

**NORTH DEVON COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the LICENSING COMMITTEE held at the Civic Centre, Barnstaple on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Members:

Councillor Hunt (in the Chair)

Councillors Clark, Haywood, Lane and Mathews.

Officers:

Lead Officer – Licensing, Head of Contentious Law (TB), Communications Officer and Senior Member Services Officer (BT).

Also Present:

PC Daw

Devon and Cornwall  
Constabulary

Ms Whitworth

Designated Premises  
Supervisor of Fever Boutique  
Nightclub

Traffic Engineer Strategy (JA)

Devon County Council

**39 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fowler, Lucas, Tucker, Wilkinson and J. Yabsley.

**40 MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014 (circulated previously) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

In relation to minute 35, the Lead Officer – Licensing advised the Committee of the receipt of further communication from an additional hackney carriage driver via Cllr Fowler raising concerns of being unable to gain a place on the BTEC Award course. She advised that in pursuance to minute 35, a report would be presented to the next meeting of the Executive on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014 and as such if Members wished to re-examine their recommendation to this committee, they had time to do so considering the deadline for this report was today.

In pursuance to minute 32, the Lead Officer – Licensing confirmed that a letter had been sent to the Responsible Authorities.

**41                    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest announced.

**42                    HACKNEY CARRIAGE RANK – QUEEN STREET, BARNSTAPLE**

The Committee considered a report by the Lead Officer – Licensing (circulated previously) regarding concerns raised in relation to the hackney carriage rank located outside of Fever Boutique in Queen Street, Barnstaple.

The Lead Officer – Licensing advised the Committee that following concerns raised at the last meeting of the Committee regarding the marking of the hackney carriage rank, she had spoken with a representative from Stagecoach to ascertain the times of the last and first buses to leave the bus station and frequency of buses departing the bus station after 7.00 pm.

Ms Whitworth, Designated Premises Supervisor of Fever Boutique Nightclub and PC Daw outlined their concerns in relation to the hackney carriage rank being partially located outside of the entrance doors to Fever Boutique in Queen Street, Barnstaple that would impact on the security and barrier control and means of escape.

The Traffic Engineer Strategy, Devon County Council addressed the Committee.

B. Lethbridge, Hackney Carriage driver addressed the Committee.

RESOLVED that the Lead Officer – Licensing undertake further consultation with hackney carriage drivers, Stagecoach, PC Daw, Designated Premises Supervisor for Fever Boutique, Devon County Council and Barnstaple Town Centre Management regarding the length and times of the hackney carriage rank located outside of Fever Boutique in Queen Street, Barnstaple.

**43                    HACKNEY CARRIAGE STANDS – ON STREET PARKING ENFORCEMENT**

The Committee considered an email received from Anne Cunliffe (circulated previously) regarding the lack of on street parking enforcement on hackney carriage stands.

The Lead Officer – Licensing advised the Committee of the receipt of concerns raised from a member of the public (via Devon County Council) in respect of the Cross Street rank. She also provided Members a copy of a letter from Mr Duyar in which concerns were outlined regarding the hackney carriage stand located in Boutport Street and particularly the alleged impact of this rank on his business.

The Traffic Engineer Strategy, Devon County Council addressed the Committee in relation to the hackney carriage stands located in Cross Street, Barnstaple and the level of disabled parking bays located in the town. Devon County Council would not wish parking in Cross Street to be extended closer to the High Street.

As it was Armistice day, at 11.00 am, the Committee stood and observed a 2 minute silence in memory of those who gave their lives in the two world wars and subsequent conflicts.

The Traffic Engineer Strategy, Devon County Council advised the Committee that regular on street enforcement was undertaken during the daytime. In response to a question, he advised that he would need to check whether lower Boutport Street was a no waiting restricted zone.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That a letter be sent to Mr C. Rook, Devon County Council requesting that regular on street parking enforcement be undertaken for the provisions that were already in existence;
- (b) That the feeder hackney carriage rank located in Boutport Street be retained.

**44 NORTH DEVON COUNCIL HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFF**

The Committee considered a report by the Lead Officer – Licensing (circulated previously) regarding the review of North Devon Council’s Hackney Carriage Tariff.

The Lead Officer – Licensing advised the Committee of the receipt of a additional correspondence from Mr Kerr which was tabled.

The Lead Officer – Licensing outlined the contents of the letters received as detailed in Appendix 2 and tabled.

B. Lethbridge, hackney carriage driver outlined the contents of his letter, which he had previously submitted and was detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.

**RECOMMENDED** that the Executive make no change to the current Hackney Carriage Tariff (last amended 4<sup>th</sup> November 2011 and last reviewed 18<sup>th</sup> February 2014) at this time and that a further review be undertaken in November 2015 as per the current policy provision.

**45 NORTH DEVON COUNCIL'S SEX ESTABLISHMENT POLICY**

The Committee considered a report by the Lead Officer – Licensing (circulated previously) regarding North Devon Council's Sex Establishment Policy.

The Lead Officer – Licensing advised that following the recommendation made by the Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014 that Executive approve a draft revised Licensing Policy and Conditions for Sex Establishments, the Executive had requested that the Committee consider a number of policy additions.

In relation to each point raised by the Executive, the Lead Officer – Licensing advised the Committee of the wording contained within the draft policy which addressed each point raised.

RECOMMENDED that on consideration of the points raised by the Executive at its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014, the Committee considered that the Sex Establishment Policy was robust and considered that there was no reason to amend the draft policy and therefore recommended that the Executive approve the draft policy.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 11.39 a.m.

**NOTE:** These minutes will be confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting of the Committee.