

MINUTE

B – PUBLIC

Special Licensing Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Friday 4 October 2013 at 2.00pm

Present:

M Bell	A Cooper
P Campbell	A Duncan
G Smith	C Smith

Apologies:

G Robinson	A Westlake
------------	------------

In Attendance (Officers):

S Brunton, Team Leader - Legal
M Craigie, Executive Manager – Transport Planning
P Sutherland, Solicitor
L Adamson, Committee Officer

Chair

Mr G Smith, Chair of the Committee, presided.

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest

Mr Duncan declared an interest in Item 2, “Applications for Renewal of Taxi/Private Hire Booking Office Licences”, as the applicant referred to at Section 3.3.5 is a friend and neighbour. Mr Duncan confirmed that he would leave the Chamber.

10/13 **Review of Taxi/Private Hire Tariffs**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Manager – Transport Planning (TP-08-13-F), which set out the revised table of tariffs proposed subsequent to consultation with the Shetland Taxi Owners Association (STOA) and sought approval to engage statutory consultees on the detail of the proposals.

In introducing the report, the Executive Manager referred to the requirement that a review of tariffs should be carried out at intervals of not less than 18 months, and advised that the previous review had taken place over 20 months ago. He then outlined to Members the two changes to the table of tariffs as proposed by the STOA to be considered by the Committee.

After providing Members with some background information relating to the decision during the former review for the change to be made to the start time for Rate 2 tariffs, Mr C Smith moved that the Committee approve the recommendation in the report.

In response to a question in regard to the increased tariffs at New Year compared to Christmas, it was reported that this was a historic practice and reflects the arrangements in other Scottish Local Authorities when there is more demand for travelling by taxi.

Mr Duncan seconded.

Decision:

The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve the table of tariffs for engaging in statutory consultation.

On the motion of Mr G Smith, seconded by Mr C Smith the Committee resolved in terms of subsection 4 of Section 50A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public from this meeting during consideration of the following agenda item on the grounds that it is likely that, if the public were present, there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the said Act.

(No members of the Public were present).

11/13 **Applications for Renewal of Taxi/Private Hire Booking Office Licences**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Manager – Transport Planning that sought decisions to be made on five applications for renewal of Taxi/Private Hire Booking Office Licences.

Copies of each of the application forms, Police observations and other relevant material were tabled at the meeting. The Executive Manager advised the Committee that the key issues in considering the applications are any observations raised by the Police in regard to the applicant or the premises.

(Mr Duncan left the meeting following the discussion on the fourth application).

Decision:

The Committee **RESOLVED** to:

1. approve the renewal of the Taxi/Private Hire Booking Office Licence, subject to confirmation of current insurance cover;
2. approve the renewal of the Taxi/Private Hire Booking Office Licence, subject to confirmation of the required insurance cover;
3. approve the renewal of the Taxi/Private Hire Booking Office Licence;
4. approve the renewal of the Taxi/Private Hire Booking Office Licence, subject to confirmation of satisfactory insurance cover;
5. approve the renewal of the Taxi/Private Hire Booking Office Licence, subject to confirmation of appropriate insurance cover; and,

a report would be presented to the next meeting, for the Committee to consider delegated authority for Renewal of Taxi/Private Hire Booking Office Licence applications.

The meeting concluded at 2.25 pm.

CHAIR

