions and the proposed additional condition and in the event of the licence holder not making representations the removal of Condition 6 and the additional condition would be actioned as detailed above to the site licence.

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