

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Committee**
held on Friday, 13th March, 2009 at Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings,
Earle Street, Crewe CW1 2BJ

PRESENT

Councillor P Whiteley (Chairman)
Councillor D Bebbington (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors Mrs Rachel Bailey, Mrs Rhoda Bailey, T Beard, H Davenport,
B Dykes, J Goddard, M Hardy, M Parsons, A Ranfield and Mrs C Tomlinson

30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G Baxendale, L Gilbert and Mrs E Gilliland.

31 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A number of Councillors who were Members of existing Borough Council Licensing Committees declared a personal interest in the business of the meeting en bloc. In accordance with the Code of Conduct, they remained in the meeting during consideration of these items.

32 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

In accordance with Procedure Rule 35, members of the public addressed the meeting on the following matters relevant to the work of the Committee and the Chairman responded:

Mr Trevena

The proposed licence conditions for private hire vehicles.

Mr Bradbury

Taxi ranking facilities in Crewe and Nantwich.

33 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2009 be approved as a correct record.

34 PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENSING

The Committee considered a report detailing the responses received from the private hire trade regarding the proposed licence conditions for private hire vehicles which had been approved for consultation by the Licensing Committee at its meeting on 14 January 2009.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the proposed licence conditions in relation to private hire vehicles, as amended following the consultation exercise, be approved for implementation from 1 April 2009.
- (b) That a further consultation exercise be undertaken with the holders of private hire vehicle licences on the proposal to amend the wording of the first sentence of condition number 1.4 to:

‘It shall have a minimum number of four doors, including two on the near side and two on the offside’.

35 PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE OPERATOR LICENSING

The Committee considered a report regarding the proposed licence conditions for private hire vehicle operators, which had been approved for consultation by the Licensing Committee at its meeting on 14 January 2009.

RESOLVED - That the proposed licence conditions in relation to private hire vehicle operators be approved for implementation from 1 April 2009.

36 HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCE CONDITIONS

The Committee considered a report regarding the proposed licence conditions for hackney carriage and private hire drivers, which had been approved for consultation by the Licensing Committee at its meeting on 14 January 2009.

The Solicitor reported that, since the report had been published, it had become apparent that a representation had been made in relation to these conditions within the consultation period and therefore should have been referred to within the report. The comments made had been sent to Members of the Committee, and copies were tabled at the meeting.

RESOLVED – That, subject to the following amendments, the proposed licence conditions for hackney carriage and private hire drivers be approved for implementation from 1 April 2009:

- 2 Conduct (vii) to be amended to read: ‘not to play any sound reproducing equipment within the vehicle other than for communicating with the operator/proprietor without the express consent of the hirer’
- 5 Fares/Taximeters (iv) to be amended to read: ‘The driver shall proceed to the destination by the shortest possible route unless:
(a) he/she receives an express direction given by the hirer; or

(b) he/she receives express consent of the hirer to an alternative route.'

- Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles to be renumbered 8
- Lost Property to be renumbered 9
- Criminal Convictions to be renumbered 10
- 9 Lost Property (ii) to be amended to read: 'The driver must take any property left in the vehicle to a police station, wherever possible within twenty four hours and in any event no longer than within forty-eight hours, and obtain a receipt for the property.'

37 LICENSING OF SEX ESTABLISHMENTS

The Committee considered a report regarding the proposed licence conditions for sex establishments, which had been approved for consultation by the Licensing Committee at its meeting on 14 January 2009.

RESOLVED - That the proposed standard licence conditions for sex shops, as amended following the consultation exercise, be approved for implementation with effect from 1 April 2009.

38 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman reported that the next meeting of the Licensing Committee was scheduled to take place at 10.30am on Monday 30 March 2009 in the Capesthorpe Room, Town Hall, Macclesfield.

RESOLVED – That the time, date, and venue of the next meeting be noted.

The meeting commenced at 2.30 pm and concluded at 3.40 pm

Councillor P Whiteley (Chairman)