

LICENSING COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2011 AT COMMITTEE ROOM 1, BRADLEY ROAD OFFICES, TROWBRIDGE, WILTSHIRE.

Present:

Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Trevor Carbin (Reserve), Cllr George Jeans, Cllr Jacqui Lay (Reserve), Cllr Bill Moss, Cllr Nina Phillips and Cllr Bill Roberts

Also Present:

John Carter, Robert Draper, Kate Golledge, Lisa Pullin and Paul Taylor

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Richard Beattie, Peggy Dow, Rod Eaton, Jose Green, Mark Griffiths, Jon Hubbard and Jonathon Seed. Councillor Jacqui Lay was substituting for Councillor Eaton and Councillor Trevor Carbin for Councillor Hubbard.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2010 were presented.

Resolved:

To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2010.

3. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman made an announcement as follows:

As a result of the recent council-wide management review there has been a change in staffing in the licensing team managers. Kate Golledge remains the Licensing Manager for the North and West hubs. Sam Colley will be leaving the council at the end of January, and Rob Draper has been appointed as the Licensing Manager for the South and East hubs. Rob was previously Environmental Protection Team Manager for the South and East hubs.

4. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

5. **Public Participation**

The Chairman briefed members of the Committee and public present on the rules on public participation.

There was one member of the public wishing to speak in relation to item 7 of the agenda, and who was invited to do so before the item was discussed and determined by the Committee.

6. **Minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committees**

The Committee received the Minutes of the Northern Area Licensing Sub-Committee held on 23 November 2010.

Resolved:

To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Northern Area Licensing Sub-Committee held on 23 November 2010.

7. **Increase of Taxi Tariff North Zone**

Kate Golledge (Licensing Manager, North and West) introduced her report which set out the responses to the proposed increase of the taxi tariff in the Northern Wiltshire Council administrative area following public consultation.

Key points raised included:

- Current disparities in tariffs between Northern and other areas;
- Last revision to Northern area tariff was in 2008, with significant increases in fleet running costs subsequently, e.g. fuel prices, VAT;
- Rationale for the proposed tariff in its present form;
- Consultation undertaken in developing the proposal;
- Long-term aim of harmonising the four areas' tariff systems; and
- Risk of legal challenge to Council if no solution reached by March 2011.

Mr Michael Simpkins, owner of 24/7 Taxis, based in Corsham, spoke in support of the proposed new tariff.

Members of the Committee then asked technical questions and a discussion ensued regarding the information contained in the agenda pack, subsequent public representations on the issue, further information from the Licensing Manager and the public speaker's comments on the day.

The motion to approve the officer's recommendation in its unchanged form was put to the vote and it was,

Resolved:

That the Committee agree to implement the revised tariff detailed below, to come into force as of 14 February 2011.

For journeys starting	Vehicles up to 4 seats		Vehicles with more than 4 seats carrying more than 4 passengers		
0700 hours – 2159 hours	Tariff 1		Tariff 2		
2200 hours – 0159 hours And all day on Sundays, Bank Holidays, Public Holidays and Easter Sunday and after 8pm Christmas Eve & New Years Eve	Tariff 2		Tariff 4		
0200 hours – 0659 hours And all day on 25 December, 26 December and 1 January	Tariff 3		Tariff 5		
	Tariff 1	Tariff 2	Tariff 3	Tariff 4	Tariff 5
Journeys up to 528 yards (3/10 mile)	£2.60	£3.75	£4.90	£6.30	£8.20
Subsequent 176 yards (1/10 mile)	20p	25p	30p	35p	40p
Waiting time	30p per minute				
Soiling charge	£100 (minimum)				

8. **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 - 10.50 am)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Lisa Pullin, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 713015, e-mail lisa.pullin@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications, direct line (01225) 713114/713115