

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE HELD AT  
FOLLATON HOUSE, TOTNES ON MONDAY 16 JUNE 2008**

**MEMBERS**

∅ Cllr J H Baverstock - Chairman

\* Cllr J W Squire - Vice-Chairman

∅ Cllr K J Baldry

∅ Cllr J I G Blackler

\* Cllr B E Carson

\* Cllr R J Carter

\* Cllr P H Cook

∅ Cllr C W Jones

\* Cllr D W May

∅ Cllr C M Pannell

\* Cllr S L Rankin

\* Cllr M F Saltern

\* Denotes attendance

∅ Denotes apology for absence

Officers in attendance:

All items: Licensing Manager

**L.1/08 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Committee held on 17 October 2007 and of the Licensing Sub Committees held during the period 20 November 2007 to 23 April 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**L.2/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting. These were recorded as:-

Cllr D W May declared a personal interest in item 5: Hackney Carriages – Revised Table of Fares 2008/09 (minute L.3/08 below refers) and remained in the meeting and took part in the debate and vote thereon.

**L.3/08 HACKNEY CARRIAGES – REVISED TABLE OF FARES 2008/09**

A report was considered which sought Members approval to change the Table of Fares for Hackney Carriages for 2008/09.

During discussion, Members were informed that Hackney Carriage fares were generally reviewed annually to allow the trade to keep pace with operating costs. Fares were previously approved by the Licensing Committee on 17 October 2007 but since then oil prices had hit a new record high level and were likely to continue to rise.

In calculating the proposed tariff increases, allowances had been made for normal inflation plus the considerable increase in fuel prices since January 2008. When comparing tariffs with other authorities the South Hams would still have one of the lowest charging levels.

Members were also advised that there was an omission in the appendix as circulated with the agenda where Tariff 3 had not been amended to reflect changes to the charging regime. Members therefore **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED** the suggested changes (as identified in the appendix to these minutes).

Although the report noted that South Hams, even with the suggested increases, would still have one of the lowest taxi tariffs in Devon and Cornwall, a Member highlighted the importance of also taking into consideration the consumers needs and financial restrictions. In response, it was felt that the suggested increase in charges were fair and equitable, and furthermore, Members would have an opportunity to review charges further in October 2008.

It was then:-

**RECOMMENDED**

That Council be **RECOMMENDED** that:-

- a) In respect of hackney carriages operating within South Hams District Council, the maximum fare which may be charged should be set in accordance with the Table of Fares as appended to these minutes; and
- b) The Table of Fares be advertised and come into effect in accordance with the provisions of Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

(Meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 2.30 pm).

---

Chairman

**APPENDIX A****SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL****MOTOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES**

The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall be entitled to demand and take for hire of the carriage the rate of fare prescribed by the following table, the rate of fare being calculated by distance, except that if the distance travelled is more than five miles from the point where the hirer commences the hiring, the hirer and proprietor may agree at the commencement of the hiring to engage by time.

Provided always that where a hackney carriage furnished with a taximeter shall be hired by distance the proprietor or driver thereof shall not be entitled to demand and take a fare greater than that recorded on the face of the taximeter, save for any extra charges authorised by the following table which it may not be possible to record on the face of the taximeter.

**FARES FOR DISTANCE**

		Existing	<i>Proposed</i>
1.	<u>TARIFF 1</u> – Monday to Saturday where the hiring commences between 7am and 11pm.		
	For the first 786.38 metres (860 yards) or part thereof	£2.40	<i>£2.40</i>
	For each subsequent 201.17 metres (220 yards) or uncompleted part thereof	20 pence	
	<i>For each subsequent 182.88 metres (200 yards) or uncompleted part thereof</i>  <i>(In effect this means a one-mile journey will increase from £3.22 to £3.30 [+2.5%] a two mile journey will increase from £4.82 to £5.05 [+5%] and a ten mile journey will increase from £17.62 to £19.14 [+8.63%]. The South West regional averages for the same distances being £3.37; £5.18 &amp; £19.88. The National averages being £3.18; £4.76 &amp; £17.49).</i>		<i>20 pence</i>
	<u>Waiting Time</u>		
	For each period of 70 seconds or uncompleted part thereof	20 pence	<i>20 pence</i>

2.	<p><u>TARIFF 2</u> – Sundays and Bank Holidays where the hiring commences between 7am and 11pm and on all other days where the hiring commences between 11pm and 7am and where the hiring commences between 7pm on 24<sup>th</sup> December and 7am on 27<sup>th</sup> December and between 7pm on 31<sup>st</sup> December and 7am on 2<sup>nd</sup> January.</p>		
	For the first 786.38 metres (860 yards) or part thereof	£3.10	£3.10
	For each subsequent 153.62 metres (168 yards) or uncompleted part thereof	20 pence	
	<i>For each subsequent 142.65 metres (156 yards) or uncompleted part thereof</i>	<i>20 pence</i>	
	<p><i>(In effect this means a one-mile journey will increase from £4.17 to £4.25 [+1.9%], a two mile journey will increase from £6.27 to £6.51 [+7.4%] and a ten mile journey will increase from £23.03 to £24.56 [+6.65%]. The South West regional averages for the same distances being £4.57; £7.03 and £27.53. The National averages being £4.24; £6.33 and £23.21).</i></p> <p><u>WAITING TIME</u> For each period of 48 seconds or uncompleted part thereof</p>	20 pence	<i>20 pence</i>
3	<p><u>TARIFF 3</u> – Where the hirer specifically requests an eight passenger seat vehicle. There is a stipulation that each seat must be equipped with a three anchorage point seat belt. Daily 24 hours.</p>		
	For the first 786.38 metres (860 yards) or part thereof	£3.70	£3.70
	For each subsequent 153.62 metres (168 yards) or uncompleted part thereof	20 pence	
	<i>For each subsequent 142.65 metres (156 yards) or uncompleted part thereof</i>	<i>20 pence</i>	

	<p><i>(In effect this means the Tariff for the hire of an eight passenger seat mini bus will be 60p greater than Tariff 2).</i></p> <p><b><u>WAITING TIME</u></b></p> <p>For each period of 48 seconds or uncompleted part thereof</p>	20 pence	<i>20 pence</i>
4.	<p><b><u>EXTRA CHARGES</u></b></p> <p>For the fouling of the interior or exterior of the carriage</p> <p>For each article of luggage or other article conveyed outside the passenger compartment of the carriage</p> <p>For each animal carried (Assistance dogs are carried free of charge)</p> <p>For each person in excess of one (two children between the ages of 3 years and 6 years shall be regarded as one person. A child under 3 years shall not be reckoned).</p>	£80.00 25 pence 25 pence 25 pence	<i>£80.00 25 pence 25 pence 25 pence</i>
	<b><u>BOOKING CHARGE</u></b>		
	For each hiring which requires the driver to drive to the hirer's Designated pick up point	£1.00	<i>£1.00</i>