

# **LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2005 at 6.00 p.m.**

**In a Conference Room at the Council House, Walsall**

## **Present**

Councillor Keith Sears (Chairman)  
Councillor Bill Tweddle (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Clive Ault  
Councillor Joan Barton  
Councillor Leslie Beeley  
Councillor Arthur Bentley  
Councillor Barbara Cassidy  
Councillor Gary Clarke  
Councillor Ayshea Johnson  
Councillor Cath Micklewright  
Councillor Robbie Robinson  
Councillor John Rochelle

### **761/05      Changes in Membership**

There were no changes in membership for this meeting.

### **762/05      Apology**

An apology for non-attendance at the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs. Joan Beilby.

### **763/05      Minutes**

#### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meetings held on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2005 and the minutes of the special meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2005, copies having previously been circulated to each Member of the Committee, be approved and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

### **764/05      Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

765/05      **Deputations and Petitions**

There were no deputations or petitions submitted.

766/05      **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985**

**Resolved**

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items set out in the private agenda for the reasons set out therein and Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

767/05      **Street Collections - Animal Protection Agency**

The report of the Head of Democratic Services was submitted:-

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

That approval be given to the request by the Animal Protection Agency to undertake a street collection in Walsall Town Centre on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2005 and Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2005.

768/05      **Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group**

**Notes of meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005**

The Committee was advised that the notes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005 were, unfortunately, not available for this meeting and would accordingly be submitted to the special meeting of the Committee arranged for 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2005.

**Request by Walsall Taxi Federation for an increase in fares and charges**

The report of the Head of Public Protection was submitted, together with a copy of the resolution from the meeting of the Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005:-

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

That the request for an increase in fares and charges for hackney carriage licences within the Borough of Walsall be approved as detailed below:-

£2.50	Flag
£3.60	First mile
£1.50	Each subsequent mile
£15.00	Waiting time - per hour
£25.00	Soiling charge

- (a) Meter to drop at 10 pence intervals
- (b) No second tariff on meter
- (c) No additional charges for
  - Bank holidays
  - Sunday hours
  - After hours
  - Extra persons
  - Extra luggage
- (d) Double fare charge on Christmas Day
- (e) Double fare charge on New Years Eve
- (f) Double fare charge Christmas Eve  
18.00 hours to midnight
- (g) Double fare charge New Years Eve  
18.00 hours to midnight

**Consideration of a single colour for private hire vehicles and change to licensing plates/stickers on private hire and hackney carriage vehicles**

The Committee was advised that, in order to allow officers sufficient time to consult with other Local Authorities on this issue, a report on this matter would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

**Resolved**

That consideration of a single colour for private hire vehicles and change to licensing plates/stickers on private hire and hackney carriage vehicles be deferred for consideration to a future meeting of the Committee.

Councillor Rochelle left the meeting during consideration of all the items relating to the Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group and returned to the meeting immediately before the commencement of the Private Session.

**Private Session****Exclusion of Public****Resolved**

That, during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda, the Committee considers that the items for consideration are exempt information for the reasons set out therein and Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972 and accordingly resolves to consider those items in private.

**Summary of Matters considered in Private Session****Private Hire Licences**

The Committee considered representations in respect of a number of taxi/private hire matters and made decisions thereon.

(Exempt information under Paragraphs 7 and 14 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972)

**Termination of Meeting**

The meeting terminated at 7.15 p.m.

Chairman .....

Date .....