

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Committee**
held on Monday, 11th January, 2016 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor W S Davies (Chairman)
Councillor D Bebbington (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors E Brooks, B Dooley, I Faseyi, A Harewood, M Parsons,
L Smetham, G Wait, M Warren and J Wray

OFFICERS PRESENT

Kim Evans, Licensing Team Leader
Peter Jones, Lawyer
Julie Zientek, Democratic Services Officer

17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors M Deakin and M Hardy.

18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

19 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2015
be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

21 MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Licensing Act Sub-Committee
meetings held on 12 November 2015 and 8 December 2015, and the
General Licensing Sub-Committee meetings held on 4 November 2015, 9
November 2015 and 30 November 2015, be received.

22 CHANGES TO THE JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER KNOWLEDGE TEST

The Committee considered a report regarding proposed changes to the
testing requirements for applicants for joint Hackney Carriage and Private
Hire Driver licences.

At the Licensing Committee meeting on 16 November 2015, the Licensing Team Leader had been granted delegated authority to consult on the proposed changes to the test. During the four week consultation, one response had been received. This response, objecting to the changes, was circulated at the meeting for the consideration of Committee Members.

RESOLVED – That the Joint Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver knowledge test be changed as follows:

- (a) 15 multiple choice questions on the Highway Code to be included, with the pass mark at 11 correct answers
- (b) the fee for knowledge tests to be set at £40.00
- (c) the changes to apply to all applications received on or after 1 February 2016.

23 REVIEW OF LICENSING FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2016/2017

The Committee considered a report regarding a review of the licensing fees and charges for the issuing and renewal of licenses, consents and permits issued by the Licensing Team.

A number of fees were set by Statute, while others could be set by Local Authorities in order to cover the cost of administration, compliance and some elements of enforcement. The Licensing team was in the process of undertaking a comprehensive assessment of the costs of issuing licences where it had discretion to set a fee, and consequently no changes in the Locally Set Fees were proposed.

RESOLVED – That the fees payable as set out in appendix A to the report be approved.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 2.12 pm

Councillor W S Davies (Chairman)