



LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

- MEETING** : Tuesday, 15th June 2021
- PRESENT** : Cllrs. Walford (Chair), Ackroyd, Bowkett, Chambers-Dubus, Finnegan, Hyman, Patel, Radley and Tracey

Officers in Attendance

Head of Communities
Licensing Team Leader
Senior Lawyer, One Legal
Democratic & Electoral Services Officer

- APOLOGIES** : Cllrs. Brooker, O`Donnell and Williams

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Councillor Walford was confirmed as Chair of the committee.

The appointment of Vice-Chair is deferred following the Chair proposing and the committee agreeing that further discussions should be held.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 16th March 2021 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

4. MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on the 1st April 2021 were received.

5. MINUTES OF LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT SUB-COMMITTEES

No member indicated that they wished to discuss the content of the exempt minutes. Therefore, it was not necessary to exclude the press and public.

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RESOLVED that the exempt minutes of the Licensing and Enforcement sub-committee held on the 23rd March, 2021 were received.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

There were no public questions.

7. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES, MAXIMUM 3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

There were no petitions or deputations.

8. TAXI TARIFF

The Licensing Team leader read a statement which summarised the contents of the report of the Head of Communities. The report outlined to members a proposal submitted by Gloucester Hackney Carriage Association (GHCA) for an increase to the current Hackney Carriage tariff.

Councillor Bowkett asked how the proposed 6.5% increase to the Hackney Carriage tariff had been calculated.

Through the Chair, a local driver and member of the Gloucester Hackney Carriage Association (GCHA) replied that the previous increase in tariff had taken place in 2017. He stated that if the proposed increase had been entirely based of inflation rates, the proposed increase would come to 8-10% but that 6.5% was agreed to be a good compromise. He stated that other drivers in the trade had been consulted on the proposed 6.5% increase and approximately 70% of those who responded had agreed that it was a sensible compromise. He stated that the increase of 6.5% would keep rates below that of Cheltenham and Stroud. He added that in January 2020, the GHCA had proposed an increase to taxi tariffs but that owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was agreed to halt the proposed increase. He stated that he and other drivers in the trade were confident that the 6.5% increase would mean that they could offer customers a good service for a fair price.

RESOLVED that the proposed increase to the Hackney Carriage tariff is advertised as a public notice in accordance with the requirements of Section 65, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

AND

If no objections are received from the public within 14 days of publication of the notice that the proposed tariff will come into effect from 1st August 2021.

OR

If objections are received within the 14 days, then the matter will be considered further at the September meeting of the Licensing and Enforcement Committee.

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9. QUARTERLY UPDATE

The Licensing Team Leader asked members whether they understood the contents of the report and whether they had any queries on any aspect of it.

Members indicated that they had read the report and understood its content.

RESOLVED that the Licensing and Enforcement Committee note the contents of the report.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 14th September 2021 at 6.30 p.m in Civic Suite, North Warehouse.

Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours

Time of conclusion: 6.44 pm hours

Chair