

## **Cherwell District Council**

### **Licensing Committee**

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Committee held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA, on 11 June 2009 at 1.00 pm

Present: Councillor Eric Heath (Chairman)

Councillor Tony Ilott  
Councillor Fred Blackwell  
Councillor Mrs Diana Edwards  
Councillor Michael Gibbard  
Councillor P A O'Sullivan  
Councillor G A Reynolds  
Councillor Rose Stratford  
Councillor Douglas Webb  
Councillor John Wyse

Apologies  
for  
absence: Councillor Margaret Cullip

Officers: Chris Rothwell, Head of Urban & Rural Services  
Natasha Barnes, Licensing & Vehicle Parks Manager  
Claire Bold, Licensing Team Leader  
Colin Giles, Licensing Inspector Officer  
Alexa Coates, Senior Democratic and Scrutiny Officer

#### **3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **4 Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting**

The Chairman advised the committee that Mr Hyatt, representing Cherwell Valley Hackney Association and Mr Lyons, representing the North Oxfordshire Hackney Association, had requested to address the meeting at agenda item 7, Licensing of Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles.

#### **5 Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

6 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7 **Minutes of the Licensing Sub Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 April 2009**

Minutes of the Licensing Sub Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 April 2009 were noted by the committee.

8 **Licensing of Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles**

The committee considered a report of the Head of Urban and Rural Services presenting a review of vehicle specification documents for the licensing of taxi and private hire vehicles.

The committee discussed the vehicle specification and made comments so Officers could consult on the proposed document.

Mr Hyatt and Mr Lyon addressed the committee.

**Resolved**

- 1) That the recommendations relating to the consultation on the vehicle specification documents for the licensing of taxi and private hire vehicles as set out in Annex 1 in the minute book be agreed with the following amendments:
  - a) Ref no 1.8 that options and costs implications of an out of hours vehicle inspection service be explored in the consultation document and that a definition of major and minor incidents be added to the specification.
  - b) Ref no 3.4 that Officers investigate the use of mileage or emissions as an alternative to age restriction when granting a vehicle licence for a vehicle which is more than 5 years old, considering mileage and emissions.
  - c) Ref no 3.5 that the council policy not to renew the license of any vehicle once it is more that 7 years old be suspended until the end of September.
  - d) Ref no 8.1 that the labelling of where the first aid kit and fire extinguisher is located in the vehicle be added to the consultation.
- 2) That suggested changes to the knowledge testing be included in the consultation.

## **Consultation on Licensing Matters**

The committee considered a report of the Head of Urban and Rural Services which sought authority for Officers to respond to any Licensing consultation documents in discussion with the Chairman or Vice-Chairman in his absence.

### **Resolved**

That Officers be authorised to respond to formulate a response in consultation with the Chairman or Vice-Chairman in his absence to relevant consultation documents on behalf of the Licensing Committee

The meeting ended at 2.45 pm

Chairman:

Date: