

Open

Licensing and Environmental Committee

Agenda

10.30am
Monday, 9th December 2013
Council Chamber
Wyre Forest House
Finepoint Way
Kidderminster



Licensing and Environmental Committee

Members of Committee:

Chairman: Councillor P B Harrison
Vice-Chairman: Councillor J A Hart

Councillor R Bishop

Councillor J Greener

Councillor V Higgs

Councillor N Knowles

Councillor M Price

Councillor N J Thomas

Councillor G C Yarranton

Councillor P Dyke

Councillor P V Hayward

Councillor M B Kelly

Councillor J W Parish

Councillor D R Sheppard

Councillor S J Williams

Information for Members of the Public:

Part I of the Agenda includes items for discussion in public. You have the right to request to inspect copies of Minutes and reports on this Agenda as well as the background documents used in the preparation of these reports.

Part II of the Agenda (if applicable) deals with items of "Exempt Information" for which it is anticipated that the public may be excluded from the meeting and neither reports nor background papers are open to public inspection.

There are particular circumstances when the Ethics and Standards Committee may exclude the public, which are in addition to those available at meetings of the Council, its Cabinet and Committees etc. These apply when the Ethics and Standards Committee considers the following:

Information relating to a particular chief officer, former chief officer or applicant to become a chief officer of a local probation board within the meaning of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000.

Information which is subject to any obligation of confidentiality.

Information which relates in any way to matters concerning national security.

Declaration of Interests by Members – interests of members in contracts and other matters

Declarations of Interest are a standard item on every Council and Committee agenda and each Member must provide a full record of their interests in the Public Register.

In addition, alongside the Register of Interest, the Members Code of Conduct ("the Code") requires the Declaration of Interests at meetings. Members have to decide first whether or not they have a disclosable interest in the matter under discussion.

Please see the Members' Code of Conduct as set out in Section 14 of this constitution for full details.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) / Other Disclosable Interest (ODI)

DPI's and ODI's are interests defined in the Code of Conduct that has been adopted by the District.

If you have a DPI (as defined in the Code) in a matter being considered at a meeting of the Council (as defined in the Code), the Council's Standing Orders require you to leave the room where the meeting is held, for the duration of any discussion or voting on that matter.

If you have an ODI (as defined in the Code) you will need to consider whether you need to leave the room during the consideration of the matter.

For further information:

If you have any queries about this Agenda or require any details of background papers, further documents or information you should contact Louisa Bright, Committee and Member Services Officer, Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, DY11 7WF. Telephone: 01562 732763 or email louisa.bright@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

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If you have any queries regarding this, please speak with the Council's Legal Officer at the meeting.

Wyre Forest District Council

Licensing and Environmental Committee

Monday, 9th December 2013

Council Chamber, Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster

Part 1

Open to the press and public

Agenda item	Subject	Page Number
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Appointment of Substitute Members To receive the name of any Councillor who is to act as a substitute, notice of which has been given to the Solicitor to the Council, together with the name of the Councillor for whom he/she is acting.	
3.	Declarations of Interests by Members In accordance with the Code of Conduct, to invite Members to declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI's) and / or Other Disclosable Interests (ODI's) in the following agenda items and indicate the action that they will be taking when the item is considered. Please see the Members' Code of Conduct as set out in Section 14 of the Council's Constitution for full details.	
4.	Minutes To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on the 5 th August 2013.	6
5.	To consider any other business, details of which have been communicated to the Solicitor to the Council before the commencement of the meeting, which the Chairman by reason of special circumstances considers to be of so urgent a nature that it cannot wait until the next meeting.	
6.	Exclusion of the Press and Public To consider passing the following resolution: "That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of "exempt information" as defined in the paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act".	

Part 2

Not open to the Press and Public

7.	Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage Private Hire Drivers Licence To receive a report from the Director of Worcestershire Regulatory Services on behalf of Wyre Forest District Council that asks the Committee to consider an application for the grant of a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Drivers Licence.	8
8.	To consider any other business, details of which have been communicated to the Solicitor to the Council before the commencement of the meeting, which the Chairman by reason of special circumstances considers to be of so urgent a nature that it cannot wait until the next meeting.	

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE, FINEPOINT WAY, KIDDERMINSTER

MONDAY 5TH AUGUST 2013 (10.30AM)

Present:

Councillors: P B Harrison (Chairman), J A Hart (Vice-Chairman), R Bishop, N J Desmond, P V Hayward, V Higgs, M B Kelly, N Knowles, J W Parish, M Price, M A Salter, D R Sheppard, N J Thomas and G C Yarranton.

Observers:

There were no members present as observers.

LIC.6 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Dyke and J Greener.

LIC.7 Appointment of Substitutes

Councillor M A Salter was appointed as a substitute for Councillor P Dyke.

LIC.8 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

LIC.9 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

LIC.10 Hackney Carriage Fare Increase Request

The Committee received a report from the Director of Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) on behalf of Wyre Forest District Council to consider a request for an increase to the current Wyre Forest Hackney Carriage Fare Tariff, following a 4 week consultation with the Wyre Forest Taxi Trade.

The Senior Licensing Practitioner (WRS) led Members through the report and advised that additional information; including a comparison of taxi fares in Worcestershire, the national average fare table for June 2013 and fuel price reports, had been circulated to Members prior to the Meeting to assist them in their decision making process.

In response to a Members question regarding the re-issuing of the agenda, the Senior Licensing Practitioner confirmed the report had been amended to include additional information relating to the consultation responses and

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provide a firmer recommendation for Members to consider.

The Committee were addressed by Mr Alton, Chairman of Bewdley Taxi Association who asked Members to support the fare increase request, and Mr Owen who reiterated the points made in his consultation response.

Members discussed the various fare increase options listed in the report and also considered an increase in line with inflation. The Committee agreed there should be no increase to the tariff at the present time, however the issue should be discussed at the next meeting of the Wyre Forest Taxi Liaison Group which is made up of taxi trade representatives from across the whole of the District. Members felt this was the forum where any requests for fare rises should be initiated from.

Agreed:

- **There is no increase to the current Hackney Carriage Fare Tariff at the present time.**
- **Councillor M B Kelly be appointed as the Council's representative on the Wyre Forest Taxi Liaison Group.**

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 11.10am.