

Licensing Committee

11 JANUARY 2016

PRESENT: Councillor J Brandis (Chairman); Councillors M Hawkett (Vice-Chairman), P Cooper, A Huxley, S Lambert, T Mills, G Powell and B Russel

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors

APOLOGIES: Councillors A Harrison, S Renshell and Sir Beville Stanier Bt

1. TEMPORARY CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

There were none.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2015 be approved as a correct record.

3. FEES FOR RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS

In November 2015, the Licensing Committee agreed fees relating to licenses for animal related businesses with the exception of riding establishments.

The original proposed fee for riding establishments was a generic fee based on the overall cost of providing the licensing service and the number of existing premises. It had been hoped that this would simplify the fee structure and therefore negate the need to calculate a fee for each of the premises.

However, during the consultation period a representation had been received from Horses Helping People which pointed out that the proposed fee structure would result in a significant increase in costs for the charity. Further examination revealed that five other licensed businesses would effectively pay more for their licence.

Given the representation and further examination, Members agreed to defer making a decision on fees for riding establishments.

The existing fee had been £275 plus £15 per horse. The costs of delivering the service was reviewed and a proposed fee of £275 plus £10 per horse was arrived at. All existing licence holders were consulted on this revised fee and again only one representation was received.

It was acknowledged that if the number of horses used in riding establishments were to increase during the term of the licence then the licence holder would be required to pay the Council an additional fee based on the number of horses to be added to the licence. Additionally any new horse brought into the riding establishment during the term of the licence must also be subject to inspection by a Council authorised vet at the licence holders expense.

Members sought clarification on the vets used by the Council and their costs, how the council was informed about an increase in the number of horses at any establishment and the different types of riding establishments.

RESOLVED –

That the committed noted the review of fees relating to riding establishment licences and agreed the proposed fees as set out in the report.