

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING – 17TH MARCH  
2005**

**Present:**

Councillor Hardy (in the Chair)

Councillors

Bate	Callow	Mrs Greenhalgh	Mrs Smith
Mrs Benson	Mrs Cresswell	Mitchell	

**In attendance:**

Mrs S Davies, Mr T Rhodes, Ms N Wild, Mrs P Higson and Miss L Smith, Business Services Department

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**2. MINUTES - 10TH FEBRUARY 2005**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2005 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**3. APPLICATION FOR A SEX SHOP LICENCE**

The Committee was informed that an application for an additional sex shop licence had been received from a prospective Sex Shop Operator in relation to premises at 11-15 Foxhall Square. The applicants, Mr Entwistle and Mrs Judge proprietors of Saints and Sinners at the stated address were in attendance with their lawyer Mr Woosnan.

PC Andy Parr was in attendance and confirmed that the Police had no objections to the application.

**Resolved:**

(1) That having considered all the information presented and having regard to the Council's policy the Sex Shop Licence in respect of Saints and Sinners be granted subject to the following conditions

i) that the nature of goods for sale, in addition to those already sold at the shop remain unchanged other than the sale of R18 films

ii) that the stock and sale of the R18 films be exclusively on the basement or first floor subject to an interim period when refurbishment is taking place

iii) that the special arrangements to serve wheelchair users unable to access other floors be suitably discreet

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iv) that the external advertising clearly and tastefully represents the sales within

2) that the Committee review the Council's Policy on Sex Shops in light of the decision

**MOTION MOVED, SECONDED, VOTED UPON AND LOST**

During consideration of the preceding item the following motion was moved, seconded, voted upon and lost:

'that the application for a Sex Shop Licence in respect of Saints and Sinners be refused'

Background Papers: None

**4. PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS LICENCE**

The Sub-Committee was informed that an application for the grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence and a request for consideration of a current driver's licence had been received. Convictions or concerns of a sufficiently serious nature as to be referred to the Committee for consideration had been disclosed or had come to light.

JAW with friend, was in attendance at the meeting.

**Resolved:**

(1) that application in respect of WP be heard in his absence

(2) that the application in respect of WP be refused on the grounds that he is not a fit and proper person to hold a Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence

(3) that having due regard to the Human Rights Act 1998. the current licence in respect of JAW be suspended with immediate effect and the situation be reviewed by the Sub Committee at its meeting on 12th May to allow the progression of legal proceedings.

Background Papers: Exempt

**5. TAXI FARES REVIEW**

The Committee was reminded that the Council and taxi trade had agreed a formula to establish appropriate taxi fares, which would reflect average wages based upon North West England rather than Blackpool and the premium accrued from the higher figure would be returned to the customer in the form of agreed quality improvements.

Members considered the tariffs recommended for the forthcoming 12 months details of which were circulated with the agenda.

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**Resolved:**

- (1) to approve an increase on Tariff 1 by 20p as recommended
- (2) to approve an increase on Tariff 2 by 20p
- (3) to approve the introduction of a Tariff 3 with a Christmas surcharge of £2 as recommended
- (4) to approve the increase of 'soiling' charge from £20 to £30 as recommended

Background Papers: None

**6. BLACKPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT REGARDING THE DEREGULATION OF THE TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE TRADE**

In a report to Government in Spring 2004 the Office of Fair Trading had reported that it sought to deregulate the 'taxi' and private hire trade. The Department for Transport had decided not to order all Councils to deregulate but instead had ordered Councils seeking to continue to regulate numbers to justify their actions in a public document by no later than March 2005. The Department for Transport had specified the methodology to be followed and the information that was required entailed a huge workload and expertise which could not be borne by the Licensing Service in-house although data was contained in the most recent Unmet Demand Survey.

Members were reminded that at its meeting on 12th August 2004 the Council's Public Protection Committee had agreed that the Halcros Group Ltd undertake any necessary surveys and prepare a report. Members received a copy of the report for their consideration.

**Resolved:**

That the report be approved and forwarded to the Secretary of State for Transport.

Background Papers: None

**7. FLAG DAY COLLECTIONS 2005/06**

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on Flag Day collections for 2005/06. It was informed that a number of organisations were granted collections on a rota basis, either annually, two years out of three or one year out of three.

The Committee also considered a list of five other organisations who had applied for permission to hold collections in 2005/06. In addition the Committee considered the grant of a permit to allow the sale of a brochure for the evening of the Switch-On of the Autumn Illuminations 2005.

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## Resolved:

- (1) To agree that according to the rota system the organisations set out in paragraph 3 of the report be granted a day to undertake a Street Collection in the 12 month period ending 31st March 2006.
- (2) That those organisations listed in Annex B be allocated a day to undertake a Street Collection in the 12 month period ending 31st March 2006
- (3) To delegate to the Senior Licensing Officer authority to issue further suitable organisations with permits to the agreed maximum annual total of 16
- (4) To authorise the grant of a permit under the Street Collections Regulations to permit the sale to the public of a brochure on the evening of the Switch-On of the 2005 Autumn Illuminations on 2nd September 2005.

Background Papers: Applications Submitted

## 8. DRINKING IN THE STREETS

Mrs Davies reported to Members on the current situation and procedures relating to Alcohol Consumption in Designated Places (Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001, The Local Authorities Regulations 2001). She confirmed that the places covered by the new Act were the same as those designated in the original bye-law and new additions would need to be submitted in writing via the Community Safety Officer. It was noted that back streets had not been specified in the original list.

Background Papers: None

(The meeting ended at 1:00 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:  
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