

## **Minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2011 from 6.00 p.m. to 6.45 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

### **25. SUBSTITUTES AT MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE – COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 4**

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

### **26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Landriani and Councillor Brock.

### **27. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No Declarations of Interest were made.

### **28. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **29. INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES 2011**

The Committee received an application from the Mid Sussex Taxi Association for an increase in the Hackney Carriage fares.

The Committee noted that the Association had requested an increase in Hackney Carriage fares from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 on the grounds of fuel prices and the impact of the Private Hire fleet working in the Mid Sussex area.

### **RESOLVED**

That:-

- (1) the Hackney Tariff be increased by a standard 20p per fare, to take into account the increase in fuel costs from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011; and
- (2) Officers to meet with the Mid Sussex Taxi Association in the December of each year to review the tariff to be set for the next 12 months starting from 1<sup>st</sup> April of the following year.

**30. REVIEW OF LICENCE FEES AND CHARGES FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2011**

The Committee considered increasing the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle licence fees and charges by 4% in order to maintain the current level of service, and to avoid the service operating at a loss.

The Committee also considered whether the number of bands reflecting the size of the fleet be expanded from three to five to take into account the time and cost involved in the administration and enforcement of the operators' licence. The Committee noted that this would particularly impact on fleets of over 50 vehicles. The Committee also noted details of the proposed District Council bandings compared to neighbouring authorities

**RESOLVED**

That the increase in Licensing fees for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles be approved.

Chairman.