

Minutes of a Meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held in the John Meikle Room, The Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton TA1 1HE, on Thursday, 11 April 2024 at 2.00 pm

Present:

Cllr Simon Carswell (Chair)
Cllr Marcus Kravis (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Peter Clayton
Cllr Martin Lovell
Cllr Tony Robbins

Cllr Tony Lock
Cllr Mike Murphy
Cllr Andy Soughton

Other Members present remotely:

Cllr Diogo Rodrigues

Cllr Leigh Redman

30 Apologies for Absence - Agenda Item 1

Apologies were received from Councillor Tom Power.

31 Minutes from the Previous Meeting - Agenda Item 2

Resolved that the minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 15 February 2024 be confirmed as a correct record.

In response to questions it was confirmed that a report on training for drivers would be brought to the Committee shortly. The Chair also confirmed that the Lead Members for Transport and Digital and the Chair of Scrutiny – Children and Families would be contacted as resolved at the last meeting.

32 Declarations of Interest - Agenda Item 3

The following declarations in respect of membership of city, town and parish councils were automatically recorded:

Simon Carswell	-	Street Parish Council
Marcus Kravis	-	Minehead Town Council
Peter Clayton	-	Burnham & Highbridge Town Council
Tony Lock	-	Yeovil Town Council
Martin Lovell	-	Shepton Mallet Town Council
Mike Murphy	-	Burnham & Highbridge Town Council
Tony Robbins	-	Wells City Council
Andy Soughton	-	Yeovil Town Council
Diogo Rodrigues	-	Bridgwater Town Council

33 Public Question Time - Agenda Item 4

No members of the public had registered to speak.

34 Hackney carriage and private hire vehicle testing and emergency equipment - Agenda Item 5

The Committee considered the report and acknowledged the need for a unified approach to vehicle testing across the County.

Members noting that their concerns, over the difficulties in booking MOTs in some areas, the cost to drivers and the need to make them aware of the new requirements would be addressed with the proposals, unanimously supported the recommendations.

Resolved:

1. To adopt the hackney carriage and private hire vehicle testing and emergency equipment policy
2. To amend the legacy policies with the changes outlined in Appendix 2 of the report.
3. That the Policy and amendments above come into effect on a date to be determined by the Licensing Manager/Specialist, prior to which licence holders will be given no less than 6 weeks notice, via email. To ensure that the implementation is co-ordinated with the nomination of test stations.

35 Minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Sub-Committees - Agenda Item 6

(The meeting ended at 2.59 pm)

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CHAIR