

HACKNEY CARRIAGE SUB COMMITTEE
3 JUNE 1998

Present: Councillors Blatchford, Egan, Onions, Mrs Pile, Veakins
Substitutions: Councillor Onions for Councillor Beadsley
Apologies for absence: Councillor Beadsley

1 Nomination of Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor Egan be elected as Chairman of the Sub Committee for the municipal year 1998/99.

COUNCILLOR EGAN IN THE CHAIR

2 Appointment of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Pile be appointed Vice Chairman of the Sub Committee for the municipal year 1998/99.

3 Substitute Members

Councillor Onions for Councillor Beadsley.

4 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Sub Committee held on 19 February 1998 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5 Meeting of the Hackney Carriage Trade (Item 1)

The Sub Committee considered the notes of the meeting with representatives of the Bracknell Licensed Taxi Drivers Association held on 7 May 1998. Amongst the items raised was the possibility of an increase in fares which is the subject of a separate report to the Sub Committee (see Minute 6)

RESOLVED that the notes of the meeting with representatives of the Hackney Carriage Trade held on 7 May 1998 be received and noted.

6 Proposed Tariff Increase (Item 2)

The Director of Public & Environmental Services reported that the Council had received a request from the Hackney Carriage Trade for an increase in the tariff to take effect from a date to be determined by the Sub Committee. The Trade had put forward three options for consideration namely no increase in charges; 10 pence per mile on standard tariff, and 40 pence on start up.

In considering the request Members noted the number of drivers formally requesting the increase was only 76 out of the 309 drivers registered within the Borough. The last increase in charges was in September 1995.

Further to debate the Sub Committee

RESOLVED that with effect from 00.01 hours on Monday 7 September 1998 tariff 1 be increased by 10 pence per mile with an equivalent increase in the waiting time charge, with tariffs 2 and 3 being increased proportionally, subject to no objections being received.

7 Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Annual Report 1997/98 (Item 3)

The Director of Public and Environmental Services submitted the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Annual Report for the 1997/98 municipal year.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

8 Information Reports

- Legal Background to Licensing (Item 4)

In considering the above report Members held a general debate about the type of service that the Council should operate for its Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Licensing function and discussed a number of areas where it was considered that improvements may be sought, in particular seeking a more formalised and representative discussion with representatives of the Trade and speeding up the processes of enforcement where appropriate, using schemes previously agreed by the Public and Environmental Services Committee.

The meeting commenced at 5.30pm and concluded at 6.10pm.

CHAIRMAN