

## LICENSING COMMITTEE

1.00 P.M.

5TH JANUARY 2023

**PRESENT:-** Councillors Colin Hartley (Chair), Mike Greenall (Vice-Chair), Gerry Blaikie, Andrew Gardiner, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Sally Maddocks and Margaret Pattison

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Roger Cleet

Officers in attendance:

Jennifer Curtis	Licensing Manager
Daniel Spencer	Lawyer
Jasmine Elkins	Licensing Officer
Phillip Abel	Democratic Support Officer
Claire Helme	Democratic Support Officer

### 53 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2022 were signed by the Chair as a correct record

### 54 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR

There were no items of urgent business

### 55 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Sally Maddocks declared an interest in relation to Agenda Item 7, Existing Dual Driver's Licence Holder, having previously worked with the complainant regarding unrelated matters in the capacity of Ward Councillor but was satisfied that she could hear the application fairly and impartially.

### WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE THE CHAIR BROUGHT FORWARD ITEM 6 AND 7

### 56 EXEMPT ITEM

It was moved by Councillor Gardiner, seconded by Councillor Greenall and unanimously agreed:

***Resolved:***

That, in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds they could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

**57 EXISTING DUAL DRIVER'S LICENCE HOLDER (PAGES 4 - 5)**

The Committee received the report of the Licensing Manager for the purpose of determining a dual driver's licence (Hackney Carriage & Private Hire) renewal application.

Details of the individual case and the Chair's summary of the decision are set out in Exempt Minute No. 57 in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

***Decision of the Committee:***

The decision of the Committee is set out in Exempt Minute No 57.

**THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE RE-ADMITTED TO THE MEETING****58 HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE REVIEW 2023/24**

The Licensing Manager presented a report to update the Committee on the proposal to introduce a new fare tariff in relation to licensed hackney carriages operating in the Lancaster district. Members of the Licensing Committee were required to refer their findings for decision to the next Cabinet meeting.

The Committee was advised that Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 made provision for the Council to fix the rates of fares within the district for time, distance, and all other charges in connection with the hire of a hackney carriage. The table of fares is attached to the inside of a hackney carriage; this allows members of the public to view all charges when hiring a vehicle. The current table of fares was appended to the agenda report for consideration by the Committee.

The Licensing Manager advised that the licensing trade favoured the implementation of Option 2 which was to apply the retail price index (RPI) across the tariff, including flag fall and rolling rate, rounding down to the nearest 5p and that this methodology had been approved by Cabinet in April 2022. The fixed rate soiling charge of £100 would also need to be reconsidered. This methodology would be applied to the tariff annually using the RPI from November (14%). The Committee were also asked to consider amending the soiling charges.

An additional proposal was introduced by Councillor Hamilton-Cox to apply an increase on the flag rate of 20p - from £3.00 to £3.20 (7%); and that the rolling rate increases by 10% by reducing the increment from 176 yards to 160 yards per 20p.

After discussing all the options available it was agreed unanimously that:

"That the Committee propose an increase on the flag rate of 20p from £3.00 to £3.20 (7%); and that the rolling rate increases by 10% by reducing the increment from 176 yards to 160 yards per 20p."

It was agreed to take the above proposal to Cabinet.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That a report be submitted to report the Committee's findings and propose that Cabinet increase the flag fall by 7% and increase the rolling rate by 10% by reducing the increment from 176 yards to 160 yards per 20p.
- (2) That the Committee recommend that there be no change to the soiling charge.

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Chair

(The meeting ended at 2.40 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
Democratic Services - email [democracy@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@lancaster.gov.uk)**

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