MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON THURSDAY, 31 JANUARY 2019 COMMENCING AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs L M Broadley (Chair)
Councillor M L Darr (Vice Chair)

COUNCILLORS

G A Boulter
F S Broadley
M H Charlesworth
R F Eaton
Mrs L Eaton JP
J Kaufman
Mrs L Kaufman
Mrs H E Loydall

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S J Ball (Senior Democratic Services Officer / Legal Officer)
T Cawthorne (Environmental Health & Licensing Team Leader)
D M Gill (Head of Law & Governance / Monitoring Officer)

21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor M H Charlesworth declared a non-pecuniary interest with regard to item 7 of the agenda, insofar as he carries on a mobile food business registered with the Council.

23. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the meeting of the previous Committee held on 11 October 2018 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.

24. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The Action List arising from the meeting of the previous Committee held on 11 October 2018 be read, confirmed and noted.

25. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

Licensing	and Reg	ulatory	Commit	tee
Thursday, 3	31 Januar	y 2019		

Chair's	
Initials	

26. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH UPDATE (Q3 2018/19)

The Committee gave consideration to the report (as set out at pages 2-5 of the agenda pack) which asked it to note the work undertaken by the Environmental Health Section during the third quarter of 2018/19.

The Committee was advised that there had been no increase in fly-tipping incidents over the past 12-months nor was there any evidence of any incident being directly attributable to/since the introduction of itemised charging for the disposal of non-household items at the Oadby Waste Site (as of April 2016).

No Fixed Penalty Notices were reported to have been issued under the Public Space Protection Order or for fly-tipping or littering during the third quarter. This was due to either being no known contraventions or a lack of evidence identifying those persons responsible. However, Officers were confident that the ongoing use of portable cameras in problem areas would assist in future detection and prevention.

The Committee was informed that the issues reported regarding accumulations of litter on/around privately-owned commercial premises in Wigston Town Centre continued to be relayed on to the relevant premises' management and/or owners who were being encouraged to undertake more regular monitoring and cleaning.

The Chair requested that drone and model aircraft usage be included as a standing item in all subsequent quarterly report updates to the Committee.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The contents of the report be noted.

27. LICENSING UPDATE (Q3 2018/19)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 6-11 of the agenda pack) which asked it to note the work undertaken by the Licensing Section during the third quarter of 2018/19.

The Committee reiterated its concerns regarding the increasingly high number of combined Hackney Carriage / Private Hire (HC/PV) drivers' licence applications continuing to be received by/for a Council of a relatively small administrative area.

The Committee was advised that no limit on the number of HC/PV drivers' licences issued could be enforced as the Council was statutorily obliged to grant to any person a licence if it was satisfied that the applicant was a 'fit and proper person'. However, a number of measures to strengthen existing testing processes were to be introduced imminently in order to filter out a higher calibre of licenced drivers.

The Committee was also advised that the possible introduction of a saturation policy to limit the number of hackney carriage vehicles would be difficult to implement given the robust evidence-base needed to withstand any potential challenge.

The Chair requested that any matters pertinent to the Borough as raised at the Leicestershire & Rutland Licensing Forum be reported back to the Committee.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

Licensing	and	Regu	latory	Committee
Thursday, 3	31 Ja	nuarv	2019	

Chair's	
Initials	

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The contents of the report and appendix be noted.

28. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (Exempt Information) during consideration of the item(s) below on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph(s) 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exempt item(s) outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

29. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & LICENSING SERVICE REVIEW OUTCOMES</u> (JANUARY 2019)

The Committee gave consideration to the report (as set out at pages 12 - 16) which asked it to note the Environmental Health and Licensing Service Review Outcomes for January 2019.

By affirmation of the meeting it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The contents of the report be noted.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.58 PM

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Chair
Thursday, 04 April 2019

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