

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 16th 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 20th 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.