



Taxi & General Licensing Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Taxi & General Licensing Committee held in The Jeffrey Room at The Guildhall, Northampton, NN1 1DE on Tuesday 18 April 2023 at 6.00pm.

Present:

Councillor Andrew Kilbride (Chair)
Councillor Sally Beardsworth
Councillor Imran Ahmed Chowdhury BEM
Councillor Maggie Clubley
Councillor Cheryl Hawes
Councillor Keith Holland-Delamere
Councillor Brian Sargeant
Councillor Winston Strachan

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Mike Warren (Vice Chair)
Councillor Alan Chantler
Councillor Gareth Eales
Councillor Terry Gilford
Councillor Mark Hughes
Councillor Jake Roberts
Councillor Richard Solesbury-Timms

Officers:

Nicholas Sutcliffe, Licensing and Business Support Manager
James Chadwick, Principal Lawyer - Licensing
Richard Woods, Democratic Services Officer

17. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

18. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24 January 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

19. Chair's Announcements

The Chair reminded Members that the meeting of the Taxi & General Licensing Sub-Committee relating to Robinson's Tattoo's that was due to be held the following day would now start at 1pm, as opposed to 2pm.

20. **Approval of the designation of streets for the purpose of Street Trading in the West Northamptonshire Council area**

The Assistant Director – Regulatory Services submitted a report which requested the Committee approve the designation of streets for the purposes of street trading.

In introducing the report, the Licensing and Environmental Support Services Manager explained that following the Committee's previous decision to approve the Council's draft Street Trading Policy for statutory and public consultation, a notice inviting representations from the public was published on 9 March 2023 in accordance with the statutory requirements of the consultation, with any such representations to be considered by the Committee prior to final approval of the designation of streets.

Aldo Gallone, a local businessman, submitted a representation and addressed the Committee, setting out his view that the inclusion of the A428 at Harlestone Firs on the list of prohibited streets was draconian and unnecessary and would prevent his ice cream van from trading, which had been doing so in this location since the 1940s. In response to Mr Gallone's representation, the Licensing and Environmental Support Services Manager advised that the A428 at Harlestone Firs had previously been designated as a prohibited street by Daventry District Council, but the necessary files providing the background information and rationale behind this designation could not be located.

Members of the Committee expressed a view that, in the absence of any rationale behind the original decision of Daventry District Council to designate the A428 at Harlestone Firs as a prohibited street and in the absence of any other evidence that street trading in the area would give rise public nuisance or safety issues, it should be removed from the list of prohibited streets in order to allow businesses to continue to trade in the location, subject to the relevant licensing arrangements being in place beforehand. Members of the Committee had no further comments on any of the other streets proposed for designation.

It was proposed by Councillor Sally Beardsworth and seconded by Councillor Imran Ahmed Chowdhury that the designation of streets for the purposes of street trading, as set out in the statutory notice published on 9 March 2023, be approved subject to the removal of the A428 at Harlestone Firs from the list of prohibited streets for the purposes of street trading. The motion was put to the vote with eight votes cast in favour of the proposal and no votes cast against, therefore the motion was carried.

Resolved

- (1) That the designation of streets for the purposes of street trading, as set out in the statutory notice published on 9 March 2023, be approved subject to the removal of the A428 at Harlestone Firs from the list of prohibited streets for the purposes of street trading.

21. **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting closed at 6.29 pm

Chair: _____

Date: _____