

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TAXI LICENSING COMMITTEE
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL
ON 12TH JULY, 2022**

PRESENT –

Councillor K. McGladdery – Chairman (In the Chair)

Councillors

*M. Adnan
F. Ahmad
M. Aslam (Substitute for N. Butterworth)
M. Kaleem
K. Salter*

Also in attendance:

M. Iqbal

Officers present

*Jackie Allen Taxi Licensing Manager
Emma Barker Litigation & Regulatory Lawyer
Lynne Rowland Committee Administrator*

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N. Butterworth and B. Newman.)



The following persons attended the meeting and spoke on the items indicated. Those speaking on Minute No.7 in relation to the Garage Contract did so prior to the exclusion of public and press.

<i>Charles Oakes</i>	<i>Taxi Trade Meetings</i>	<i>Minute No.5</i>
<i>Charles Oakes Mr Akram Mr Ilyas</i>	<i>Garage Contract</i>	<i>Minute No.7</i>

1. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor N. Butterworth be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the municipal year 2022/23.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the requirements of the Member Code of Conduct concerning the Declaration of Interests. The following person declared a pecuniary interest in the item indicated –

<i>Councillor M. Aslam</i>	<i>Garage Contract</i>	<i>Minute No.7</i>
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3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Oakes referred to the recent consultation on the Unmet Demand Survey which had concluded on 8th July. He asked how many responses had been received and requested information on who had been consulted.

The Taxi Licensing Manager advised that there had been over 70 responses. The information, together with details on who had been consulted, was due to be reported to the August meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th February, 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. TAXI TRADE MEETINGS

It was reported that, some time ago, in addition to the Taxi Licensing Committee meetings, separate meetings had been held with the taxi trade. A request had been made for these meetings to be reinstated.

Members considered the proposal and agreed that it would be an opportunity to resolve any issues prior to matters being considered by this Committee, providing there was a structured agenda for each meeting.

RESOLVED

- (1) That separate meetings with the taxi trade be reinstated and a Working Group be established for this purpose.
- (2) That the structure and frequency of meetings be agreed by the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager in consultation with the Chairman of this Committee.

REASON

To give the taxi trade an opportunity to raise any issues.

(Councillor M. Aslam declared a pecuniary interest in Minute No. 7. in relation to the garage contract. As there were a number of speakers on this item to be taken prior to the exclusion of the public and press, he withdrew from the meeting at this stage.)

6. 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 items of business on the grounds that if a member of the public and press were present during

consideration of the items, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person/persons.

7. GARAGE CONTRACT

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report for Members to agree the appointment of garages for the testing of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles.

It was reported that all MOT garages in Pendle had been invited to submit a tender for the testing of the Council's licensed fleet. As a result five tenders had been received. Details of the tenders submitted were provided as Appendix 1 to the report. The outcome of site visits to the garages concerned was also provided.

It was noted that in order to police quality control of the garages, the number of garages had previously been restricted to four. However, two of the five garages that had submitted a tender were in the West Craven area. As this would offer more choice for vehicle owners who lived in the West Craven area, it was felt that the addition of one extra garage was acceptable.

It was therefore recommended that the contract for the testing of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles be awarded to all the five garages.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the contract for the testing of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles for the period 1st August, 2022 to 31st July, 2027 be awarded to all the five garages as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.
- (2) That the testing be in accordance with the terms and conditions attached to the contract.

REASON

- (1) *To have testing facilities to cover the whole of the Pendle area.*
- (2) *To ensure the garages appointed can provide a satisfactory level of consistency of testing and satisfactory working arrangements between the Council and them.*

(Councillor M. Aslam returned for the remainder of the meeting.)

8. INTERVIEWS

Report on KH

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report in respect of KH. KH attended for interview and was represented by Councillor M. Iqbal.

RESOLVED

That KH's application for the grant of a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence be refused.

CHAIRMAN _____