

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

8 December 2016

7.00 pm – 8.40 pm

Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Stroud

3

Minutes

Membership

Councillor Steve Robinson (Chair)	P	Councillor John Marjoram	P
Councillor Jonathan Edmunds (Vice-Chair)	P	Councillor Karen McKeown	P
Councillor George Butcher	P	Councillor Gill Oxley	A
Councillor Gordon Craig	P	Councillor Liz Peters	A
Councillor Alison Hayward	P	Councillor Nigel Prenter	A
Councillor John Jones	A	Councillor Penny Wride	P

P = Present A = Absent

Other Councillors Present

Councillor Nigel Cooper

Officers Present

Strategic Head of Customer Services	Principal Licensing Officer
Community & Facilities Manager	Licensing Officer
Accountant	Democratic Services Officer

CSLC.021

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Liz Peters, John Jones and Gill Oxley.

CSLC.022

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

CSLC.023

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 September 2016 are confirmed and signed as a correct record.

CSLC.024 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

None received.

CSLC.025 **WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17**

Discussion on the work programme took place and the following issues were highlighted.

- Outside bodies – there is a Task and Finish Group who will report to a future meeting.
- Joint Use Sports Centres – Members and officers are meeting with Sport England and will report back to a future Committee.
- Tourism update – the Task and Finish Group reviewing the Sub-Rooms is also taking the TIC into consideration.

CSLC.026 **REVENUE ESTIMATES - REVISED 2016/17 AND ORIGINAL 2017/18**

The Accountant presented the report highlighting details of the changes to the budget for 2016/17 (Revised) and 2017/18 (Original).

During questions the following issues were discussed:

- Grants to voluntary organisations.
- Homelessness – the responsibility for this had been transferred to Housing Committee as from 1 December 2016.

RECOMMENDED TO STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

a) The revised CS&L revenue budget for 2016/17 and original 2017/18 revenue budget are approved.

b) That the budget proposal of £60kpa for Youth Strategy work be considered as part of the base budget so the service delivery continues beyond March 2020 (paragraph 11).

CSLC.027 **REPORT OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP - STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL TAXI FARES**

Councillor Gordon Craig presented the report of the Task and Finish Group who were asked, by Committee, to consider the changes proposed by the Stroud Taxi Association.

RESOLVED

1. That Stroud District taxi fares are not increased at the current time.
2. That the trade representatives be advised that the Committee will be content to consider another request for a review of the taxi fares in 12 months.

CSLC.028**TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE POLICY REVIEW**

The Principal Licensing Officer presented the report asking Committee to consider adopting proposed amendments to the policy. The current policy came into force in 2011, consultation had taken place and there had been 44 responses. If the policy is approved it will be in force on 1 April 2017.

During questions the following issues were discussed:

- The age of the vehicle
- CCTV in taxis
- Emissions
- Wheelchair friendly taxis
- Safeguarding
- Too many taxis in the District for drivers to make a living

Councillor Gordon Craig proposed a motion, to accept the Policy with the exclusion of point 4, Vehicle Age Policy, to do further work and discuss at a future meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Penny Wride.

On being put to the vote the motion failed.

The Principal Licensing Officer was asked to research practices of other authorities and review in 2017.

A proposal was put forward for the Enforcement and Complaints Policy to be adopted on 1 January 2017. This changes the process for dealing with complaints which would be referred to a panel of 3 Councillors of the relevant Committee.

The recommendations were put to the vote and were carried.

RESOLVED

1. **To approve the recommendations in paragraph 4.3 of this report.**
2. **From 1 April 2017, to adopt the Taxi and Private Hire Information, Policy and Conditions booklet (Appendix C of this report) as amended in accordance with this report.**
3. **From 1 January 2017 the Enforcement and Complaints Policy be adopted as detailed at 4.3 (9) of the report.**

CSLC.029**UPDATE ON COUNTYWIDE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP REVIEW**

The Community and Facilities Manager gave an update. He explained that the review had been originated by Leadership Gloucestershire who had agreed to deliver option 3. Concern was expressed that if this was agreed, Stroud may not have direct input of what is needed for the District.

CSLC.030

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

A report had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting. The Health and Wellbeing Development Co-ordinator would be attending Committee on 2 February 2017 to update Members.

CSLC.031

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

There were none.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Chair