Minutes of the Licensing Committee of the Test Valley Borough Council

held in Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover on Thursday 23 September 2021 at 5.30 pm

Attendance:

Councillor P Lashbrook (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor I Andersen Councillor J Budzynski Councillor T Burley Councillor C Donnelly Councillor L Lashbrook Councillor N Matthews Councillor J Parker

199

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bailey, A Dowden, Gwynne and Johnston.

200

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

201

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

202

Urgent Items

There were no urgent items to consider.

203

Minutes

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2021 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

204 <u>Taxi and Private Hire Licensing - Review of Policy and</u> Licence Conditions

The Licensing Manager introduced the item explaining that although there was no statutory requirement to have a taxi and private hire licensing policy, it was good practice to have one as it assists with consistent decision-making and sends a clear message to potential applicants (and those already licensed) as to the standards the Council expects persons to meet.

The report informed Members that The Department for Transport had published 'Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Standards' which must be considered by all Licensing Authorities. It recommended that the Council consult on matters to be included in a new Policy document (a) as a result of the Department for Transport Statutory Standards and (b) resulting from a review of the licensing functions policies and procedures generally.

The Licensing Manager advised the Committee that he was in the process of drafting a consultation document and hoped to have completed the consultation with members of the trade, stakeholders and other affected parties by mid 2022.

Resolved:

That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Licensing Manager, be authorised to commence a consultation process as set out in paragraph 4.1.

205 <u>Licensing Sub-Committee Membership</u>

Resolved:

That the membership of the Licensing Sub-Committee be comprised of three members drawn from the Licensing Committee, subject to members having undergone appropriate training. Those members would be selected in strict alphabetical order, save when it transpires that a member has an interest as defined in the Members' Code of Conduct or the member was a member for or lives within the ward within which an application premises is situated. In the event of a member selected becoming unavailable to attend a hearing, then the Head of Legal and Democratic Services would select a replacement in accordance with the above arrangements. Where possible, those members would be selected on a basis that they will not all be from the same political party or group.

206 Scheme of Delegations to Officers

Resolved:

That the Scheme of Delegations to Officers, annexed to the report to Annual Council, in so far as it applies to the powers and duties of the Licensing Committee, be approved.

(The meeting terminated at 5.45 pm)