

LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 29th May, 2013 at 6.00 p.m.

In a Conference Room at the Council House, Walsall

Present

Councillor Sears (Chairman)

Councillor Clarke (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Anson

Councillor Cook

Councillor Douglas-Maul

Councillor S. Fitzpatrick

Councillor Hussain

Councillor Murray

Councillor Rochelle

Councillor Sarohi

Councillor Worrall

1500/13 Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors C. Bott, Harrison and Whyte.

1501/13 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th April, 2013, a copy having been circulated to each Member of the Committee, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1502/13 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hussain declared an interest in the item relating to the application for a grant of licence to drive private hire vehicles- exceptional circumstances - Mr A Qayoom and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

1503/13 **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)**

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.

1504/13 **Taxi Matters**

Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group

The joint report of the Head of Democratic Services and Head of Legal and Democratic Services was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

1. That the report be noted and approval given to the reestablishment of the taxi/private hire liaison group for the current municipal year in accordance with the terms of reference contained in the appendix to the report and the following members be nominated to the group:-

Councillor Clarke
Councillor S. Fitzpatrick
Councillor Murray
Councillor Rochelle
Councillor Sears

2. That consequent upon the above, meetings of the group be held at 6.00 p.m. on the following dates:-

Wednesday 3rd July 2013
Wednesday 14th August 2013
Wednesday 2nd October 2013
Wednesday 13th November 2013
Wednesday 8th January 2014
Wednesday 12th February 2014
Wednesday 2nd April 2014

1505/13 **Establishment of taxi licensing Sub-Committees**

The joint report of the head of Democratic Services and Head of Legal and Democratic Services was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

1. That approval be given to the re-establishment of the Taxi Licensing Sub-Committees A and B to deal with the continuing backlog of applications under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Licensing Sub-Committees to be politically balanced and to each comprise 7 members of the Licensing and Safety Committee, one of the Licensing Sub-Committees to meet in the day time at 10.00 am and the other in the evening at 6.00 pm;
2. As a consequence of the above, the members be nominated as follows in respect of the Licensing Sub-Committees:-

Taxi Licensing Sub-Committee A (to meet at 10.00 am)

Councillor Anson
Councillor Clarke
Councillor Cook
Councillor Murray
Councillor Rochelle
Councillor Whyte
Councillor Worrall

It was agreed that the first meeting of the Sub-Committee A should be held on Friday 14th June, 2013

Taxi Licensing Sub-Committee B (to meet at 6.00p.m.)

Councillor C Bott
Councillor Douglas-Maul
Councillor S. Fitzpatrick
Councillor Harrison
Councillor Hussain
Councillor Sarohi
Councillor Sears

The first meeting of the Sub-Committee B to take place on Wednesday 19th June, 2013.

1506/13 **The Licensing Act, 2003 – Licensing Sub-Committees**

The joint report of the Head of Democratic Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

- 1) That the report be noted;
- 2) That approval be given to the re-establishment of Licensing Sub-Committees in accordance with section 9 of the Licensing Act, 2003 solely to determine applicants under that legislation. The Sub-Committees to comprise 3 members of the Licensing and Safety Committee on a rota basis, subject to availability.

1507/13 **Licensing Sub-Committees under the Gambling Act, 2005**

The joint report of the Head of Democratic Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

- 1) That approval be given to the re-establishment of Licensing Sub-Committees under the last item in relation to section 9 of the Licensing Act, 2003 being delegated authority to determine applications under the Gambling Act, 2005 in the circumstances detailed in the Appendix attached to the report;
- 2) That the Regulatory Services Manager be authorised to determine applications under the Gambling Act, 2005 in the circumstances attached to the report now submitted;
- 3) That officers be requested to arrange the necessary training for members in respect of both the Licensing Act, 2003 and the Gambling Act, 2005.

1508/13 **Street Trading - Walsall Town Centre – Re-designation of licensed sites – update**

The Principal Licensing Officer (Mr. Knapper) reported that this item had been withdrawn.

1509/13 **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 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972 and accordingly resolved to consider those items in private.

Summary of items considered in private session

1510/13 **Application for the grant of a licence to drive private hire vehicles – exceptional circumstances request**

The Committee granted a licence to drive private hire vehicles.

1511/13 **Application for the grant of a licence to drive private hire vehicles – exceptional circumstances request**

Resolved

The Committee granted a licence to drive private hire vehicles.

1512/13 **Application for a Hackney Carriage Proprietor's licence**

The application was withdrawn.

Termination of meeting

There being no further business, the meeting terminated at 6.43 p.m.