

LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 25th July, 2007 at 6.00 p.m.

In a Conference Room at the Council House, Walsall

Present

Councillor Keith Sears (Chairman)
Councillor Dennis Anson
Councillor Joan Barton
Councillor Joan Beilby
Councillor Mike Bird
Councillor Peter Hughes
Councillor John Rochelle
Councillor Peter Smith

1100/07 Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors Beeley, Cassidy, Tweddle and Wilkes.

1101/07 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 30th May, 2007, a copy having previously been circulated to each Member of the Committee, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1102/07 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

1103/07 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)

There were no items for consideration in the private session of the agenda.

Taxi Matters**(a) Request for short term hackney carriage vehicle licence**

The report of the Head of Public Protection was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the request for a short term licence to be issued be approved.

**(b) Recommendations from the Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group
- 16th July, 2007**

- (i) Re-structure of Licensing Service and strategy to deal with outstanding matters**
- (ii) Variation of private hire/hackney carriage driver licences**
- (iii) Frequency of vehicle testing**
- (iv) Colour of vehicles**

It was noted that these items had been inadvertently included on the agenda and had not yet been recommended for consideration by the Committee, in view of which, these items were withdrawn from the agenda.

(v) Brackets for licence plates

The recommendation from the Tax/Private Hire Liaison Group from a meeting held on 16th July, 2007 was submitted, together with a letter from the Walsall Private Hire Association:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That approval be given to waiving the £25.00 deposit for brackets for licence plates.

1105/07 **Licensing Act, 2003 - Presentation**

(a) Introduction

(b) Hearings

Mr. Javed Iqbal, Service Manager, Litigation Team, gave presentations to the Committee on this issue and responded to questions:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the presentations be noted and that all Members of the Committee be supplied with a hard copy of the presentations, together with the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act, 2003.

1106/07 **Gambling Act, 2005**

Committee was advised that a presentation on this legislation would be provided to a future meeting.

The report of the Head of Public Protection was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (a) That approval be given to the adoption of the proposed scheme of delegations detailed in the Appendix to the report;
- (b) That Sub-Committees be established in accordance with Section 9 of the Licensing Act, 2003, to determine applications under the Gambling Act, 2005;
- (c) That the Head of Public Protection be delegated authority to determine applications under the Gambling Act, 2005 (not the Licensing Act, 2003 as identified in the report) in the circumstances identified in the Appendix to the report.

Termination of Meeting

The meeting terminated at 7.23 p.m.

Chairman

Date

