MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TAXI LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, NELSON ON 9^{TH} JULY, 2019

PRESENT -

Councillor D. Clegg (Chairman, in the Chair)

Councillors

Nadeem Ahmed

M. Ashraf

N. Butterworth

M. Igbal

Y. Iqbal (substitute for M. Sakib)

B. Newman

C. Wakeford

Officers in attendance:

Neil Watson Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager

Howard Culshaw Head of Legal Services
Jackie Allen Taxi Licensing Manager
Sarah Waterworth Committee Administrator

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M. Sakib)

The following persons attended the meeting and spoke on the items indicated:

Mr Hussain Public Question Time Minute No. 3

Mr Akram Mr Syeed

Mr Hussain Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Daily Minutes No. 4

Mr Khan Vehicle Checks

Mr Akram

1. APPOINTMENT OF VICE- CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor M. Arshad be appointed the Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2019-20.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1. Mr Hussain pointed out that a number of drivers were still touting for custom outside the pubs in Barrowford and asked what was going to be done to stop this happening.

The Taxi Licensing Manager said that there had been a change in Inspectors within the Police in Pendle and that the Taxi Licensing Department were working with him to combat this.

2. Mr Hussain and Mr Akram asked that the age limit in which vehicles are first registered as Private Hire or Hackney Carriage vehicles be removed.

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager explained that as there had not been a significant change in the condition of the vehicles the age limit would stay as was.

It was agreed that a report be brought to the next meeting regarding the standard of vehicles over the last 2 years.

3. Mr Syeed asked why the Taxi Licencing Committee had been disbanded in May 2019.

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager explained that the decision was taken by Full Council to combine the Licensing and Taxi Licensing Committees.

4. HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DAILY VEHICLE CHECKS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report regarding the introduction of a requirement for daily vehicle checks to be carried out on all licensed vehicles.

The Taxi Licensing Services Manger made reference to concerns that were raised in 2018 over the maintenance of vehicles and it was agreed that the trade be consulted on the proposal to introduce a requirement for daily vehicle checks. The checks would be carried out and logged in a register to be made available for inspection by Council officers on request.

The consultation letter, with a list of proposed checks, was sent out to 129 proprietors/operators in December 2018. It was proposed that the checks would be undertaken by each driver of the vehicle on a daily basis and every time the driver changed shift.

It was reported that there was only one response which objected to the checks.

RESOLVED

- (1) That this item be deferred for further consultation with the trade.
- (2) That the Trade be invited to submit, seven days prior to the next meeting, solutions on how vehicles could be maintained to a high standard and items which needed to be checked daily.

REASON

To see an improvement in the standard of licensed vehicles.

7. 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.

| 8. | INTERVIEWS |
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(1) Report of KH

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report in respect of KH.

RESOLVED