

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

31 January 2017

Present: Councillor Jenns in the Chair

Councillors Clews, Davey, N Dirveiks, Gosling, Hanratty, Ingram, Lewis, Morson, Smitten and E Stanley

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Henney and A Wright

8 **Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

None were declared at the meeting.

9 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6 June 2016, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

10 **Service Plan for the Licensing Section**

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council sought the Committee's approval of the 2017/18 Service Plan for the Licensing Section.

Resolved:

That the Service Plan as set out in the Appendix to the report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council, be agreed.

11 **General Fund Fees and Charges 2017/2018**

The Committee was asked to consider the fees and charges for 2016/17 and the proposed fees and charges for 2017/18.

Resolved:

That the schedule of fees and charges for 2017/18, as set out in the report be accepted.

12 **General Fund Revenue Estimates 2017/18**

The revised budget for 2016/17 and an estimate of expenditure for 2017/18, together with forward commitments for 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 were presented to the Committee.

Resolved:

- a The revised budget for 2016/17, be accepted; and**

Recommendation to Executive Board:

- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2017/18, as submitted in the report of the Deputy Chief Executive be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting of the Board on 7 February 2017.**

13 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 – Taxi Licensing – Policy Document and Guidance Relating to the Definition of ‘Fit and Proper’ Persons

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council asked the Committee to consider the adoption of a policy relating to the definition of ‘fit and proper’ persons to hold a hackney carriage or private hire drivers licence or a private hire operators licence.

Recommended:

That the policy relating to the definition of ‘fit and proper’ persons to hold a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle drivers licence, or a private hire operators licence, as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council, be adopted.

14 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 - Hackney Carriage And Private Hire Drivers’ Qualifications

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council sought approval to change the qualification requirements for making an application for a hackney carriage or private hire drivers’ licence.

Recommended:

That the Council change the existing policy, substituting Blue Lamp Trust taxi driver assessment for DVSA standard taxi driving test.

15 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 - Taxi Driver Communication and Language Assessment

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council asked the Committee to consider the introduction of mandatory assessments of taxi driver applicants for evidence of satisfactory communication and language skills.

Resolved:

That the Council consult interested parties on the introduction of mandatory taxi driver communication and language assessments for all new applicants.

A Jenns
Chairman