

**DRAFT**

**OXFORD CITY COUNCIL**

**BYELAWS**

**Made under section 6 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1889, as incorporated with the Public Health Act 1875, by the Oxford City Council with respect to Omnibuses in the City of Oxford.**

**Interpretation**

1. Throughout these byelaws :-

“the Council” means the Oxford City Council,

“the district” means the City of Oxford,

“veterinary surgeon” means a Member or Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and

“vehicle licence” means a licence issued under section 37 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and any conditions attached to the grant of such a licence in accordance with section 47(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.”

**Provisions regulating the manner in which the number of each omnibus corresponding with the number of its licence shall be displayed.**

2. (a) The proprietor of an omnibus shall cause the number of the licence granted to him in respect of that omnibus to be legibly painted or marked on a plate, of a design and type supplied by the Council, which is prominently displayed at the rear of the vehicle.

(b) A proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not :-

(a) wilfully or negligently cause or suffer any such number to be concealed from public view while the vehicle is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers;  
or

(b) cause or permit the vehicle to ply or stand for hire or be used to carry passengers with any such plate so defaced that any figure or material particular is illegible.

**Provisions securing the fitness of the omnibus and the harness of the animals drawing the same.**

3. The proprietor of an omnibus shall cause the omnibus and all of its fittings and equipment to be kept in a clean and safe condition, well maintained and in every way fit for public service.
4. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall cause every part of the harness of any animal hitched up to the omnibus to be kept in good order so that the animal is properly and securely attached to the vehicle and under control at all times.

**Provisions regulating the conduct of the proprietors, drivers and conductors of omnibuses plying within the district in their several employments, and determining whether such drivers and conductors shall wear any and what badges.**

5. The proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not carry or permit to be carried in such omnibus any greater number of passengers than the number of passengers which it is licensed to carry.
6. A driver or conductor of an omnibus shall behave in a civil and orderly manner and shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of persons conveyed in, entering or alighting from the omnibus, and of any animal used to draw it.
7. A driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not smoke at any time when the omnibus is being used to convey passengers.
8. A driver or conductor of an omnibus shall at all times when the omnibus is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers wear the badge provided by the Council in such a position and manner as to be plainly visible.
9. A driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not, at any time when the omnibus is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers, operate a radio or other sound-reproducing equipment other than for the purposes of sending or receiving messages in connection with the operation of the vehicle.

10. A driver of an omnibus when plying for hire or carrying passengers shall proceed without delay between the points determined by the vehicle licence issued in respect of that omnibus, and only via any of the stands determined by the said vehicle licence.
11. The proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not, in any street within the district, feed or allow to be fed any animal harnessed or otherwise attached to the omnibus, except with food contained in a proper bag or container suspended from the head of the animal or from any centre pole of the vehicle, or which is being held and delivered with the hand of the person feeding the animal.

**Provisions regulating the number and securing the fitness of the animals to be allowed to draw an omnibus, and for the removal therefrom of unfit animals.**

12. The proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not cause or permit the same to be drawn by more than two animals at any one time, and shall ensure that the two animals are of the same species.
13. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not cause or permit the animal to be used to draw the omnibus unless, within the preceding twelve months, a certificate of fitness, in a form supplied by the Council, has been issued in respect of that animal following an examination by a veterinary surgeon specialising in large animal practice.
14. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not, at any time when the omnibus is plying or standing for hire or being used to carry passengers, drive or allow to be driven or harness or allow to be harnessed to the omnibus any animal in such condition as to expose any person being conveyed or being in such omnibus, or any person traversing any street, to risk of injury.
15. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not cause or permit an animal to draw any omnibus or to be harnessed or otherwise attached to such an omnibus for more than six hours in any one day. And, if the animal is harnessed to an omnibus for a period of three consecutive hours, the proprietor or driver shall ensure that the animal is rested for a period of not less than one hour, during which time the animal must be fed and watered.
16. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall not cause or permit any animal which has

previously been used to draw an omnibus for a total of not more than six hours, on any one day, to be used at any other time during the remainder of that day for any other purpose in connection with that or any other omnibus.

17. A proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall ensure that while an animal is being rested in accordance with byelaw 15 above, that the animal shall not remain harnessed, or otherwise attached to an omnibus, or used for any other purpose in connection with an omnibus.
18. (a) The proprietor or driver of an omnibus shall, on being so instructed by an authorised officer of the Council, immediately cease to use, for the purpose of drawing an omnibus, any animal which that officer, after consultation with a veterinary surgeon, specialising in large animal practice, considers to be unfit for that purpose.

(b) Where a proprietor or a driver of an omnibus has been instructed to stop using a particular animal for the purpose of drawing an omnibus, no such proprietor or driver shall cause or permit that animal to be used again for that purpose until a certificate of fitness has been issued by a veterinary surgeon, specialising in large animal practice, in a form supplied by the Council.

#### **Provisions for securing the safe custody and return of private property**

19. The driver or conductor of an omnibus shall, before departing from any point fixed by the vehicle licence issued in respect of that omnibus, carefully search the omnibus for any property which may have been accidentally left therein.
20. Any proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall, if any property accidentally left therein by any person who may have been conveyed in the omnibus be found by or handed to him, take it as soon as possible and in any event within 24 hours, if not claimed by or on behalf of its owner, to a police station in the district and leave it in the custody of a police constable on his giving a receipt for it.

#### **Provisions for the exhibition on some conspicuous part of every omnibus of a statement in legible letters and figures of the fares to be demanded and received from the persons using an omnibus.**

21. (a) The proprietor of an omnibus shall cause a statement of the fares payable by passengers to be exhibited conspicuously inside the vehicle, in clear legible letters and figures.
- (b) The proprietor, driver or conductor of an omnibus bearing a statement of fares in accordance with this byelaw shall not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer the letters or figures in the statement to be concealed or rendered illegible at any time when the vehicle is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers.

**Provisions preventing importuning and the blowing of or playing upon horns or other musical instruments, or the ringing of bells, by any person travelling on or using an omnibus.**

22. The owner, driver or conductor of an omnibus shall not, at any time when the omnibus is plying or standing for hire by or used to carry passengers, by touting, calling out or otherwise, importune any person to use or to be carried for hire in such omnibus, to the annoyance of any such person or of any other person, and shall not make use of the services of any other person for the purpose.
23. A driver, conductor or any person travelling on or using an omnibus shall not blow or play upon any horn or other musical instrument or ring any bell.

**Penalties**

24. Any person who offends against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine not exceeding two pounds for each day during which the offence continues after the date of conviction.

**THE COMMON SEAL OF THE )  
OXFORD CITY COUNCIL was )  
hereunto affixed by order of the )  
Council in the presence of :- )**

The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State and shall come into force on the    day of    2011.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State,