

Minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 16th December 2010 from 6.00 p.m. to 6.50 p.m.

Present: Chris Hersey (Chairman)
Julian Thorpe (Vice-Chairman)

Andrew Brock*
Ian Dixon*
Kathleen Dumbovic*
Bernard Gillbard

Jane Keel
Graham Knight*
Jacqui Landriani*
Gordon Marples

Gary Marsh*
Susan Ng*
Peter Reed
Robert Salisbury*

Absent

20. SUBSTITUTES AT MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE – COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 4

The Sub-Committee noted that no substitutes had been notified in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4 – Substitutes at Meetings of Committees etc.

21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Brock, Dumbovic, Landriani and Marsh.

22. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No Declarations of Interest were made.

23. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 13th October 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor Marples asked Officers for an update on Minute 19 of the minutes.

Officers said no further responses had been received from Wealden District Council. Members requested that, should no response be received from them by the middle of January 2011, the matter be raised with the Leader for him to raise with Wealden District Council's Leader direct.

24. DENTS AND SCRATCHES POLICY

The Committee considered reinstating the 'Cents and Scratches' licence condition to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle licence.

The Committee noted that these licence conditions were suspended in 2009 following representation from the Taxi Association. This Committee reviewed that decision in June 2010 when it was agreed that the Taxi Licensing Officer should undertake further monitoring on the impact of the removal of the 'Dents and Scratches' conditions and report his finding to a future meeting of the Committee.

A Member identified various issues with the documentation attached to the Agenda. The Legal Officer informed the Committee that as part of the preparation of the Taxi

Licensing Policy the documentation the Members referred to was going to be reviewed and amended as necessary before forming part of the Policy.

RESOLVED

That Condition (a) on the “Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Fitness Inspection Schedule”, relating to the exterior condition of vehicles, Condition 16 of the Hackney Carriage Vehicle licence and condition 23 of the Private Hire Vehicle licence be reinstated from the 1st March 2011.

The Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Officer write to all proprietors and testing stations informing them of the date the Policy is to be reintroduced.

Chairman.