

Minutes of a meeting of the **Licensing Committee** of the Purbeck District Council held in the Council Chamber, Westport House, Wareham on Wednesday 5 December 2018 at 9.17am.

Present:-

Councillor Mark Unsworth (Chairman)  
Councillor Tim Morris (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors David Budd, Laura Miller, Barry Quinn and Mike Whitwam

Officers in attendance for all or part of the meeting: Karen Poole, Licensing Assistant and Isla Mitchell, Democratic and Electoral Services Officer

(Note: These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Licensing Committee).

16.18/19 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Hilary Goodinge, Bill Pipe and Carol Tilling.

17.18/19 **Urgent items**

There were no urgent items.

18.18/19 **Public participation time**

No members of the public attended for this item.

19.18/19 **Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2018 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

20.18/19 **Declarations of Interest by Members**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest for this meeting.

21.18/19 **Licensing update report**

The Licensing Assistant presented an update report on the activities of the Council's Licensing Team and general licensing matters. This provided information on the number of applications received for each of the regimes administered by the Licensing Team between July and September 2018, as well as details of the number of licences in force and notices for the same period.

It was reported that the Licensing Team was busy, with an increase in Temporary Event Notice (TEN) applications for Christmas events. The Licensing Officer and Licensing Assistant had visited clubs in Swanage and Upton which had requested guidance on licensing issues. A club in Swanage had been issued with both a Club Certificate and Premises Licence, which they would use as appropriate.

A Taxi Forum meeting had taken place on 28 November 2018 and a number of issues had been discussed, including:

- (i) the proposed increase to taxi tariffs being rejected by the Licensing Committee;
- (ii) the update to the policy regarding the transportation of animals in licensed vehicles to allow this when vehicles were not in use as a taxi;
- (iii) the need for applications to be complete in order to prevent delays in processing and taxi drivers to update the Licensing Team of any changes to their records;
- (iv) taxis not to be left unattended on the rank;
- (v) the position with regard to local government reorganisation, ie business as usual from 1 April 2019 and progressing from there;
- (vi) and the availability of safeguarding courses provided by Dorset County Council.

It was also reported that taxi drivers had raised concerns regarding delivery lorries blocking the taxi rank in North Street, Wareham whilst unloading goods. Members noted that the reason for the lorries blocking the taxi rank may be due to them being unable to park in the designated loading bay as a result of illegal parking. The Licensing Assistant informed the Committee that taxi drivers had been advised that they needed to provide the Licensing Team with details of specific incidents so that the matter could be looked into.

With regard to Camp Bestival, the Licensing Team had received an application from the administrators to transfer the licence.

A Member enquired whether, after 1 April 2019, taxi licence plates would still bear the Purbeck District Council logo or the new Dorset Council logo. The Chairman advised that when plates were renewed they would show the new Dorset Council logo and the zone to which the taxi was registered. There would be no cost to taxi drivers for this, other than the usual renewal fees.

The Chairman commented that the Taxi Forum provided a good opportunity to liaise with taxi drivers and to enable communication and discussion in relation to the licensing regime. He hoped that the Forum would continue under the new Dorset Council.

**Resolved** that the update report be noted.

The meeting ended at 9.32am.

Chairman