

MINUTES

meeting: **LICENSING COMMITTEE**

date: **16 JANUARY 2013**

PRESENT:-

Councillors Dass (Chair), Angus, Banger, Bolshaw, Clarke, Claymore, Collingswood, Inston, Jaspal, Mrs Patten and N A Patten

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Judith Rowley

IN ATTENDANCE:-

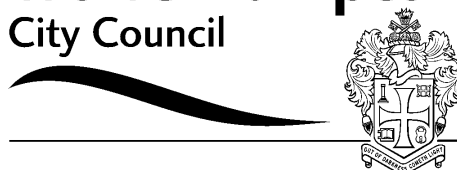
Delivery

L Banbury - Democratic Support Officer
S Hardwick - Solicitor

Education and Enterprise

A Jervis - Head of Regulatory Services
E Moreton - Section Leader (Licensing)
C Parr - Licensing Manager

Wolverhampton
City Council



Welcome to New Member

23 The Committee joined with the Chair in welcoming Councillor Collingswood to his first meeting.

Declarations of Interest

24 No interests were declared.

Minutes

25 Resolved:-

(a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2012 be approved as a correct record.

(b) That the minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 29 November, 5, 12 and 18 December be approved as a correct record and adopted.

Review of Premises Licence – Otter & Vixen, Old Fallings Lane, Wolverhampton

26 Pursuant to minute 126 of the meeting on 29 November 2012, the Licensing Manager advised that the Premises Licence Holder had appealed the decision of the Licensing Sub-Committee and that a pre-trial hearing was scheduled to take place the following week in the Magistrates' Court.

Application for a New Premises Licence – Natalka, 18-19 Bargate Drive, Wolverhampton

27 Pursuant to minute 20 of the meeting on 18 December 2012, the Licensing Manager advised that the applicant had appealed the decision of the Licensing Sub-Committee.

Schedule of Outstanding Minutes (Appendix 10)

The Democratic Support Officer submitted a report, which set out a schedule of outstanding minutes together with details of when it was expected that reports on individual items would be presented for consideration.

28 Resolved:-

That the report be received.

Review of Fees and Charges for General Licensing and Miscellaneous Matters for 2013/14 (Appendix 11)

The Licensing Manager presented a report, detailing proposed fees and charges for 2013/14 in relation to certain licences and licensed activities regulated by the Licensing Committee.

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Resolved:-

- (a) That the proposed fees and charges for General Licensing, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be approved for implementation with effect from 1 April 2013.
- (b) That, with regard to the distribution of free printed matter detailed at number 13, an appeal mechanism via the Licensing Sub-Committee be established in respect of the removal of badges; the delegation to remove/suspend the badge to remain at officer level pending an option for this to be reviewed by the Licensing Sub-Committee.
- (c) That a cap of three distributors in respect of each application for distribution of free printed matter be approved, subject to checking the legality of this proposal.
- (d) That the fees and charges set by the Secretary of State, in relation to the Licensing Act 2003 and over which the Council has no control, be noted.
- (e) That the fees and charges set out in Appendix B to the report, in relation to the Gambling Act 2005, effective from 1 April 2013 and over which the Council has fee setting powers, be noted.
- (f) That other fees and charges or permits set by the Secretary of State, in relation to the Gambling Act 2005 and over which the Council has no control, be noted.

Review of Fees and Charges for Street Trading Consents for 2013/14 (Appendix 12)

The Licensing Manager presented a report, which detailed for consideration proposed street trading fees and charges to take effect from 1 April 2013 and apprised Committee of the arrangements for the control and regulation of street trading activities in the City. He drew attention to a recent meeting with the Trade Forum and an additional proposal, not included in the report, in regard to transfers/change of trade lines. The proposal was to introduce a flat rate fee of £40, replacing the current one twelfth of the normal fee.

Responding to Councillors' questions, the Officer advised that the comments of petitioners which were submitted during the consultation process, and in relation to proposals for significantly higher increases, had been taken on board. It was noted that there were a number of trading pitches in the City Centre currently unoccupied and it was acknowledged that there was no interest from the trade to occupy the spaces at the present time due to the current City Centre public realm improvements.

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Resolved:-

- (a) That the proposed fees and charges set out in Table 1 and detailed in paragraph 4.4 of the report, for Annual Street Trading Consents, be approved for implementation with effect from 1 April 2013.
- (b) That the proposed fees and charges, set out in Table 2 and detailed in paragraph 4.5 of the report, for Occasional/Temporary Street Trading Consents, be approved for implementation with effect from 1 April 2013.

(c) That a flat rate fee of £40 be approved for transfers/change of trade lines.

Fees and Charges for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Functions for 2013/14 (Appendix 13)

The Licensing Manager presented a report, which outlined the proposed fees and charges for licences relating to Hackney Carriages, Private Hire Vehicles, Drivers and Private Hire Vehicle Operators for 2013/14.

31 Resolved:-
That the report be received.

Application for an Increase in Hackney Carriage Fares (Appendix 14)

The Licensing Manager presented a report which sought approval to the setting of appropriate fees, following an application by the Taxi Owners' Association (Wolverhampton) Ltd and the Wolverhampton Hackney Carriage Drivers' Association for an increase in Hackney Carriage Fares.

32 Resolved:-
(a) That the proposed increases in Hackney Carriage Fares, as detailed in Appendix A to the report be approved, and that authorisation be given to the required publishing of a notice in a local newspaper detailing the proposed fare increase and stating a consultation period during which representations regarding the increase can be made.

(b) That, if at the end of the consultation period, there are no objections to the proposed fare increases, implementation of the proposed increases will occur.

(c) That, if at the end of the consultation period there are objections to the proposed fare increases, a further report will be presented to the Licensing Committee.