

# Swindon Borough Council

## Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing Sub-Committee

**Friday, 10 March 2006**

Committee Room 3, Civic Offices, Swindon (Anticipated meeting room)

**At 12.15 p.m.**

**Conservative  
Councillors**

Andy Albinson  
Michael Dickinson  
Brian Ford  
Colin Lovell  
David Wren

**Labour  
Councillors**

David Glaholm

**Liberal Democrat  
Councillors**

Mike Every

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## **AGENDA**

### **PART 1 (PUBLIC ITEMS)**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Minutes** (Pages 1 - 2)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2005.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

**4. Exempt Items - Exclusion of Press and Public**

*Certain items are expected to include the consideration of exempt information and the Sub-Committee is, therefore, recommended to resolve "That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act".*

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Paragraph No.</u>
6	4

**5. Public Question Time**

See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance.

## **PART 2 (TO BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT THE PRESS AND PUBLIC PRESENT)**

### **6. Application for Private Hire Drivers Licence (Pages 3 - 18)**

**Date of Despatch:** 03 March 2006

**Public Question Time** - Swindon Borough Council is committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. Up to 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from members of the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters and specific planning applications). Questions must be relevant, clear and concise. Because of time constraints Public Question Time is not an opportunity to make speeches or statements. Prior notice of a question to the Director of Law and Democratic Services is desirable - particularly if detailed background information is needed.

**Access Arrangements** – The Venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you would wish to attend the meeting but have any special requirement to enable you to do so please contact the Committee Clerk above, as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

If you would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size please contact the Committee Officer whose name appears on the first page of this agenda.

**PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, 4 OCTOBER 2005**

PRESENT:- Councillors Cloin Lovell (Chair), Andy Albinson, Michael Dickinson (vice-Chair), Mike Every, David Glaholm and Andy Harrison.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Brian Ford

**1. Appointment of Chair**

Resolved – That Councillor Colin Lovell be Chair of this Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year, 2005/06.

**2. Appointment of Vice-Chair**

Resolved – That Councillor Michael Dickinson be Vice-Chair of this Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year, 2005/06.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. No declarations were made.

**4. Minutes**

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2005, be confirmed and signed.

**5. Exempt Items - Exclusion of Press and Public**

Resolved - That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in Item 5 of the Notice of the Meeting on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act. (Minute 7 refers.)

**6. Public Question Time**

Mr Keith Radway asked the Chair why the minutes of the last Licensing Committee were not a verbatim record of the meeting. The minutes didn't set out everything said at the meeting and members of the public were therefore not able to see what had been said.

The Chair responded that minutes were a record of decisions made and were not intended to be a verbatim record of the meeting.

Mr. Keith Radway indicated that a Councillor on the Sub-Committee had

referred to him as a dinosaur and that this had not been recorded. He believed that the meeting should have been stopped and an apology given to him.

The Chair confirmed that there was no reference to this in the Committee Clerk's notes. Councillor Harrison clarified that this comment was used with reference to the system of regulations pertaining to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles currently in operation and not any individual.

Mr. Keith Radway referred to previous comments by officers regarding Hackney Carriages being able to use Bus Lanes at night.

The Chair indicated that this was a question better asked of the Cabinet member for Transport.

Mr. Keith Radway asked about the Council's Policy on the re-plating of vehicles over 5 years old and referred to a letter he had received on this subject dated 20<sup>th</sup> September 2001. Vehicles over 5 years old had been re-plated for a number of years and this policy had apparently changed without discussion or notice to the trade.

The Chair asked officers to investigate this matter and to submit a report to a future meeting of this Sub-Committee setting out the Council's policy for licensing vehicles, including, type of vehicles and age limits. He further requested that officers consult Hackney and Private Hire Operators when preparing this report.

## **7. Application for Private Hire Drivers Licence**

The Sub-Committee considered (a) a report of the Director of Environment and Leisure setting out an application for a Private Hire drivers licence that officers were unable to determine under delegated powers, and (b) comments by the applicant in support of his appeal.

Resolved – That, given the exceptional circumstance set out in the appeal, and given the period of time the applicant has currently been without a Private Hire drivers licence, the appeal be upheld and the driver named in the report be granted a Private Hire drivers licence.

## Agenda Item 6

By virtue of paragraph(s) 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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