

## **TAXI LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE**

At a Meeting of the Taxi Licensing Sub-Committee held within the Council Offices,  
Clydebank on Monday 16th June, 1997.

**Present:** Councillors Alistair Macdonald (LAB), Mary Campbell (LAB), William Mackechnie (SNP) and Ronald McColl (SNP).

**Attending:** Mr. S. Brown, Manager - Legal and Administrative Services, Mr. E. Walker, Director of Finance, Mr. C. Howat, Manager of Accounting, Mr. D. Rooney, Senior Administrative Officer, Mr. R. Mackie, Licensing Officer and Mr. D. Lamb, Licensing Officer: Enforcement.

**Also Attending:** Messrs. A. Melville, J. Cassidy and W. Neeson representing the West Dumbarton Area Taxi Trade Association and Messrs. D. McDermott and M. McDermott representing the Clydebank Taxi Trade Association.

**Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Provost Patrick O'Neill (LAB) and Councillor James Flynn (LAB).

**Councillor Alistair Macdonald in the Chair**

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of Meeting of the Taxi Licensing Sub-Committee held on 24th February, 1997 were submitted and accepted as a correct record, it having been noted that the Minutes had been approved by the Environmental Protection and Leisure Services Committee on 26th March, 1997.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

After hearing Mr. Melville it was agreed that the order of business be altered from that as shown in the agenda for the meeting.

### **OUTSTANDING MATTERS**

## **The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 - Application to the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Taxi Licensing)**

It was noted that this matter had been included on a previous agenda of the Sub-Committee at the request of the representatives of the Taxi Trade but had not been discussed.

After hearing Mr. Melville it was noted that the representatives of the Taxi Trade did not regard the matter as being of concern at the present time as it was expected that a statement on the subject would be issued in the near future by The Scottish Taxi Federation.

### **TAXI FARES - REVIEW**

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council relative to proposals to review the current level of taxi fares.

After hearing the Manager - Legal and Administrative Services, it was noted that consultations had taken place with the Taxi Trade and whilst operators within the Dumbarton zone had indicated that they would not currently propose an increase in their fare scales, operators within the Clydebank zone had put forward proposals to amend their fare scales.

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend that the proposals put forward by the Clydebank Taxi Trade, which had been incorporated into the draft fare chart attached to the report, be supported (a copy of which draft fare chart now forms Appendix 1 to this Minute), it having been noted that any decision taken at this stage would be in principle only and would require to be the subject of formal consultation.

It was further noted that the results of the formal consultation exercise would be reported back to the Sub-Committee in order that a final decision may be taken.

### **FORMAL VEHICLE INSPECTIONS AND ANCILLARY MATTERS**

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council relative to the number of formal inspections which taxis require to undergo per year and related matters such as the permitted age of vehicles and the number of meter checks per year.

Following discussion it was agreed that the matter of vehicle inspections, permitted age of vehicles and meter checks be the subject of further detailed research by officers and that a further report be submitted to a meeting of the Sub-Committee to be held during the month of August with officers' recommendations and any recommendations received from the Taxi Trade.

### **STUDY REGARDING COSTS OF ADMINISTERING TAXI LICENSING**

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 24th February, 1997 there was submitted a report by the Director of Finance on the study which had been carried out relative to the costs of administering Taxi Licensing.

Having heard the Director of Finance in relation to the report and following extended discussion it was agreed that the report be noted.

### **TAXIS - FEES AND CHARGES**

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council on proposed increases in fees and charges relative to taxi licensing.

In the course of discussion of the matter Mr. Melville indicated that the representatives of the Taxi Trade for the Dumbarton area were of the opinion that consideration of any proposed increases in fees and charges should be deferred until the outcome of the review of vehicle inspections and ancillary matters was known.

After hearing the Manager - Legal and Administrative Services, it was noted that the proposed increases were in line with inflation and would normally have been implemented from the beginning of the financial year but for the decision of the Sub-Committee that the status quo should prevail pending the outcome of the study relative to the costs of administering Taxi Licensing.

On the motion of Councillor Macdonald, seconded by Councillor Campbell, it was agreed to recommend that the proposed increases in fees and charges be approved as detailed in the Appendix to the report (a copy of which now forms Appendix 2 to this Minute).

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Having regard to the forthcoming recess of Council and Committee meetings during the month of July and in order to avoid delay in implementing the decisions of the Sub Committee, it was agreed that the Minutes of this meeting be submitted directly to the meeting of the Council to be held on 25th June, 1997 for approval without first being submitted to the Environmental Protection and Leisure Services Committee.

### **VALEDICTORY REMARKS**

Councillor Macdonald made reference to the recent decisions taken by the administration affecting Convenerships of the Council's Committees and indicated that this was likely to be his last meeting in his capacity of Convener of the Environmental Protection and Leisure Services Committee. Councillor Macdonald went on to state that it had been his privilege to have held the position of Convener of the Environmental Protection and Leisure Services Committee and the equivalent Committee within the former Clydebank District Council for approximately fourteen out of the last seventeen years and he thanked Members and officers for their co-operation and assistance over that period of time. In concluding Councillor Macdonald wished Councillor Campbell, his successor as Convener of the Environmental Protection and Leisure Services Committee, well for the future. Councillor Campbell, in

responding to Councillor Macdonald's remarks, indicated that she hoped to enjoy a good future working relationship with the representatives of the Taxi Trade.

LICENCE NO:



Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982  
Fare Chart (Clydebank Taxi Trades Proposals)

Clydebank Zone

**FARES BY DISTANCE**

For a distance not exceeding 6/10ths OF A MILE or for waiting time  
not exceeding 3 minutes 45 seconds (or a combination of both).....£1.50P  
For each additional 1/1 1 OF A MILE thereof .....£0.10p

**FARES FOR WAITING**

The Driver is in addition to the above, entitled to charge for waiting whether  
in one stoppage or in several stoppages as follows  
For each period of FORTY FIVE SECONDS or part thereof.....£0.10p

**EXTRA CHARGES**

An additional charge of 10p shall be payable for each passenger beyond two.  
A charge of £1.50 shall be payable for a taxi called by telephone and not used.

**Applicable**

11.00 p.m. - 6.00 a.m. daily  
6.00 p.m. - 12.00 Midnight Christmas Eve  
6.00 p.m. - 12.00 Midnight 31st December

For a distance not exceeding  
6/10<sup>th</sup> OF A MILE...£2.00p  
For each additional  
1/12<sup>th</sup> OF A MILE...£0.10p

**Applicable**

Midnight 24th December - Midnight 26th December  
Midnight 31st December - Midnight 2nd January

For a distance not exceeding  
6/10<sup>th</sup> OF A MILE...£2.50p  
For each additional  
1/13<sup>th</sup> OF A MILE...£0.10p

Any hire terminating outwith the West Dunbartonshire area will be at a rate to be  
agreed at the time of hire.

**Erskine Bridge Toll Fee** - the current return fee is chargeable for journeys involving a crossing of the Erskine Bridge.

**Soiling Fee** - a fee is chargeable for any soiling which necessitates a taxi being removed from service for cleaning. "Soiling" in this context includes any soiling by means of food, drink, vomit, urine or excrement.

**Any complaint about the taxi or driver should be made to:** Department of Legal and Administrative Services, Council Offices, Richmond Street, Clydebank G81 1RF or any Police Station. The number of the taxi should ALWAYS be quoted.

## LICENSING FEES

	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> APRIL 1997
Taxi and Private Hire	£300.00	£308.00
Taxi Driver	£130.00	£133.00
MOT Ordinary Car and LPV and Duplicates	As Fixed by Statute Duplicate – Half Fee	
Certificate of Compliance with Meter Check	£69.00	£71.00
Certificate of Compliance – No Meter Check	£58.00	£59.00
Taxi Meter Check	£11.00	£12.00
Taxi Formal Inspection (Only)	£42.00	£43.00

	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> APRIL 1997
Taxi Plates	£25.00 Large £10.00 Small £ 2.00 White	£26.00 £10.00 £ 2.00
Private Hire Plate	£25.00	£26.00
Duplicate Certificate of Compliance	£25.00	£26.00
Retest Fee – Taxi (after 24 hours)	Half Ordinary Fee	Half Ordinary Fee
Cancellation	Half Ordinary Fee	Half Ordinary Fee
Variation to Taxi/Private Hire Licence	£53.00	£54.00
Licence Holders' Badge	£15.00	£16.00
Taxi Formal Inspection and Meter Check	£53.00	£54.00
Change of Vehicle	£60.00 (includes new plates if required)	£61.00 (includes new plates if required)