

LICENSING COMMITTEE**10 March 2015 at 10.05 am**

MEMBERS: Councillor Kevin Burke (Chair), and Councillors Samantha Bourne, Richard Broadbent, Richard Marston, Nighat Piracha, Simon Wales and Graham Whitham

ABSENT: Councillors Manuel Abellan, Moira Butt, Trish Fivey, Marlene Heron, Nali Patel, Jason Reynolds, Tony Shields and Paul Wingfield

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Marlene Heron.

7. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2014 were approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

8. LICENSING FEES - ADOPTION

The Committee considered a report on the proposed fees for Street Trading, Special Treatment, Poisons and Animal License fees for 2015/16. It was important that the fees set did not enable the Local Authority to make a profit, but would ensure that the Council recovered the costs of operating the service.

The Committee were informed that since the publication of the agenda the Chair of the Committee had received a letter from EcoLocal which requested a separate fee be applied for community markets, however Members were informed that it would be unlawful to do so as subsidisation is not allowed under the European Services Directive. Members were informed that Councillor McCoy, Chair of the Housing, Economy and Business Committee, had been sent the letter also and was looking into possible funding which could be provided to assist EcoLocal with their speciality markets. The Chair of the Licensing Committee assured Members he would keep them informed of the outcome of discussions.

Members were informed that following Government consultation on allowing fees covered by the Licensing Act 2003 to be set locally, the licensed trade had strongly objected to proposals as it would be difficult for them to manage different fees across all licensing authorities. The Government had considered traders objections and was working with the Local Government Association to find a solution.

Resolved:

1. That no increase is applied to the Market Traders fees, set out in Appendix A of the report, to partially recover the surplus on the ring fenced cost centre.

2. That the proposed Temporary Street Trading, Special Treatment, Animal and Poisons licence fees, set out in Appendix B of the report, are increased by 5% to ensure cost recovery of the service.

9. ANY URGENT BUSINESS,

The Committee were informed that an options report on Street Trading licences would be going to the Licensing Committee in June 2015.

The meeting ended at 10.23 am

Chair:

Date: