For the attention of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

COMMUNITY SERVICES & LICENSING COMMITTEE

Decisions of a Meeting held on 25 September 2008

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Observers: Councillors Andrews and Clark

1. Apologies

Councillors Hemesley and Mrs Hodgson

2. Minutes of a meeting of the Community Services & Licensing Committee held on 24 July 2008

Minutes approved as a correct record.

3. Community Leisure Working Party Minutes - 12 August 2008

Minutes endorsed.

4. Urgent Business

The Chairman reported that there were no items to be considered as a matter of urgency by virtue of Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

5. **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

6. **Items Referred from Council**

1. November Fair in Helmsley

The Head of Environmental Services reported that businesses in Helmsley had expressed concerns regarding the November Fair, which was held in the Market Square. Concerns related to issues of noise and the loss of car parking. The contract for the Fair, which included Pickering, Malton and Kirkbymoorside, was due for renewal in 2009.

It was suggested that the petition be accepted and taken into account as part of the further consultation process that was to take place at contract renewal. In the meantime the situation in all the Market Towns involved would be monitored.

The Committee endorsed this course of action.

Date completed: 1 October 2009
Deadline for Call In: 16 October 2009

2. Affordable Housing

The Committee were reminded that at the last meeting of Council held on 4 September 2008, in considering Overview & Scrutiny Minute No. 181 (Call-in of Community Services & Licensing Committee Decision - Single Homelessness Strategy for North Yorkshire and Local Action Group), Council had resolved:

- (a) Council instructs Community Services & Licensing Committee to consider affordable housing as a standing item on its agendas
- (b) Community Services & Licensing Committee considers how best to meet the aspirations expressed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

The Chairman welcomed the inclusion on the agenda of a standing item relating to affordable housing, as this would enable the Committee to monitor progress.

The Corporate Director reported that an Affordable Housing Section had been included on the agenda and the report at item 7 outlined proposed actions in respect of (b) above.

7. Affordable Housing

Recommendation agreed.

8. Private Sector Housing Strategy

Recommendations agreed together with additional recommendation (c) as follows:

(c) Agree that, in the event of a shortfall in either commitments or expenditure of the Regional Housing Pot allocation, any such shortfall be used to support the acquisition of affordable housing by partner Registered Social Landlords in order to secure the anticipated allocation for 2009/10 and 2010/11.

NB Councillor Woodward recorded his vote against the decision.

9. Boiler Replacement Programme & Energy Efficiency Improvements

Recommendations agreed.

10. Amendment to Taxi Rank - The Ropery Car Park, Pickering

Recommendation agreed.

11. Taxi Licensing Task Group Update

Following consideration of the report and the various options put forward for consideration it was:

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Resolved:

- (a) That the feedback and the Taxi Licensing Task Group's work in progress be noted
- (b) That the Policy & Resources Committee be recommended to retain the current breakeven policy over an extended period.

12. Round Table Discussion:

Community Services & Licensing Committee Terms of Reference

The Committee's Terms of Reference were circulated with the agenda for discussion and comment. Members were reminded that the Constitution Review Working Party was currently undertaking a review of the Council's Constitution.

Following consideration it was agreed that the Terms of Reference (ToR) be re-drafted and brought back to the next meeting of the Committee in a format that:

- States clearly the roles and responsibilities
- Is explicit and in plain English
- Includes a description of services
- Includes a set of generic roles and responsibilities applied across all services within the scope of this Committee
- That a Members' training session be arranged
- That draft the revised ToR be submitted to a future meeting for comment so as to be included within the current review of the Constitution being carried out by the Constitution Review WP.

It was noted that the objective was to make the ToR easily understandable and that the Committee did not wish to amend the actual scope of its Terms of Reference.

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