

REGULATORY AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

1 October 2012

PRESENT:

Councillors Leytham (Chairman), Derrick (Vice Chairman), Mrs Allsopp, Mrs Bacon, Mrs Constable, Constable, Drinkwater, Mrs Hancocks, Heath, Lewin, Salter, Smedley, Warfield and Yeates.

118 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Warfield declared a Personal Interest in the Item 8 relating to Street Collections 2013 in view of his wife being both Secretary for the Lichfield Greenhill Bower Committee and a member of the Lichfield Soroptimists.

119 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 19 June and 15 August 2012, as printed and previously circulated were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

120 WORK PROGRAMME

Members considered the proposed Work Programme for the Committee and were informed that the House to House Collections item would be considered in February 2013. Some Members expressed concern about the ability to control dogs in the Parks in Burntwood and suggested that this be included on the Work Programme. It was agreed that officers of the Environmental and Leisure Services Sections should investigate this matter with a view to proposals being put forward.

RESOLVED: That the amended Work Programme be approved.

121 APPLICATION FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE – FARE INCREASE

Members were informed of a request received from the taxi trade for an increase in the current Hackney Carriage tariffs. Members then considered the trade proposals where it was noted that there was no evidence submitted by the Taxi drivers to support the proposed increase in tariffs. In the absence of such evidence, Members considered the data provided in the report, as a means of providing evidence of increases in running costs to arrive at an appropriate tariff rate. An appendix of proposed revised tariffs was then considered and this was agreed subject to the proposed soiling charge being increased to £50.

RESOLVED: 1) That the proposed tariffs as submitted at Appendix F be approved for consultation purposes subject to the proposed soiling charge being increased to £50.

2) That the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Regulatory and Licensing Committee be authorised to consider any consultation responses and to set a revised tariff rates for Hackney Carriages for the Lichfield District.

122 PROPOSED DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO.49 IN THE PARISH OF ALREWAS

Members were advised of the proposed diversion of Public Footpath No. 49 in the Parish of Alrewas that was being sought by Essington Park Limited. The diversion was necessary in order to divert the original footpath as part of an approved planning application for the re-development of the farmhouse and barns at Essington House Farm, Alrewas. The diversion had been requested in order to create an alternative public right of way so that the footpath did not cross the proposed development. Members noted the benefit of the diversion in that it would enable easy access for wall and roof maintenance and repairs without obstructing the existing pathway.

RESOLVED: 1) That a Public Footpath Diversion Order be made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to be known as The Lichfield District Council (Footpath No.49 in the Parish of Alrewas) Public Footpath Diversion Order 2012.

2) That the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services be authorised to take all necessary action.

123 STREET COLLECTIONS 2013

Members were asked to consider the allocation of Street Collection Permits for 2013 for charitable organisations. They were informed of the current system of rotating permits enabling each organisation a year in either Lichfield or Burntwood, with the exception for those organisations whose activities were concentrated in one area.

RESOLVED: That permit applications for street collections for the organisations detailed in the report be agreed.

124 AIR QUALITY AND CONTAMINATED LAND UPDATE

The Senior Environmental Protection Officer updated Members on the Air Quality assessment which following EU directives required all member states to assess air quality against set objectives for seven pollutants. Members were advised of the three yearly rolling cycle of annual reports which the District Council completed in the form of a full district screening to check if any areas were breaching the air pollutants permitted which were then reported back to Defra. It was reported that the tests revealed that Muckley Corner still had a pollutant problem as a result of Heavy Goods Vehicles not using M6 Toll and that a joint project had begun with Cannock Chase Council to address the problem.

Members were also updated on the Contaminated Land for which due to the new grant system, Eastern Avenue, Lichfield and Admiral Parker Drive, Shenstone (the next two roads which needed to be inspected) there was no external funding. It was noted that the tests would still be carried out using internal staff for which there was a two year budget to cover costs. A report would come back to the Committee with the results.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

125 THE GAMBLING ACT 2005 – FINAL STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES (GAMBLING POLICY)

Members were asked to consider the revised policy relating to the Statement of Principles following a recent consultation exercise. It was reported that only two responses were received from the consultation and that the final draft if agreed by the Committee would go to Council for final approval.

RECOMMENDED: That the final revised Statement of Principles (Gambling Policy) be approved.

(The meeting closed at 7.19 p.m)

CHAIRMAN