



COTSWOLD
District Council

Licensing Sub-Committee (Taxis, Private Hire, and
Street Trading Consent Matters)
20/August2026

**Minutes of a meeting of Licensing Sub-Committee (Taxis, Private Hire, and
Street Trading Consent Matters) held on Thursday, 20 August 2026**

Members present:

Ian Watson (Chair)

David Fowles

Michael Vann

Officers present:

Marie Barnes, Lawyer

Kevin Dunford, Licensing Officer

Nickie Mackenzie-Daste, Senior Democratic
Services Officer

Emma Sparkes, Licensing Officer

25 Apologies

The Chair opened the Meeting, introduced the Members of the Sub-Committee and Officers to the Applicants.

The Democratic Services officer advised the Chair that they had received apologies from Councillor Julia Judd and Councillor Ray Brassington. The Chair declared the meeting quorate.

26 Substitute Members

Councillor Ian Watson attended as substitute Chair on behalf of Councillor Ray Brassington.

27 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

28 Procedure for Licensing Sub-Committee

The Chair explained the nature of the decision to be taken, and the procedure to be followed. The Procedure for the Licensing Sub-Committee and the relevant policies were confirmed as having been published as part of the pack.

29 Pre-Application proposed for a private hire vehicle

The Chair invited the Licensing Officer to speak.

The Licensing Officer introduced the application for consideration, which was a pre-application proposal from Adam and Luana McLeod-Brown for a Private Hire Vehicle Licence.

The proposed vehicle was a 2015/16 Land Rover Defender, intended to be used as a seven-seat vehicle for pre-booked private tours of the Cotswolds. The application was made on the basis that the vehicle should be considered an elite vehicle under section 5.2 of the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

The Licensing Officer advised that the proposal had been referred to the Sub-Committee because the vehicle was over the normal five-year age limit for a new Private Hire Vehicle Licence and did not fall within the standard exemptions. The Council's policy provides that a vehicle outside the age policy may be considered in the case of elite vehicles, such as a Rolls Royce or similar, provided that the vehicle is in excellent condition.

The Chair then invited the applicants to speak.

The applicants explained that the vehicle would form part of a specialist heritage touring business offering small, pre-booked tours across the Cotswolds. They confirmed that this was a pre-application relating to the vehicle only; applications for the necessary operator and driver licences would follow if the proposal was approved. It was further clarified that since the application had been made the specific vehicle had been identified and was in fact a Land Rover Defender manufactured in 2014.

Members were invited to ask questions for clarity.

Members sought clarification regarding the process which would follow the Sub-Committee's decision.

The Licensing Officer confirmed that, if the proposal were approved, the applicants would subsequently need to submit a formal vehicle licence application. The vehicle would remain subject to the Council's normal licensing, inspection and renewal requirements, including six-monthly MOT checks for vehicles over five years old. The applicant would also need to seek an operator's licence and drivers licence.

There were no public speakers, objectors or other parties.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate at 02:15 pm

The Sub-Committee returned at 02:30 pm

DECISION

RESOLVED: That the Sub-Committee APPROVED the pre-application proposal for the proposed Land Rover Defender to proceed as an elite vehicle under section 5.2 of the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

The decision was made subject to the vehicle subsequently satisfying all relevant requirements for a Private Hire Vehicle Licence and complying with the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire licensing policies and conditions.

The Meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and closed at 2.35 pm