

**LICENSING REGULATORY  
COMMITTEE**

**1.00 P.M.**

**13TH NOVEMBER 2014**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Margaret Pattison (Chairman), Mike Greenall (Vice-Chairman), Roger Dennison, Jonathan Dixon, Tim Hamilton-Cox, John Harrison, Tony Johnson, Roger Mace and Robert Redfern

Officers in Attendance:

Mark Cullinan	Chief Executive
Sarah Taylor	Chief Officer (Governance) and Monitoring Officer (for Minute Nos. 51 to 52 only)
Luke Gorst	Assistant Solicitor
David Eglin	Licensing Officer
Debbie Rose	Licensing Enforcement Officer (for Minute Nos. 44 to 50 only)
Annabelle Holloway	Legal Apprentice
Jane Glenton	Democratic Support Officer

**44 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**45 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIRMAN**

There were no items of urgent business.

**46 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made at this point in the meeting.

**47 EXEMPT ITEMS**

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

**48 EXISTING HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DUAL DRIVER'S LICENCE - ARSHAD MAHMOOD (PAGES 5 - 8)**

The Committee received the report of the Licensing Manager to enable Members to consider whether there was reasonable cause to suspend or revoke Mr. Mahmood's hackney carriage and private hire dual driver's licence.

Details of the individual case and the Chairman's summary of the decision are set out in Exempt Minute No. 48, in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972.

***Decision of the Committee:***

That Mr. Mahmood's hackney carriage and private hire dual driver's licence be revoked with immediate effect.

***The meeting adjourned for 5 minutes.***

**49 EXISTING HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE - MICHAEL KELLY (PAGES 9 - 11)**

Committee received the report of the Licensing Manager to enable Members to consider whether there was reasonable cause to suspend or revoke Mr. Kelly's hackney carriage driver's licence.

Details of the individual case and the Chairman's summary of the decision are set out in Exempt Minute No. 49, in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972.

***Decision of the Committee:***

That Mr. Kelly's hackney carriage driver's licence be suspended for 2 days.

**50 PUBLIC ITEMS**

The press and public were readmitted to the meeting at this point.

***Debbie Rose, Licensing Enforcement Officer, left the meeting at this point.***

***The Chief Officer (Governance) joined the meeting at this point.***

***Councillor Mace declared an interest in the following item, being a member of the Standards Committee.***

**51 PROTOCOL ON LICENSING PROCEDURE**

The Committee received the report of the Monitoring Officer to enable the Committee to consider a draft Protocol on Licensing Procedure for inclusion in the Council's Constitution.

It was reported that, in reviewing the Constitution, the Monitoring Officer had felt that it would be helpful to Members to have a Protocol to deal with licensing matters falling within the terms of reference of both the Licensing Regulatory Committee and the Licensing Act Committee, similar to the Protocol on Planning Procedure contained in Part 7 of the Council's Constitution.

A draft Protocol had therefore been prepared and was appended to the report. It was intended that the draft Protocol on Licensing Procedure appended to the report would be referred to the Standards Committee as the body responsible for advising the Council on local protocols regarding the conduct of Members.

***Resolved:***

That the report be noted.

**52 TAXI FORUM**

The Committee received the report of the Chief Officer (Governance) to enable the Committee to consider the future of the Taxi Forum and its possible replacement by a regular 'surgery' to be held by the Chairman of the Committee, supported by officers, as appropriate.

It was reported that, following discussions with the Chairman of Licensing Regulatory Committee, it had been suggested that a more effective mechanism than the Taxi Forum for consultation with the trade would be to hold regular 'surgery' type sessions throughout the district, where the Chairman would be available, supported by the appropriate officers, to meet with any individual member of the trade.

It was proposed by Councillor Hamilton-Cox and seconded by Councillor Johnson:

"That the Taxi Forums continue without officer support."

Upon being put to the vote, 3 Members voted in favour of the proposition and 6 against, whereupon the Chairman declared the proposal to be lost.

It was then proposed by Councillor Dennison and seconded by Councillor Redfern:

"That in place of the Taxi Forum, a Local Forum be established, held by the Chairman, supported by officers, and attended by any members of the Licensing Regulatory Committee who wish to attend, to enable individual members of the trade to raise issues of concern, on a confidential basis if they so wish, but with any significant issue raised at the Forum being the subject of a report to the Committee and, if appropriate, the subject of full written consultation with all proprietors, with meetings alternating between Lancaster and Morecambe Town Halls."

It was then proposed by Councillor Dixon, by way of friendly amendment, that the proposal be reviewed in June 2015.

The proposer and seconder accepted this as a friendly amendment.

Upon being put to the vote, 5 Members voted in favour of the amended proposition and 3 against, with 1 abstention, whereupon the Chairman declared the proposal to be carried.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That in place of the Taxi Forum, a Local Forum be established, held by the Chairman, supported by officers, and attended by any members of the Licensing Regulatory Committee who wish to attend, to enable individual members of the trade to raise issues of concern, on a confidential basis if they so wish, but with any significant issue raised at the Forum being the subject of a report to the Committee and, if appropriate, the subject of full written consultation with all proprietors, with meetings alternating between Lancaster and Morecambe Town Halls.
- (2) That the proposal be reviewed in June 2015.

Councillors Harrison, Johnson and Mace requested that it be recorded that they had voted against the proposal.

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Chairman

(The meeting ended at 3.50 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
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