1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Richard Gell be appointed chairman for this hearing.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

3. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED:

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraphs 1 and 7 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

4. APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER’S LICENCE

The Licensing Officer reported on an application for a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver’s Licence under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 (as amended) and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Reference was made to the council’s Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver’s Criminal Records Policy when considering this application.

The Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) disclosure revealed convictions from between 1973 and 1977.

The applicant was present at the hearing where he spoke in support of his application. All the offences had occurred when he was a teenager and the last had been when he was 20. He had been awarded 3 points for crossing white lines in 2006. He held a private hire licence in Wellingborough and ran a private hire company in Wellingborough. He supplied a number of references.
The panel asked the applicant a number of questions.

The applicant was fully aware of the council’s Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Criminal Records Policy and understood that there were no “spent” convictions as far as taxi drivers were concerned.

After considering the officer’s report and representations made by the applicant, including advice from the Solicitor to the Council, the panel retired to consider the application and evidence presented at the hearing, and it was

RESOLVED:

That the application for a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver’s Licence be granted for two years with standard conditions.

The chairman then read out the following statement giving the reasons why the panel had granted the application:

“The panel has carefully considered your application for the issue of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Licence. In reaching its decision, the panel had regard to:

Government Guidance
ENC Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Criminal Records Policy
ENC Hackney Carriages / Byelaws (Terms and Conditions)

The panel has reached the decision to grant the licence for a period of two years with standard conditions.

The panel considered the numerous past offences declared on the application form but the panel felt that they were sufficiently dated not to be part of their considerations.

The panel thanked the applicant for being so candid when responding to the panel’s questions.

The panel would like to emphasize that the safety of the public is paramount and would take this opportunity to remind the applicant of his responsibilities in that respect.

Confirmation of this decision will be posted to you within 21 days. Should you have any grievance with the panel’s decision you have the right to appeal to the Magistrates Court.”

Chairman