



GREAT YARMOUTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, 20 July 2021 at 18:00

Present :

Councillor G Carpenter (in the Chair) Councillors Bensly, Bird, Borg, Hanton, Jeal, Lawn, Robinson-Payne, Stenhouse, Thompson and B Walker.

Councillor Wainwright attended as substitute for Councillor Cordiner-Achenbach
Mrs D Wilby (Licensing & Elections Manager), Mr D Lowens (Solicitor, nplaw) and Mrs S Wintle (Corporate Services Manager).

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cordiner-Achenbach and Galer.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared at the meeting.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 1 February 2021 were confirmed.

4 SECOND CLASS HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

The Committee received and considered the Licensing and Elections Manager's report which asked Members to consider a request from the Landau operators for a fare increase.

The Licensing and Elections Manager reported that the current fare for a landau ride is £10.00 from the Landau Station, Marine Parade to the Pleasure Beach and a return journey is £15.00 per vehicle. Each landau is licensed for 6 passengers and the fare charged is per landau. The proposal requests that the return trip is increased to £20.00. The one-way journey will remain at £10. Landau fares were last increased in 2015 when the one-way journey was amended from £8 to £10.

It was confirmed that this request had been received from all nine landau operators, and all plate holders had been consulted.

Councillor Jeal asked whether any evidence had been given to show increase in prices seen, and suggested that operators be asked to provide their accounts to show evidence of increases for a 3 year period.

Kelly Markham, Landau operator addressed the Committee and advised that the increase was not just seen in a price increase in hay, this could be seen across all services provided by and for the operators such as rent, horseshoes, purchasing of new horses, vets bills.

Councillor Jeal further commented that he felt there was a need to see accounts for these operators.

Councillor Wainwright commented that he disagreed of the need for operators to provide copies of accounts as in his opinion it was not unfair to expect an increase in the current climate.

Councillor Bensly commented that the Landaus were an asset to Yarmouth seafront and needed to have support shown.

The Licensing and Elections Manager reported that if Committee were minded to approve the fare increase, the new fares would have to be advertised in the local press to see if there any objections to the proposals. If objections are received within the objection period, the Council may either approve the fares or make modifications as they see fit. If no objections are received, the fares will come into effect after the expiry of the objection period.

RESOLVED :

That approval be given to the request from the Landau operators.

5 TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE STANDARDS

The Committee received and considered the Licensing and Elections Manager's report which asked Members to consider the new Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards, and agree whether to adopt these within policy.

Members were advised if they were minded to approve the Standards requested then revision to the Policy would be required and this would be subject to a formal consultation process.

RESOLVED :

That approval be given to adopt all changes as outlined within Policy.

6 GAMBLING POLICY

The Committee received and considered the Licensing and Elections Manager's report which advised that Section 349 of the Gambling Act, 2005 requires licensing authorities to publish a 'Statement of the Principles' that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Act, applicable to a 3 year period. Great Yarmouth's existing Statement of Principles (Gambling Policy) expires on 30 January 2022 and a reviewed policy must be published by 3 January 2022.

The Licensing and Elections Manager reported that changes to the Policy had been included within Members agenda packs and this would be subject to consultation which would be due to take place from 30 July to 28 September 2021. Final approval of the policy would be subject to Full Council approval and would be brought back to Licensing Committee prior to Council.

RESOLVED :

- (1) That approval be given to the draft policy for consultation.
- (2) An additional date for Committee be sent round in due course.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Bensly asked whether there were any opportunities to explore the use of gambling apps to avoid people misusing these or becoming addicted. The Licensing and Elections Manager advised she would look into this matter.

8 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED :

"That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act."

9 CONFIDENTIAL - FIRST CLASS HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER

(Confidential Minute on this Item)

10 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

(Confidential Minute on this Item)

The meeting ended at: 20:00