

MINUTES OF LICENSING COMMITTEE HELD ON

15 February 2010

7.30pm-8.42pm

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Nick Churchill (Chairman)

Sarah-Jane Dangerfield (Vice-Chairman)

Jean Clark
Manny Doku

Lee Dangerfield
Mark Gough
Muriel Jolles

Bob Davis
Maggie Hulcoop

APOLOGIES

Tony Hall
Leslie Rideout

Andrew Johnson

Russell Perrin
John Strachan

64. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Nick Churchill, Lee Dangerfield, Sarah-Jane Dangerfield and Muriel Jolles each declared a personal interest in agenda item 8 (Designated Public Places) as they were Councillors representing these areas.

65. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2009 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

66. MATTERS ARISING

None.

67. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

A list of questions relating to exhaust emissions was withdrawn and held in abeyance until a relevant report was submitted to a future Committee meeting.

68. **LICENSING COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PLAN**

Members noted that consideration would be given to Licensing Committee meetings being held less frequently in the new municipal year, as some of the work delegated to this Committee was being done by the Licensing Sub-Committee instead.

RESOLVED that the Committee Forward Work Plan and proposed frequency of Committee meetings from May 2010 be noted.

69. **HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES EXHAUST EMISSIONS STANDARDS**

This item was withdrawn.

70. **DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACE ORDERS**

The Committee received a report requesting the Committee to consider whether a boundary amendment and reduction in the current designation order should be made for Staple Tye.

Karen Brimson, Essex Police, attended the meeting and made representations for the designated area not to be reduced because the current arrangements were working very well.

Members considered that there should be a more coherent approach to combating alcohol related disorder across the town. They asked for a more in depth investigation and public consultation to be undertaken, so that they could make an informed decision on the best solution.

In the meantime, it was agreed to keep the status quo in Staple Tye.

RESOLVED that

- (a) no changes be made to the current designated public place order for Staple Tye, pending a further report on designated public place orders to a future meeting of this Committee;
- (b) a Member working party be established to review current designated public place orders and investigate the best strategy to address the problem of alcohol related disorder townwide.
- (c) Councillors Bob Davis, Mark Gough and John Strachan be appointed to the above Member Working Party.

71. **HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE STRATEGY**

The Committee received a report on the first draft of a hackney carriage and private hire strategy.

The submitted report was the bare bones of a strategy which would be worked on and presented to a future meeting, if Members agreed a strategy were required.

RESOLVED that

- (a) it be agreed that a hackney carriage and private hire strategy is required;
- (b) the proposed strategy to include a section on passenger safety;
- (c) a report on a strategy be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee, following consultation with the private hire and hackney carriage trade representatives.

72. **CONSULTATION MEETING – PRIVATE HIRE TRADE**

RESOLVED that the notes of the Private Hire Trade Consultation Meeting on 26 January 2010 be noted.

73. **CONSULTATION MEETING – HACKNEY CARRIAGE TRADE**

RESOLVED that the notes of the Hackney Carriage Trade Consultation Meeting held on 26 January 2010 be noted.

74. **REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

None.

75. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

76. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified under Paragraph 1 of Part One of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, if and so long as, in all the

circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

77. **REPORT BACK ON SUB-COMMITTEE DECISIONS 1 JULY 2009 TO 31 DECEMBER 2009**

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE