MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 DECEMBER 2011

Present: Councillor Mrs Joy (Chairman), and

Councillors Daley, FitzGerald, Mrs Gibson, Mrs Hinder, B Mortimer, Parvin, Mrs Parvin, Warner and Yates

70. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Grigg and Naghi.

71. NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

The following substitutions were noted:-

Councillor B Mortimer for Councillor Grigg Councillor Daley for Councillor Naghi

72. NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS

There were no Visiting Members.

73. DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

There were no Disclosures by Members or Officers.

74. DISCLOSURES OF LOBBYING

There were no disclosures of Lobbying.

75. EXEMPT ITEMS

<u>RESOLVED</u>: That the Items on Part II of the Agenda be taken in private as proposed.

76. MINUTES

<u>RESOLVED</u>: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 November 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed.

77. HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE ISSUES (IF ANY)

There were no issues to be raised.

78. REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Democratic Services regarding the level of fees to be charged for discretionary licence fees relating to animal boarding, performing animals, dangerous wild animals, zoos, breeding of dogs, pet shops, horse riding establishments, street trading and sexual entertainment venues.

<u>RESOLVED</u>: That the proposed fees and charges as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Head of Democratic Services be approved for implementation from 1 April 2012.

79. REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE FEES AND CHARGES

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Democratic Services regarding the level of fees in respect of vehicles and operators of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire.

In response to a question, the Head of Democratic Services explained that the increase in cost of a replacement Plate for both Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles was to reflect the actual cost of the plate currently being issued by the Partnership. The Head of Democratic Services agreed to ensure that this is a true reflection of the actual cost and would adjust the charge if necessary.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Hackney Carriage Compliance and Licence Fee and the Private Hire Compliance and Licence Fee remain at existing fee levels with effect from 1 April 2012 and the cost of a replacement Plate for both be set at actual cost or £37, whichever is the lesser, with immediate effect.
- 2. That the Operators Licence Fee be changed to a fee of £63 per vehicle multiplied by the number of vehicles being licensed with effect from 1 April 2012.

80. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING

<u>RESOLVED</u>: That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business because of the likely disclosure of exempt information for the reasons specified, having applied the Public Interest Test:-

Head of Schedule 12A and Brief Description

Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Enforcement

3 = Financial/Business Affairs

7 = Crime

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81. <u>LICENSING ENFORCEMENT - HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE</u>

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Democratic Services regarding action required arising from an enforcement exercise carried out on 15 October 2011 by officers of the Licensing Section in relation to the illegal activity of Private Hire Vehicles plying for hire.

82. LICENSING ENFORCEMENT - HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE

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83. DURATION OF MEETING

6.00 p.m. to 9.20 p.m.