

**NOTE OF A TAXI CONSULTATIVE MEETING
HELD ON 24th NOVEMBER 2011
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT

Councillor P. McCormick (In the Chair)
Councillor M. Horsfield
Councillor M. Iqbal
Councillor J. Purcell
Councillor G. Roach
Councillor K. Shore (Mrs)

16 representatives from the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Trade

IN ATTENDANCE

Peter Atkinson – Engineering and Special Projects Manager
Jackie Allen - Taxi Licensing Officer
Imtiaz Ahmed – Taxi Enforcement Officer
Sarah Waterworth – Committee Administrator



Councillor McCormick opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. The following issues were raised by members and private hire and hackney carriage representatives:-

1. Issues raised from the newsletter No. 10 November 2011.

- (a) The Taxi Licensing Manager reported that complaints were still being received regarding taxis parking in the precinct and Skelton Street and asked the trade to only use the rank and leave the rest of the Centre for shoppers.
Councillor Roach raised concerns regarding taxis using in the bus bay across from the Venue Club, Albert Road, Colne as a pick up and drop off point.
Mr. Ilyas said the trade did not have enough ranks in Colne. The Taxi Licensing Manager asked that Mr Ilyas put forward suggestions as to where another rank could be placed in Colne.
- (b) The Taxi Manager reiterated that if hackney carriages were being used for private hire work, the driver must only start charging (meter) from the commencement of the journey and not from the office/rank.
- (c) The trade were informed that the insurance stickers were now part of the taxi test and any vehicles not displaying the stickers would not pass the test and be issued with three penalty points.
- (d) The drivers where asked that if they were picking up or dropping off at the White Bar, Barrowford to park on the road and not on the pavement.

2. Arrangements for the booking in of vehicles for taxi tests.

The Taxi Licensing Manager explained that the current booking in system was working well, and up to 10 vehicles were being tested a day. The trade requested that they could revert back to the old style system where they booked taxi tests direct with the garage. No

complaints had been from the trade. Councillor Iqbal explained that if the trade had any complaints with the present system they should put it in writing.

3. MOT Certificates

Mr. Saeed requested that a VOSA MOT be accepted every six months instead of the taxi test. Mr Khan asked that if this wasn't possible he requested that there be 4 approved garages to carry out the taxi testing.