

GENERAL PURPOSES LICENSING COMMITTEE

Tuesday 21 January 2014

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Councillors Clarkson, Cook (Chair), Coulter, Goddard, Lygo and Royce.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Lois Stock (Democratic and Electoral Services Officer), Daniel Smith (Law and Governance), Julian Alison (Licensing Team Leader) and Lesley Rennie (Business Regulation Team Manager)

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were received from Councillors Gotch, Humberstone and Williams

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None made

20. UPDATE ON TAXI LICENSING ACTIVITY - AUGUST-DECEMBER 2013

The Head of Environmental Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) Concerning taxi licensing activity from August to December 2013. Julian Alison (Licensing Team Leader) presented the report to the Committee and provided some background and context.

In response to a question about taxi licensing enforcement and increasing test purchases, Julian Alison explained that having reviewed the team budget available, the level of financial resources for enforcement could not currently be increased without it affecting other costs for service provision. However, he welcomed the Chair's view that further discussions could be had with the Head of Service to see if additional funding could be provided.

Resolved to:

- (1) Note the contents of the report;
- (2) Note the comments made.

21. HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSED TRADE - APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF TARIFFS

The Head of Environmental development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) concerning a request from the City of Oxford Licensed Taxicab Association (COLTA) for a variation of the Hackney Carriage tariffs. Julian Alison (Licensing Team Leader) presented the report to the Committee.

Resolved to:-

- (1) Agree the request from COLTA for a variation to Hackney Carriage tariffs in accordance with the information laid out in the report;
- (2) Request that the Head of Environmental Development and the Head of Law and Governance carry out the statutory requirement of a public consultation and delegate to the Chair and the head of Environmental development to consider any responses to the consultation.

22. COMMERCIAL EVENTS, HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE, ROAD CLOSURE ORDERS, SCRAP METAL DEALERS, SEX ESTABLISHMENTS AND STREET PARTIES: LICENCE FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2014/15 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Head of Environmental Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) concerning agreement for licence fees over which the Council has discretion over the fee charged. Julian Alison (Licensing Team Leader) presented the report to the Committee and explained the background.

He explained that no charges were proposed to the current level of fees and charges, given that the full cost recovery of the service had not increased, nor was it expected to increase during the next 12 months.

Resolved to agree the fees and charges for 2014/15 as set out in the report.

23. ACUPUNCTURE, EAR PIERCING, ELECTROLYSIS & TATTOOING, ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS, DANGEROUS WILD ANIMALS, DOG BREEDING ESTABLISHMENTS, PAVEMENT CAFES, PET SHOPS, RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS, STREET TRADING CONSENTS, ZOOS, INTEGRATED POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL PERMITS: LICENCE FEES & CHARGES FOR THE 2014/15 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Head of Environmental Development submitted a report (previously circulated, now appended) concerning agreement for licence fees over which the Council has discretion over the fee charged. Lesley Rennie (Business Regulation Team Manager) presented the report to the Committee and explained the background.

Resolved to:-

- (1) Agree the fees and charges for 2014 /15 as set out in the report, *with the exception of those items listed below:-*
 - (a) Street Trading at event for commercial benefit – retain current fee of £25 pending a further report into the issue to clarify what is “commercial”;

- (b) Street Trading at event for community/charity benefit – retain current level (no charge) pending a further report into this issue to clarify what is “community/charity”;
- (c) Street Café licenses – retain current fee of £750, pending a further report concerning a review of fee for cafes in the City centre and those further outside the centre

24. MINUTES

Resolved to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2013, with the following addition which was requested at the meeting:-

To ask that in future, the General Purposes Licensing Committee begins **immediately after** Licensing and Gambling Acts Committee.

25. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved to note the following dates:-

Tuesday 10th June;
Tuesday 23rd September;
Tuesday 27th January 2015;
Tuesday 19th May 2015

The meeting started at 5.30 pm and ended at 6.10 pm