

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LICENSING AND  
REGULATORY COMMITTEE – 28 MARCH 2011

SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING – 12 APRIL 2011

(To be read in conjunction with the Agenda for the Meeting)

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| * Cllr Mrs Gillian Beel (Chairman)         | * Cllr Mrs Lucinda Fleming |
| * Cllr Mrs Elizabeth Cable (Vice-Chairman) | Cllr Bob Frost             |
| Cllr Maurice Byham                         | Cllr Julian Hubble         |
| * Cllr Victor Duckett                      | Cllr Peter Isherwood       |
| Cllr Mrs Patricia Ellis                    | Cllr Bryn Morgan           |
| * Cllr Mrs Carole King                     | * Cllr John Sandy          |

\*Present

31. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Bob Frost, Julian Hubble, Peter Isherwood and Bryn Morgan.

32. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)

There were no interests declared under this heading.

**PART I – RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL**

There were no matters falling within the category

**PARTS II AND III - MATTERS OF REPORT**

**PART II – Matters reported in detail for the information of the Council**

Background Papers

The background papers relating to the following items in Parts II and III are as specified in the Agenda for the meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee.

33. HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE FEES 2011/12 – OUTCOME OF ADVERTISEMENT (Agenda Item 5; Appendix A)

- 33.1 Representations had been received following the advertisement to increase fees for hackney carriage/private hire vehicles. Mr Colin Gardner attended the meeting and addressed the Committee on behalf of approximately 200 Waverley licensed taxi drivers and requested the Committee to consider freezing the cost of licences for 12 months because of the difficulties drivers were experiencing in the current economic climate.

- 33.2 The Head of Democratic and Legal Services said that one representation had been received from a licensed driver in support of the increase in fees. Officers explained that the average increase in fees was around 4%.
- 33.3 The Head of Democratic and Legal Services said that members and officers had discussed the possibility of distributing the cost over other licensable activities, including liquor licensing. However, those fees were at present set by the government. There was a possibility that this could change in the future and the Council would then be able to determine the fairest way of recovering costs of licensing without putting extra burdens on licensees.
- 33.4 Members thanked Mr Gardner for attending and addressing the Committee on behalf of Waverley licensed drivers. The Committee was sympathetic and acknowledged the difficult economic times for taxi and private hire small businesses within the borough. However, it had not been possible to find alternative areas to make the savings at the present time, but the Committee agreed to ask officers to look at alternative ways of covering costs, especially next year if there was a freedom to set liquor licensing fees to recover costs fully.

RESOLVED having considered the representations it was proposed and seconded that

1. the previous decision of the Committee regarding the setting of hackney carriage/private hire licence fees be reaffirmed; and
2. the new fees be introduced on 1 April 2011.

### **PART III – Brief summaries of other matters dealt with**

34. APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM PRIVATE HIRE PLATE DISPLAY  
(Agenda Item 6; Appendix B)

RESOLVED that Mr Widgery be granted exemption to display a private hire licence plate on any occasion when the vehicle was used for chauffeur purposes, in respect of his vehicle, Private Hire Plate no. 239.

**The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and concluded at 10.30 a.m.**

Chairman