

# Agenda Item 1.

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2014 FROM 7:00PM TO 7:25PM

*Present:- Chris Bowring (Chairman), Malcolm Richards (Vice Chairman), Michael Firmager, Kay Gilder, Mike Gore, Mike Haines, Abdul Loyes, Ken Miall, Barrie Patman and Dee Tomlin.*

### **PART I**

#### **1. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 18 March 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors Lesley Hayward, Philip Houldsworth, Chris Singleton and Bill Soane.

#### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were submitted.

#### **4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no Public questions.

#### **5. MEMBER QUESTION TIME**

There were no Member questions.

#### **6. TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE (DUAL) THREE YEAR DRIVER LICENCES**

The Committee received a report, as set out on Agenda pages 3 to 9, which set out the options available for taxi and private hire (dual) three year driver licences.

The Committee was advised that drivers had been consulted and had responded positively to the proposals. Officers would still carry out annual checks on driving licences but this would be an on-line system and the onus would be on the driver to advise the Council of any change in circumstances.

**RESOLVED:** That a three year driver licensing policy be adopted as of 1 April 2015.

#### **7. LICENSING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15**

The Committee received a report, as set out on Agenda pages 10 to 13, which gave Members an update on the 2014/15 work programme and provided some headline commentary on the unallocated items which were identified at the beginning of the current financial year.

The Committee was advised that there was an error in the report in that on page 11, Unallocated Items – Review of the Procedure for Setting the Taxi tariff (Sept 2014) should read as follows:

“Review of the Procedure for Setting the fees for the Taxi and Private Hire (Dual) Three Year Driver Licences”,

which was considered earlier in the meeting.

The Committee was also advised that the Shared Licensing Service was attempting to streamline both Wokingham Borough and West Berkshire Councils' work programmes.

**RESOLVED:** That the Licensing and Appeals Committee's work programme for 2014/15 be noted.

## **8. HEARINGS UPDATE**

The Committee received a report, as set out on Agenda pages 14 and 15, which gave an update on the outcome of Sub-Committees and Appeal Hearings that had taken place since the last meeting of the Committee.

The Chairman had requested a summary of all Sub-Committee and Appeal Hearing outcomes for the last municipal year, as well as a summary of Sub-Committees and Appeal Hearings that had been held from the beginning of this municipal year. This was circulated at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the information contained in the report be noted.

*These are the Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing and Appeals Committee.*

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