

Minutes of Hackney Carriage Meeting – 6th April 2016

Present

Shabbir Master	Bradford Hackney Carriage Owners & Drivers Association
Mohammad M Khan	Bradford Hackney Carriage Owners & Drivers Association
Shabir Munir	Bradford Hackney Carriage Owners & Drivers Association
Tahir Riaz	Bradford Hackney Carriage Owners & Drivers Association
Dennis Rowe	Licensing Compliance and Development Officer
Matthew Bibby	Licensing Support & Systems Officer (Note Taker)
Carol Stos	Licensing Manager

1. Introductions & Apologies

Chiragh Khalid Bradford Hackney Carriage Association

There were no apologies from the Keighley and Bradford Association and the only association to raise any agenda items was the Bradford Hackney Carriage Owners & Drivers Association.

A positive, constructive meeting was then held with the association present.

2. Meeting Attendance

Officers reminded representatives that the meeting attendance was part of the requirements of an association and association representative. Names are recorded to ensure attendance is at the required level and representatives are up to date with the 'current position' on topics

3. Last Minutes – feedback of actions

Enforcement is working on the fare cards that we will look to issue later in 2016. To ensure accuracy of detail the service will contact and arrange a separate meeting with HC representatives to discuss the content and style of the fare cards.

Action: E/O's to contact HC trade rep before May to arrange a meeting about fare cards.

The service had provided timeframes to the trade representatives in January for comment on the conditions changes and for comment on the trade association requirements following from the January meeting. No comments were received from any association.

Action: The trade association requirements will be circulated via newsletter and placed on the website under the association details page.

4. Ranks Update

From the last meeting the rank at Hall Ings had been plated and the post installed. This was done in January.

It was clarified that the trade meet informally and regularly with Highways Officers to discuss rank issues. The last meeting was some 3 weeks ago and the rank near Pizza Lambarda was brought up. There has been further feedback or solution to that issue.

There is a proposal in place for a rank at Myrtle Place in Bingley. The trade would like the rank between 6pm and 6am for the maximum number of cars possible.

There is concern that the ranks by Lahore are not visited by Parking services or Enforcement officers. Officers explained that Parking services have replied to the trade and to officers to state they work until 9pm. The trade wish to see parking services after 9pm in which case they must represent their concerns via 01274 431000 and approach parking services in a manner suitable to try and build communication and resolution to issues. Officers explained that there is limited benefit to HCPH enforcement officers accompanying parking services staff as HCPH enforcement officers have no authority to ticket any

vehicle on a rank and have no authority at all to deal with privately owned vehicles that are in the main alleged to be the ones parking in ranks.

5. Vehicle Inspection Results

The pass rates for all vehicles are extremely disappointing for the January and February period in 2016. The service has worked very hard in the past 3 years to educate the trade to ensure vehicle safety. The results have had some, but limited success. The service will now take a more direct approach. Every case will be judged on its own merits and the service will look at service history and other factors before making judgement.

6. Licensing Update

Officers handed out and explained the new application pre registration form, explaining that the form tackles the issue the service has with missed appointments currently and with the fact that around 50% of appointments are cancelled as applicants turn up with wrong information. This will save officers a great deal of time and make the process more efficient for the applicants too.

7. Enforcement Update

Since January, 15 patrols have been conducted in addition to 2 joint Police patrols and a patrol with Rossendale Enforcement Officers. Around 180 vehicles have been checked in total with around 30% of vehicles checked being suspended for failing to meet conditions. The majority of those suspensions were decal related.

In the coming weeks officers will be visiting bases to check on training records and also check that bases are compliant with conditions surrounding operation of out of area vehicles.

8. Training Update

As a result of the conditions change of August 2013, all licensed drivers must undergo taxi modular training. Any driver who has not attended must attend before the end of August 2016 or the likelihood is they will be suspended from work.

Enforcement Officers will be out visiting all PH bases checking on training certificates and reminding all Operators of the deadline of 31st August 2016.

All HC drivers must undertake WAV training to ensure competency in handling Wheelchairs.

PH Operators have been sent an email dated 11/04/2016 asking them to contact the training department on 01274 437967 about booking their drivers on to taxi modular training. HC Proprietors will be contacted within the next week by post with the same letter.

Action: Officers to post letters to HC Proprietors regarding training

9. Communication Update

All PH Proprietors have provided email contact addresses as required; unfortunately the same cannot be said for HC Proprietors. The service will be writing to HC Proprietors requiring them to send their email addresses to taxi.testing@bradford.gov.uk as a matter of urgency

The website will be changing in the coming weeks as part of a change to the website across all of Bradford Council. Once done officers will invite representatives in for a short session on how to use it effectively.

Action: Officers to contact representatives re web training session once new style website goes live

10. Joint Representative Meeting

Officers and Cllr Slater / Cllr Mallinson have all expressed apologies for having to cancel the next planned joint representative meeting that was planned for 3rd May. This is due to the proximity of the date to the local elections.

It was agreed by all parties present that there is to be no rescheduling of the meeting and that the next joint meeting will be 7th August in City Hall.

11. Proposed Conditions Changes

There are no current proposals

12. Association Agenda Point Submissions

a) Parking Enforcement

There is no parking enforcement in evening time HC rank at Great Horton Road and Morley Street are blocked by general public.

The service had covered this situation under agenda point 4

b) Bingley ranks update

This answer is under agenda point 4.

13. Date of next meetings

The next HC meeting is on Wednesday 6th July at Shearbridge at 10.30am

14. Ultra Low Vehicle Emissions

This was added to the agenda at the meeting. The service has communicated over past months with the trade regarding the low volume emission vehicles. Some members of the trade have also completed a survey on the subject.

There is money available to fund the project and the aim is to see a reduction in air pollution across the district. There are some issues still surrounding the capabilities of the distance on charge and the costs despite the grants available.

In the coming years technology will be improving and electric cars will become more prominent in all likelihood.

Officers added that in the future, in efforts to reduce air pollution it will possibly look at vehicles meeting certain low emission levels before licences are granted for those vehicles.