

Swindon Borough Council

Licensing Committee

Friday, 19 May 2017

Council Chamber, Civic Offices

At 3.34 p.m. (or upon the rising of the Appointments Committee)

To: All Councillors

Committee Officer: Shaun Banks (Telephone: 01793 463606)

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes (Pages 3 - 4)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 1st December 2016.

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. 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.

5. Local Government Act 1989 - Section 15: Political Balance Arrangements

"That Committees be reminded of their duty to carry out a review under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and recommended that, having carried out the review, they continue to apply the political balance provisions." (Recommendation to the meeting of Swindon Borough Council on 19th May 2017.)

(See report of Director of Law and Democratic Services to Annual Meeting of the Borough Council for details of the political balance arrangements.)

6. Appointment of Sub-Committees and Panel

(a) Ad Hoc Licensing Sub-Committee. (Recommended Membership - 7 Members on a basis of four Conservative Group Members and three Labour Group Members.)

(b) Private Hire/Hackney Carriage Licensing Sub-Committee. (Recommended

Membership - 7 Members on a basis of four Conservative Group Members and three Labour Group Members.)

(c) Licensing Panel. (Recommended Membership - 3 Members to be drawn from the Membership of this Committee.)

Date of Despatch: 09 May 2017

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above or to the Director of Law and Democratic Services, we will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website.

(<http://www5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

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.

LICENSING COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 1 DECEMBER 2016

PRESENT:- Councillor Vera Tomlinson in the Chair: Councillors Abdul Amin, Malcolm Davies, Paul Dixon, Steph Exell, Nick Martin, Cathy Martyn, Derique Montaut, Maureen Penny, Carol Shelley, Caryl Sydney-Smith, Nadine Watts and Peter Watts.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Alan Bishop.

20. 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.

21. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2016, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

22. Public Question Time

Mr Keith Radway of Swindon Black Cabs asked questions regarding (a) the notice period for calling the meeting, (b) the public notice in the evening advertiser with regard to the proposed changes in Hackney Carriage fares, (c) the wording of the public notice in the evening advertiser with regard to the proposed changes in Hackney Carriage fares, and (d) the legality of the petition supporting changes in Hackney Carriage fares. The Chair responded at the meeting.

23. Review of Hackney Carriage Tariffs

The Committee considered (a) a report of the Council's Licensing Manager setting out (i) objections to the maximum scale of fares for licensed Hackney Carriage operators within the Borough, (ii) the current scale of fares, (iii) a petition in support of the current scale of fares, (iv) a petition opposing the current scale of fares, (b) the views of Mr Keith Radway of Swindon Black Cabs opposing any amendment to the Hackney Carriage fares structure, (c) the views of Mr Mark Bates (Chair, Swindon Taxi Association) and Mr Andrew Lucas (Hackney Carriage Driver) supporting the reduction of the 30p rate for each 129.3 or 27.2 seconds in the current Night Rate, and (d) questions from Councillors to Mr Bates, Mr White, Mr Lucas and Mr Radway and the Council's Licensing Manager in respect of the proposed hackney carriage scale of fees.

Resolved – (1) That the revised maximum scale of fares for Hackney Carriage Tariffs as set out in Appendix 2 to the report of the Council's Licensing Manager be approved.

(2) That this Committee not consider any further amendment to the Hackney Carriage Tariffs until after 1st December 2017.

24. Introduction of a Licensing Regime for Sex Establishments

The Committee considered (a) a report setting out a proposed Sex Establishment Policy for the Borough and (b) comments received as part of the Council's consultation on the proposed policy.

Resolved – (1) That, subject to the term “Bright Lighting” being replaced with “Effective Lighting” within the policy document, the Sex Establishment Venues policy set out as an appendix to the report be approved and commended to the Council for adoption.

(2) That subject to (1) above and the adoption of the policy by the Council, the newly adopted policy be reviewed no later than 2021 or at such time as legislative changes require.