Minutes of Licensing Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 27 November 2012, starting at 6.30pm

Present: Councillor J Alcock (Chairman)

Councillors:

P Ainsworth S Knox
I Brown C Ross
P Dowson G Scott
R Hargreaves R Swarbrick
K Hind M Thomas

J Holgate

In attendance: Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

485 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors S Brunskill and K Horkin.

486 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

487 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

488 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

489 FEES AND CHARGES

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services asked Committee to determine the annual fees for hackney carriage and private hire vehicle licences. Details were provided of the current fees for each type of licence.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services commented that in recent years licence fees had generally been uplifted annually in line with inflation. The Council was recommending the uplifting of fees based on 3% and details were given of the annual fees which would be increased from 1 April 2013.

TAXI LICENSING CHARGES	
PRIVATE HIRE & HACKNEY CARRIAGE	2013 from 1 April
	£
Driver's Renewal/Annual Licence	55.40
Temporary/Six month Licence	27.70
Replacement Driver's Badge	11.30
Vehicle Licences:	
ANNUAL – Up to 3 years old	154.80
6 MONTHS – Over 3 years but not exceeding 7 years	82.00
4 MONTHS – Over 7 years	58.40
Discount on previous Licence (1/12 th annual)	12.90 one full month
Transfer on Licence ownership	22.60
New or replacement:	
Plates	At cost plus
Brackets	10% admin
Private Hire Operators Licence	
(From 1 December to 30 November) per annum	143.50
for 5 vehicles or fewer, thereafter £11.75 per vehicle	
Log books (100 sheets) each	1.50
Knowledge test – first one free - paper	7.20
- in person	14.40

RESOLVED: That Committee agree to set the current fees with effect from 1 April 2013.

490 REVISION OF GAMBLING ACT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Committee were informed about the requirement to review the Council's Licensing Statement of Principles on the Gambling as required by the Gambling Act 2005 and Committee's view were sought about the amendment of the Statement.

Committee were reminded that the Gambling Act 2005 gave the Council responsibility for licensing a variety of types of premises for example betting offices and betting arcades. There were very few of such premises in the Council's area which held these licence, however many premises licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 also held permits under the Act for gaming machines.

The Act required Council's to have a Gambling Statement of Principles and to publish that Statement every 3 years and review it from time to time.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services reported there had been no representations about the Council's Statement since its inception. However Members were asked to consider the Statement in order that any changes Members may wish to make could be included in the Statement prior to consultation.

Finally if the draft Statement was approved by Committee the parties referred to in the draft Statement would be consulted with responses requested on or before the 31 January 2013, thereafter the draft would be referred to full Council for its approval.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the Statement and proposals for consultation as set out in the report.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Diane Rice (414418).