

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND ON WEDNESDAY, 18 MARCH 2009 AT 2.00PM

Present:-

Councillor C J James - Chairperson

<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillors</u>
D Buttle	W B Morgan	M C Wilkins
D K Edwards	K J Watts	R Williams
R D Jenkins	P J White	

Officers:

Y Witchell	-	Licensing and Registration Officer
P Gavigan	-	Principal Solicitor
G P Jones	-	Principal Cabinet and Committee Officer

27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the following Members:

Councillor D N W Jones	-	Attending a funeral
Councillor M W Butcher	-	Unwell

28 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made:

Councillor R D Jenkins	-	Agenda item 4 (i) - Personal and prejudicial interest in that his daughter and future son-in-law are taxi owners. He would leave the meeting during consideration of this item.
Councillor R Williams	-	Agenda item 4 (i) - Personal and prejudicial interest in that he was the Chairperson of the OCLP Club which pays Licensing fees. He would leave the meeting during consideration of this item.
Councillor K J Watts	-	Agenda item 4 (ii) - Personal interest in that he is a resident of Porthcawl and is a member of the Development Control Committee.

29 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 8 January 2009, be approved as a true and accurate record.

30 LICENSING FUNCTIONS: DISCRETIONARY LICENCE FEES AND CHARGES

The Licensing and Registration Officer presented a report of the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Regulatory Services, which sought approval to determine licensing fees and charges for 2009/2010.

She explained that the Licensing Committee had the power to determine fees and charges in respect of those licensing functions within its purview. She advised that a majority of the fees were set by statute and were not considered within the report and that some of the discretionary fees were subject to public notice if approved. The fees and charges had been increased by 3% and included appropriate rounding up to the nearest whole pound. The proposed discretionary fees were shown at Appendix 1 of the report and were necessary for the administration of the service.

RESOLVED: That the Licensing Committee approve the proposed fee increases, shown in Appendix 1 of the report to be effective from 1 April 2009 with the exception of fees relating to taxi vehicle licences and operator licences which are subject to Public Notice and will become operative either 28 days following the expiration of the Public Notice, or, if objections are received, on a date to be determined by the Licensing Committee following formal considerations of the objections.

31 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982  
CONTROL OF STREET TRADING, PORTHCAWL

The Licensing and Registration Officer presented a report of the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Regulatory Services informed the Committee of the outcome of a statutory consultation exercise to change the designation of Eastern Promenade, Porthcawl from a consent street to a prohibited street, for the purposes of street trading.

She explained that on 8 January 2009 the Licensing Committee had considered this proposal and gave notice of its intent to change from a consent to a prohibited street, for the purposes of street trading. Appropriate notice had been published in accordance with the above mentioned Act, and with a closing date for representations on 7 March 2009.

One acknowledgement letter and no objections were received regarding the proposal. The Licensing Committee were now able to determine, if they so wished, to pass a resolution to effect the proposed changes. She advised that if the Committee agreed to the proposal that a further period of public notice was required and that the proposed implementation date was 1 May 2009.

Members expressed their concerns that with the current economic climate, regeneration projects were being put on hold and if this happened in Porthcawl could this change be revoked. The Legal Officer informed the Committee that there were no interim measures and that once changes had been made, any subsequent changes would require the repetition of the variation procedure which would take approximately six months.

RESOLVED: That the Licensing Committee resolved to vary the original resolutions passed by the Environmental Health Committee on 31 March 1993 and Council Policy and Resources Committee on 19 June 1996 that the designation of Eastern Promenade be changed from a consent to a prohibited street including all forecourts, roads, footways or other areas adjacent to the street in all directions for a distance of thirty metres for the purposes of street trading as delineated on the plan at Appendix 1 of the report.

The meeting closed at 2.19pm