

PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2008

PRESENT:- Councillors Andrew Bennett (Chair), Michael Bray (Vice-Chair), John Ballman, Fay Howard, Eric Shaw, Vera Tomlinson and David Wren.

Councillor Doreen Dart was also in attendance.

18. 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.

19. Public Question Time

No public questions were received during the meeting.

20. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2008, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

21. 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 in Agenda Item 7 on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information concerned (Minute 23 refers.)

22. Use of Bus Lanes by Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles

The Group Director, Environment and Regeneration submitted a report setting out (a) a decision of the Cabinet to allow licensed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles to use bus lanes within Swindon Borough, and (b) actions required to facilitate the decision of the Cabinet.

Resolved – (1) That the decision of the Cabinet to allow licensed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles to use bus lanes, but not bus gates, within Swindon Borough be noted.

(2) That the wording of the additional licensing condition for Private Hire Vehicles, as set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report, be approved.

(3) That further to (2) above, a charge of £10 per annum, or cost of production and issue in future years, per set of signs be made upon renewal of Private Hire Vehicle Licences.

(4) That Cabinet Members be advised of the actions agreed by this Sub-Committee.

23.

Application for Private Hire Drivers Licence

The Sub-Committee considered (a) a report of the Group Director, Environment and Regeneration setting out an application for a Private Hire Drivers Licence that officers were unable to determine under delegated powers, (b) representations by the applicant and his legal advisor in support of his appeal, and (c) a copy of a written statement submitted by the applicant in support of his appeal.

Resolved – That, the appeal be refused and the driver named in the report be advised of his right to appeal the decision of this Committee to the Swindon Magistrates Court.