

MINUTES OF: LICENSING COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 13th November 2018

**Present: Councillor Hughes (Chair)
Councillors Eaton, Haworth, Johnson, Lythgoe, Neal,
Serridge (subbing for Councillor Gill), Shipley, Smallridge
and Stevens**

**In Attendance: Phil Morton, Public Protection Manager
Yasmin Ahmed, Legal Officer
Glenda Ashton, Committee and Member Services Officer**

Also Present: Councillor Oakes (in part)

BUSINESS MATTERS

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Gill.

2. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on the 10th July 2018 be approved as a correct record.

3. MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Driver Sub-Committee meetings held on the 23rd July, 16th August, 20th September and 23rd October 2018 be approved as a correct record.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

6. LICENSING UPDATE REPORT

The Public Protection Manager introduced the report and provided the Committee with an update in relation to Animal Licensing, Gambling, the Licensing Act 2003, Taxis and Private Hire.

Discussion took place on the item as summarised below:

- What fees were currently being charged for the new Animal Licence.
- Were dog walkers included in the new Animal Licensing arrangements.

- Did the new Animal Welfare Regulations include the Dangerous Wild Animals Act.
- Could the Council introduce its own Licence to cover dog walkers.
- How would members of the public know that a new Animal Licence was needed.
- Concerns regarding Parliament delaying amendments to the Gambling Act.
- Concerns regarding the labelling of allergens by food sellers.
- Would a bronze, silver and gold standard be introduced for taxi drivers.
- There were issues with taxis parking on zig zag lines.
- There were still taxi rank lines on King Street, Bacup even though the rank had been decommissioned. There were also problems with taxi drivers parking in Bacup now the rank had been decommissioned.

In response to questions raised, the Public Protection Manager advised that:

- The current Animal Licence fee system was being used until the fees had been reviewed.
- Dog walkers did not need to obtain an Animal Licence.
- The Council could not introduce its own Licence for dog walkers but could impose restrictions and conditions e.g. on the number of dogs walked at any one time.
- The Dangerous Wild Animals Act was still in force.
- The need for a new Animal Licence had been well publicised and information would also be available on the Council's website.
- The labelling of food allergens was taken very seriously and more visits were taking place than previously.
- The bronze, silver and gold standard for taxi drivers could be considered and agreed to look into this.
- In relation to taxi drivers in Bacup, more enforcement action was being taken. A taxi rank had been set up on South Street and LCC had been asked to remove the taxi rank lines on King Street. This would be followed up. The Chair asked if Councillor Eaton could also follow this up with LCC Highways.

Resolved:

Members noted the contents of the update report.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed 6.55pm.

CHAIR: _____