

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 20 January 2009

Time: 2.30 p.m.

Place: Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Danestrete, Stevenage

Present: P D Kissane (Chair), C Latif (Vice-Chair), L Knight and J Pickersgill

Agenda Item:

2

In Attendance:

Start/End Time: Start Time: 2.30 p.m.
End Time: 4.30 p.m.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence had been submitted on behalf of Councillors L Martin-Haugh, M Notley, L Strange, P Stuart and B Underwood.

2 PROCEDURE

An amended copy of the procedure for the meeting was circulated.

The Chair noted the procedure for the meeting.

3 URGENT PART I BUSINESS

None

4 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1 - 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended by S12006 No 88; and
2. That, notwithstanding the resolution to exclude the public, the applicant be permitted to remain for item 5.

5 VARIATION OF A SEX ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE

The Chair introduced the Members, the Principal Solicitor and Committee Clerk.

The Licensing Manager presented the facts of the application to the Committee and

Members asked questions.

The applicant made representation to the Committee, seeking to extend hours of opening two weeks preceding Christmas and also to be allowed to display a further number of items as noted in the report.

The Licensing Manager and applicant both made closing speeches, after which they withdrew from the meeting whilst the Committee considered the matters raised.

After taking into consideration all the evidence presented by the applicant and officers, the Committee **RESOLVED:**

1. Not to extend the hours of opening, apart from to permit the extended hours (i.e. 0900 to 2000) in the two weeks preceding Christmas;
2. To vary condition 7(a) of the existing licence to add, under (1): "items of lingerie, and other items of the manner depicted in the application dated 24 October 2008, on mannequins but not on posters, images or live models."; and
3. To further vary condition 7(a) of the existing licence, to amend (2) at the last sentence to read: "... items as shall have been approved in writing by the Licensing Manager."

6 HACKNEY AND PRIVATE HIRE FEES AND CHARGES

The Chair informed Members that the purpose of the meeting was to consider a number of proposals about possibly increasing the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Fees and Charges before going out for public consultation.

The Head of Environmental Health and Licensing introduced the report. She advised the Committee that the last increase to the Hackney and Private Hire Fees and Charges was in 2004/05, and the main reason for these proposals was simply to address the shortfall in revenue as the Council had in the last 5 years subsidised the licensing regime. She also informed Members that the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 permitted the Licensing authority to recover certain amount of fees and charges.

Following a full discussion on the matter it was **RESOLVED:**

1. That Option 1 on the revised schedule of fees and charges be agreed to go out for consultation subject to 2 below; and
2. That the Head of Environmental Health and Licensing be authorised, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, to amend operator fees proportionally in such a way that operators of less than 10 vehicles pay less whilst those operators that have over 10 vehicles should pay more.

7 URGENT PART II BUSINESS

None.