

Hackney Carriage Committee
30 April 2019

WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the HACKNEY CARRIAGE COMMITTEE held on Tuesday 30 April 2019 at 2.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, The Campus, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL8 6AE.

PRESENT: Councillors P.Hebden (Vice-Chairman as the Chairman)
A.Chesterman, L.Chesterman, J.Cragg (substituting for H. Bower), P.Mabbott and R.Trigg

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Hackney Carriage Officer (J Vaughan)
Regulatory Support Officer (C.Bridges)
External Counsel (C.Holland, Francis Taylor Building)
Governance Services Officer (H.Johnson)
Observer (J.Wylds, Street Warden)
Observer (L.Corney, Business Support Apprentice)

ALSO PRESENT: Driver (Mr. C for Item 6)
Interpreter (Ms N.Khan, Hertfordshire Interpreting and Translation Service)
Friend of driver (Mr. S.S for Item 6)

25. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Vice-Chairman, Councillor P. Hebden, was appointed as Chairman of the Committee in the absence of Councillor H. Bower.

26. WELCOME

The Chairman confirmed that the Committee had received the addendum and submissions from Mr. C and would give due consideration to them where relevant.

In addition, the Chairman confirmed that the Committee would address the allegations of overcharging, and would not be discussing the complaint against Councillors and staff.

A Committee member sought clarification on the role of Mr. S.S as a volunteer and not a legal representative of Mr. C and the Chairman clarified that Mr. S.S's role was as a friend as opposed to a legal advisor and therefore any submission made by Mr. S.S would be taken into account.

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27. SUBSTITUTION OF MEMBERS

The following substitution of Committee Members had been made in accordance with Council Procedure Rules 19-22:

Councillor J.Cragg for Councillor H.Bower.

28. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor H.Bower.

Apologies for absence were not received from Councillor H.Quenet.

29. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the following amendment to the apologies item:

“Apologies for absence were received from Councillor L. Chesterman and Councillor A. Chesterman.

Apologies for absence were not received from Councillor H. Quenet”.

30. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS

There were no declaration of interests from Members.

31. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That under Section 100(A)(2) and (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting for Agenda items 6 (Minutes 32 refer) on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100 (A)(3) and Paragraphs 1 (personal information), 2 (individual identity) and 3 (private financial or business information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

In resolving to exclude the public in respect of the exempt information, it was considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

32. REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER LICENCE - OVERCHARGE

The Regulatory Support Officer presented the exempt report of the Corporate Director (Public Protection, Planning and Governance) on the determination of a review of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence due to an overcharge.

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The driver was in attendance for the hearing and was accompanied by and interpreter and a friend.

Following consideration of the evidence presented, both written and oral, the Committee

RESOLVED:

That the driver receive a formal warning from the Committee.

(Note: A more detailed record of the Committee's decision is contained in the exempt Minute 32).

Meeting ended at 3.48 pm