

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TAXI AND OTHER LICENSING COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, NELSON
ON 15TH FEBRUARY, 2018**

PRESENT -

Councillor D. Clegg (Chairman – in the chair)

Councillors

*M. Arshad
N. Butterworth
M. Iqbal
K. Shore
J. Starkie (Substitute for J. Cooney)
C. Wakeford*

Officers in attendance

<i>Howard Culshaw</i>	<i>Head of Legal Services</i>
<i>Jackie Allen</i>	<i>Taxi Licensing Manager</i>
<i>Mick Armfield</i>	<i>Licensing Enforcement Officer</i>
<i>Sarah Waterworth</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>

(Apologies were received from Councillors J. Cooney, D. Lord and J. Nixon)

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The following person attended the meeting and spoke on the item indicated:

Tariq Hussain	Results of Spot Checks	Minute No. 28
Tariq Hussain	Taxi Penalty Point and Vehicle Standards	Minute No. 29
Tariq Hussain	Taxi Licensing Convictions Policy Guidelines	Minute No. 30

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25. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the requirements of the Member Code of Conduct concerning the Declaration of Interests.

26. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Shaffa Ahmed made reference to the poor standard of the roads within Pendle and that the taxi trade were struggling to cover the cost of damages made to vehicle by pot holes. He estimated the bill would be in the proximity of £173k to repair the vehicles and keep the up to standard. He said that the Taxi Licensing Department should not be taking cars off the road when spot checks are carried out if the damage has been caused by the poor road conditions. He asked what the Council were doing to address the state of the roads and if work is not carried out quickly the trade would refuse to attend spot checks and drive their vehicles.

The Chairman explained that the highways were the responsibility of Lancashire County Council (LCC) and that the trade should submit any complaints to them along with any quotes for damage caused by the poor conditions of the roads.

Councillor Iqbal explained that as Leader of the Council he had sent a letter to LCC regarding the standard of the roads in Pendle and asked that the responsibility of the highway be subcontracted to Pendle Council.

RESOLVED

That a letter be sent from the chairman of the Taxi and Other Licensing Committee, sign by the three political parties urging LCC to take immediate action regarding the poor conditions of the roads throughout Pendle.

27.

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the proceedings of the Taxi and Other Licensing meeting held on 1st February, 2018.

28.

RESULTS OF A SPOT CHECK

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager reported for information. That a joint spot check on licensed vehicles was carried out during the evening of 10th November, 2017 at Norfolk Street Garage, with the Driver and Vehicles Standards Agency (DVSA). 13 vehicles were tested with 6 taken off the road for mechanical faults.

RESOLVED

That a letter be sent to the trade congratulating them on the rise in pass rates of vehicles tested.

29.

TAXI PENALTY POINT AND VEHICLE STANDARDS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report regarding the outcome of the working group meetings and to propose a new policy for consultation.

RESOLVED

That the continued operation of the existing points scheme and consultation on the mechanical fitness standards be agreed.

REASON

In order to ensure that Pendle has a workable policy to ensure that vehicles are safe and that taxis are operated in a safe way.

30.

TAXI LICENSING CONVICTIONS POLICY GUIDELINES

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report regarding updates to the Licensing Policy in order to determine whether or not an applicant or an existing licence holder is a fit and proper person to hold a licence in Pendle.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the draft Taxi Licensing Conviction Policy Guidelines be approved.
- (2) That the taxi trade be consulted on the draft Convictions Policy and any objections be reported back to the Taxi and Other Licensing Committee.

REASON

In order to ensure Pendle has effective policies and procedures in place to protect the safety of the public.

31. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED

That in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the next item of business on the grounds that if a member of the public and press were present during consideration of the item, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person.

32. STREET TRADING CONSENT APPLICATION

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted, for consideration, a report regarding a Street Trading Consent under Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

RESOLVED

That the application be refused.

REASON

- (1) ***The needs of the area***
- (2) ***The applicant's previous history as a Consent holder***

33. INTERVIEWS

(1) Report of KHS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of KHS.

RESOLVED

That the application be refused.

(2) Report of UA

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of UA.

RESOLVED

That the report on UA be deferred to the next meeting as he was not present at the meeting.

(3) Report of MAC

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of MAC.

RESOLVED

That the report on MAC be deferred to the next meeting as he was not present at the meeting.

(4) Report of MA

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of MA.

RESOLVED

That MA's private hire and hackney carriage driver's licence be revoked with immediate effect.

(5) Report of JA

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of JA.

RESOLVED

That the application for a licence be granted for a temporary 6 month period and should no further issues arise the licence will be renewed for the remaining period.

(6) Report of RZ

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of RZ.

RESOLVED

That the application for a licence be granted for a temporary 6 month period and should no further issues arise the licence will be renewed for the remaining period.

Chairman: _____