

Licensing Committee
24 JANUARY 2023

Present: Councillors: John Blackall (Chairman), Richard Landeryou (Vice-Chairman), Karen Burgess, Peter Burgess, Lynn Lambert, Roger Noel, Jon Olson, Josh Potts and Diana van der Klugt

Apologies: Councillors: Alan Britten, Billy Greening, Mike Morgan, Louise Potter, Kate Rowbottom and Clive Trott

LI/15 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 20 December were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

LI/16 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

LI/17 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

LI/18 **HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES – RATE INCREASE**

Councillor John Blackall, Chairman of the Committee, advised that since the proposed Hackney Carriage rate increases had been considered by the Committee in December, some minor adjustments to some of the tariffs had been required after further discussion with the primary consultees. It was therefore necessary for the Committee to reconsider the proposal.

The Head of Environmental Health & Licensing confirmed that this was the first increase in rates for 10 years and was due to the significant increase in the price of fuel and the general cost of living. Consultation on the proposed rates, as set out in the appendix to the report, would commence straight after the Committee's decision.

Horsham Licensed Carriage Association and many of the independent hackney drivers had proposed an increase. The Head of Environmental Health & Licensing confirmed that the new rates were similar to those adopted by neighbouring local authorities. Members noted that the Council set the charges but did not gain financially from them.

RESOLVED

- (i) To agree the changes to Tariffs 1 – 6 as set out at Appendix 1 and the addition of a soiling charge, for statutory consultation with the hackney trade and public.
- (ii) To agree to advertise the proposed fare increases contained in Appendix 1.
- (iii) That, subject to satisfactory consultation procedure and there being no representations TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL the approval of the fares contained in Appendix 1.

REASON

- (i) To set standard fares throughout the district.
- (ii) To prevent fraud and overcharging of passengers.
- (iii) To ensure openness and transparency in decision-making.

LI/19 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

The meeting closed at 12.08 pm having commenced at 12.00 pm

CHAIRMAN