

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2014 commencing at 5.30 pm

Present: Cllr. Mrs. Morris (Chairman)

Cllr. Clark (Vice-Chairman)

Cllrs. Abraham, Cooke, Clark, Mrs. George, Mrs. Parkin, Piper and Raikes

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Davison, Orridge and Walshe

18. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on the 4 February 2014 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

19. Declarations of interest

No additional declarations of interest were made.

20. Actions from the previous meeting

There were none.

21. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing: License Fees 2014/15

The Licensing Partnership Manager presented a report which detailed the fees and associated costs for licences in respect of hackney carriage drivers and vehicles and private hire drivers, vehicles and operators. Communication was sent to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire licensees which asked for their views on the proposed increases in fees for the Taxi Licensing service. Only one comment was received.

In response to a question the Licensing Partnership Manager confirmed that there had been no changes to the report apart from the corrected typographical errors.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that there were no adverse equality impacts arising from the report.

Resolved: That it be recommended to Full Council that from 1 April 2014 the list of fees and associated costs for licences in respect of hackney carriage drivers and vehicles and private hire drivers, vehicles and operators be varied as set out in paragraph 7 of the report.

22. Adoption of Kent Licensing Compliance and Enforcement Protocol

The Licensing Partnership Manager presented a report which advised Members of the revised Kent and Medway Compliance and Enforcement Protocol. She explained that a

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working group of the Kent and Medway Regulatory Licensing Steering Group which included some of the 12 other Local Authorities and Kent Police met to review the existing protocol.

In response to a question the Licensing Partnership Manager explained that there were key factors which were considered for a risk rating on a premises. Each premises would be given a score and depending on what band it was in would then depend on how often the premises was visited.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that there were no adverse equality impacts arising from the report.

Resolved: That it be recommended to Full Council to adopt a revised Kent and Medway Compliance and Enforcement Protocol.

23. Making a Representation

The Licensing Partnership Manager tabled a copy of Making a Representation which explained the procedures for making a written representation and speaking at a Licensing Hearing. She explained that if a person wanted to represent someone who had made a valid representation the Council must be notified in writing prior to the hearing.

The Committee expressed their thanks to the Licensing Partnership Manager, the Print Studio and Democratic Services for putting the leaflet together.

Resolved: The report was noted.

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 5.50 PM

CHAIRMAN