

## MINUTES OF LICENSING COMMITTEE HELD ON

14 September 2009

7.30pm-8.21pm

### PRESENT

#### COUNCILLORS

Nick Churchill (Chairman)

Jean Clark  
Bob Davis  
Muriel Jolles

Sarah-Jane Dangerfield  
Mark Gough  
Linda Pailing

Lee Dangerfield  
Andrew Johnson  
Russell Perrin

#### APOLOGIES

Tony Hall  
John Strachan

Maggie Hulcoop

Eleanor Macy  
Robert Thurston

#### 23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

#### 24. MINUTES

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 August 2009 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 25. MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Review of Random Drug Testing – Private Hire Drivers  
(Minute 19 Refers)

It was noted that arrangements were in place to satisfy any scrutiny of the procedures, although it was unfortunate that the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee had not been invited to the initial discussions.

It was hoped that arrangements could be made for a representative from Harlow Occupational Health Service to give a short presentation on the testing procedures to the November 2009 meeting of this Committee.

(b) Licensing Enforcement  
(Minute 20 Refers)

Members were disappointed that there was a maximum of two Member observers allowed on operations, as this might mean that some Committee members never got the opportunity to attend.

Although it would not be feasible for all operations, the Safety and Licensing Manager agreed to consider allowing additional Members on certain operations, where their presence would not impede Officers work.

26. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

None.

27. **LICENSING COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PLAN**

It was noted that further Member training sessions and Licensing Sub-Committees were to be added to this Work Plan, together with various guest speakers.

**RESOLVED** that the Committee Work Plan be noted.

28. **HACKNEY CARRIAGE BYELAWS – RANDOM ALCOHOL AND DRUG TESTING**

The Committee received a report proposing the modification of the existing byelaws for random alcohol and drug testing.

Once these proposed byelaws had been agreed by this Committee and verified by Legal Services, they would be submitted to the Environment & Community Committee prior to being sent to the Department of Transport.

It was noted that whilst byelaws were required to introduce this testing for Hackney Carriage drivers, the same did not apply for Private Hire drivers. The process to amend the byelaws could be a lengthy process.

**RESOLVED** that the proposals for the introduction of byelaws as set out in paragraphs 8-10 of the report be agreed.

29. **RISK BASED INSPECTION PROGRAMME**

The Committee received a report proposing the inclusion of additional areas of licensing in the risk based inspection programme.

**RESOLVED** that

- (a) the report be noted;
- (b) the inclusion of facilities associated with the Gambling Act and Street Trading be included in the risk based inspection programme.

30. **COMMUNITY SAFETY ACCREDITATION SCHEME**

The Committee received a report proposing that the Council takes part in the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme.

This Scheme allowed the Chief Constable to accredit certain Council staff with powers to tackle anti-social behaviour relevant to their job descriptions..

**RESOLVED** that Harlow Council's involvement in the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme be supported.

31. **HARLOW YOUTH PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP**

The Committee received a report on the proposed work of the Harlow Youth Protection Partnership which outlined the projects which were planned for 2009/10.

This Partnership had arisen from the Community Alcohol Partnership to target all age restricted products (not just alcohol).

**RESOLVED** that the work of the Harlow Youth Protection Partnership be supported.

32. **REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

None.

33. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

