

WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held in the Council Chamber at the Guildhall, Gainsborough on Monday 6 June 2011.

Present: Councillor Jessie Milne (In the Chair)
Councillor Irmgard Parrott (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Owen Bierley
Councillor Chris Darcel
Councillor Richard Doran
Councillor Roger Patterson
Councillor Mel Starkey
Councillor Anne Welburn
Councillor Geoff Wiseman

In Attendance: Public Protection and Democratic Services
Manager
Food Health and Safety Team Leader
EPA to the Chief Executive and Chairman's Officer

Apologies : Councillor David Cotton
Councillor Judy Rainsforth

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

There was no public participation.

8 MINUTES

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 23 May 2011 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.
- (b) the minutes of the Meeting of the Taxi and General Licensing Sub-Committee held on 23 May 2011 be noted.

9 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

10 FOOD HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICE PLAN

Before the commencement of this item of business, the Public Protection and Democratic Services Manager explained how the Council was moving to a paperless organisation and how committees would be encouraged to conduct their business electronically. The paperwork for the meeting was projected on to screens for Members to follow the items that were being discussed. IT provision for Members was discussed and the arguments were heard for and against laptop provision for Committee members. The Chairman wished for this to be a flagship committee and therefore requested that papers for this Committee be emailed out to Members.

Members considered report LR.04 and the Food Health and Safety Team Leader explained that the report was to present the 2011/12 Food Health and Safety Plan for consideration and approval and also to highlight the differences from last year's report. Also she presented a summary of the activities carried out by the Food Health and Safety Team.

The table on page 7 of the report was explained including the risk categories for the planned inspection programme and it was highlighted that this would provide a new kind of flexibility for the Council. Other changes were brought to the Committee's attention such as the changes in the frequency of food sampling.

The issues that the Food Health and Safety Team had experience over the previous year were noted including the Allan Rich Seafood trial and judicial review and staffing problems which has resulted in the team not being able to complete the inspection programme. The remedial actions were highlighted and discussed.

The Committee considered the star scheme and re-rating. No businesses had taken up the levied re-inspection and it was considered that this was due to the way the scheme was being marketed. It was clarified that the star rating was valid for the duration of the inspection, and the scheduled inspection would be free, with the only costs applicable if a business wished to be re-inspected during the inspection period. It was questioned as to how West Lindsey DC may be able to assist smaller businesses who may not be able to afford re-inspection and officers confirmed that they would look in this matter.

The Public Protection and Democratic Services Manager explained the partnership with the Red Snapper Group and the arrangement for them to contact business within the West Lindsey area to interview them on our Public Protection Service. The analysis of this consultation had been circulated to the committee in the report.

RESOLVED that the Food Health and Safety Service Plan be received, noted and approved.

11 TO AGREE A DATE AND TIME ON WHICH TO HOLD A PRACTICAL LICENSING TRAINING SESSION FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members discussed the nature of the training for clarification and it was: -

RESOLVED that an option of 3 dates be circulated to Members for decision and that the training would commence at 6.30pm.

The meeting concluded at 7.38pm

Chairman