

# LICENSING COMMITTEE

Date: 06 February 2019

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:- Barbara Jenney (Chairman)  
Glennil Greenwood-Smith (Vice-Chairman)

Tony Boto	Andy Mercer
Richard Gell	Geoff Shacklock
Helen Howell	Pam Whiting
Dorothy Maxwell	Colin Wright

External Attendee: PC David Bryan, Northamptonshire Police

## 393. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sylvia Hobbs, Gill Mercer, Steven North and Peter Wathen.

## 394. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 03 October 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## 395. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

## 396. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions by Members under Council Procedure Rule 10.3.

## 397. LICENSING ACTIVITY UPDATE

The Health Protection Manager presented a report which provided the Committee with an update on a number of licensing matters.

### Taxi Policy Consultation – Removal of the ‘Grandfather Rights’

At the Policy and Resources Committee on 5 November 2018, the Committee agreed to rescind a previous decision to carry out further consultation on the removal of the ‘Grandfather Rights’. The Committee also approved amendments to the Taxi Policy in respect of the wheelchair-accessible vehicle specification.

### National Taxi Database

The Council had started to use the National Taxi Database on 1 February 2019. A recent National Anti-Fraud Network newsletter had stated that 250 councils had now nominated a Single Point of Contact and had started the process of signing up to the database. The County Licensing Liaison meeting had now agreed that the database needed to be a priority for the group in the coming year.

### Gambling Policy

Council had approved and adopted the Gambling Policy at its meeting on 12 December 2019. The Policy had been advertised for one month prior to its commencement on 1 February 2019.

### Stolen Taxi Vehicle Licence Plates

A Member briefing had been issued on 10 December 2019 advising that a number of taxi vehicle licence plates had been stolen in the district. It was noted that five plates had been stolen in the last six months.

During discussion on the item, Members asked whether it was appropriate to consider changing the colour and style of the licence plates to easily identify the stolen plates from valid plates. Officers confirmed that the stolen plates had been decommissioned and agencies such as Safeguarding and the Police had been notified. The licence plates would likely have to be changed in 2020 if local government reform went ahead.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

### **398. LICENSING CONFERENCE UPDATE**

The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Health Protection Manager gave a verbal update from the Licensing Conference held on 5 February 2019.

Sessions on the day had included:

- Taxi licensing
- Disruptive technology
- Update on the National Register
- Gambling related harm

It was agreed that a briefing note on the outcomes of the Licensing Conference would be circulated to Committee members.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the verbal update be noted.

**399. LICENCE TYPES TRAINING**

The Licensing Enforcement Officer provided the Committee with an update on the different types of licence available and what activities could and could not happen with them.

The licences discussed included:

- Premises Licence
- Club Premises Certificate
- Temporary Event Notices (TEN)
- Club Gaming Permits
- Fixed Odds Betting Terminals
- Small Society Lotteries

**RESOLVED:**

That the verbal update be noted.

**400. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED:**

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraphs 1 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 may be disclosed.

**401. UPDATE REPORT FROM NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE**

PC David Bryan of Northamptonshire Police provided an update on the new Chief Constable's priorities, review of the Police Licensing department and the Immigration Service and their role under licensing.

**RESOLVED:**

That the verbal update be noted.

**402. REVIEW OF RECENT LICENSING PANELS**

The Committee noted the outcome of the Licensing Panels which had recently been held.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

**Chairman**