

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE - 23 MAY 2022

SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING – 19 JULY 2022

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

Present

Cllr Robert Knowles (Chairman)	Cllr Patricia Ellis
Cllr Michael Goodridge (Vice Chairman)	Cllr Jerry Hyman
Cllr Martin D'Arcy	Cllr Jacquie Keen
Cllr Jerome Davidson	Cllr John Ward

Apologies

Cllr Roger Blishen and Cllr Anna James

Also Present

Councillor David Munro and Councillor Ruth Reed

LIC1/20 RE-ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN (Agenda item)

The Committee Members agreed the re-election of Cllr Robert Knowles as Chairman of the Committee and Cllr Michael Goodridge as Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

LIC2/20 MINUTES (Agenda item 1.)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

LIC3/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS (Agenda item 2.)

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Roger Blishen and Anna James.

Cllrs David Munro and Ruth Reed joined via Zoom.

LIC4/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda item 3.)

There were no Declarations of Interest submitted for this meeting.

LIC5/20 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (Agenda item 4.)

There were no questions submitted by members of the public for this meeting.

LIC6/20 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS (Agenda item 5.)

There were no questions submitted by members for this meeting.

PART I – RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

There were no items under this heading.

PART II – MATTERS OF REPORT

LIC7/20 ACTION AUTHORISED (Agenda item 6.)

There had no action been taken by the Executive Director following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman since the last meeting.

LIC8/20 HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES (Agenda item 7.)

Members received an overview of the report and papers circulated with the agenda. Members questioned why the booking fee had been removed as they felt this was cutting the taxi drivers earning potential despite the proposal to increase fares. Paul Hughes explained that the “Guildford Methodology”, which the Committee had previously agreed to, following the case of Rostron v Guildford Borough Council, excluded a booking fee. Members asked if the methodology took into account the rising fuel prices and were assured it did but also kept in mind if fuel prices go down.

Members felt that we should consider adding a booking fee.

Cllr Jerome Davidson proposed adding a discretionary booking fee element of up to £1 (representing an increase to the current booking fee in place within Waverley which amounts to 60 pence) and this was seconded by Cllr Jerry Hyman.

The Committee voted 5 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstained therefore the proposal was carried to add a recommendation for a discretionary booking fee at the sum of £1 suggested.

The Committee voted on the published recommendation (with proposed modification) and there were 7 in favour, none against and 1 abstention.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that the Executive agree the proposed advertised new maximum fare tariff (with the above booking fee modification) and to agree that the maximum fare tariff comes into effect on the 17 June 2022 (within 2 months of the first specified date (last date for objections on the scale of fares consultation 18 April 2022)).

LIC9/20 LETTER FROM MINISTER, KIT MALTHOUSE MP REGARDING DRINK SPIKING (Agenda item 8.)

The Committee **NOTED** the letter from Minister, Kit Malthouse MP circulated with the agenda. They agreed this was a worrying development and that it should be monitored closely. Paul Hughes advised that he had made enquiries with Surrey

Police Licensing officer and understood there was not currently a significant issue in Waverley but he reminded members that they could review a licence if an issue emerged in a Waverley establishment and impose conditions in appropriate cases.

LIC10/20 NATIONAL TAXI STANDARDS CONSULTATION (Agenda item 9.)

The members noted the information included with the agenda on the National Taxi Standards Consultation. They were informed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had responded formally to this and members were also encouraged to do so using the link provided on or before 20 June.

LIC11/20 LICENSING SUB GROUP A (Agenda item 10.)

Members noted the minutes of the Licensing Sub Group A meeting held on 25 November 2021.

LIC12/20 LICENSING SUB GROUP B (Agenda item 11.)

Members noted the minutes of the Licensing Sub Group B meeting held on 13 December 2021.

LIC13/20 LICENSING SUB GROUP C (Agenda item 12.)

Members noted the minutes of the Licensing Sub Group C meeting held on 28 February 2022.

LIC14/20 LICENSING & GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE (Agenda item 13.)

Members noted the minutes of the Licensing & General Purpose meetings held on 24 & 31 January 2022.

LIC15/20 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (Agenda item 14.)

There were no items to discuss in exempt session so the Chairman closed the meeting.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 10.51 am

Chairman