

REPORT OF THE REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Meetings Held on 23rd August and 25th October, 2005

Membership:

Councillors: R.I. Matthews (Chairman), Brig. P. Jones CBE (Vice-Chairman) Mrs. S.P.A. Daniels, G.W. Davis, D.J. Fleet, J.G.S. Guthrie, J.W. Hope, T.W. Hunt, J.W. Newman, R. Preece, D.C. Taylor, P.G. Turpin.

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 SECTION 119 PROPOSED PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER FOOTPATH CZ13 (PART) IN THE PARISH OF CRASWALL

1. An application for a Public Path Diversion Order has been granted in respect of footpath CZ13 (Part) at Craswall. The application had been made to take the path away from a farm building and a house and garden at the 'Three Horseshoes'. An alternative route has been provided which is acceptable under the provisions of the Act following successful consultation with interested parties, the local parish council and the local Ward Councillor.

KNOWLEDGE TEST – DUAL DRIVERS LICENCES – THE TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847 AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976

2. The Committee has approved the introduction of a knowledge test as part of the application process for dual Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Licence applications. The test has been introduced for new applicants and investigation is being made into the costs of implementing it for existing licence holders.

INCREASE IN HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES 2005/2006 - THE TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847 AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976

3. The Committee has looked at the taxi fares which were last reviewed and increased in November 2004. Proposals for an increase in charges for taxi fares were published in the Hereford Times on 20 October 2005 with a two week period of consultation which is due to end on 3 November 2005. The fares are reviewed annually and the changes are due to be implemented in November 2005. The proposed increases are based on the annual inflation indices and also submissions from the Herefordshire Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association. It is proposed that the fare increase should take effect from 7 November 2005 subject to the results of the consultation process being satisfactory.

APPLICATIONS FOR DUAL HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCES – LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976

4. Ten applications for the renewal or grant of Hackney Carriage/Private Hire drivers licences were referred to the Committee in accordance with the Council's terms and conditions and the advice on the interpretation of spent convictions. The applicants and their representatives gave details of the grounds for their applications and the provided the Committee with the circumstances about their offences.
5. Having considered all the facts put forward by the Licensing Manager, the applicants and their representatives, the Committee decided that the Licensing Manager should

be authorised to grant 4 applications because they considered that the applicants were fit and proper persons under the meaning of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. The Committee refused 6 applications because they considered that the applicants were not fit and proper persons under the meaning of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

**R.I. MATTHEWS
CHAIRMAN
REGULATORY COMMITTEE**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Agenda papers from the meetings of the Regulatory Committee held on 23rd August and 25th October, 2005.