

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **General Purposes Committee** held in the Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, NG24 1BY on Thursday, 20 March 2025 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor J Hall (Chair)
Councillor L Tift (Vice-Chair)

Councillor N Allen, Councillor L Brazier, Councillor S Michael, Councillor D Moore, Councillor K Roberts, Councillor M Spoor and Councillor T Wildgust

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor A Brazier, Councillor D Darby, Councillor R Jackson, Councillor J Lee, Councillor S Saddington and Councillor P Taylor

41 NOTIFICATION TO THOSE PRESENT THAT THE MEETING WILL BE RECORDED AND STREAMED ONLINE

The Chair advised that the proceedings were being recorded by the Council and that the meeting was being livestreamed and broadcast from the Civic Suite, Castle House.

42 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

NOTED that no Member or Officer declared any interest pursuant to any statutory requirement in any matter discussed or voted upon at the meeting.

43 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2024

AGREED that the minutes from the meeting held on 12 December 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

44 NEWARK COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager – Elections & Democratic Services which sought Members consideration of the initial submissions following the first stage of the Community Governance Review of Newark Town Council and also to consider the draft proposal for further public consultation.

The report set out that the boundaries for Newark Town Council were last reviewed in 2017. However, the East Ward still had minimal electors with no prospect of significant development ahead of the next scheduled elections in 2027. In addition, the South Ward continued to see development growth and an increase in electors. Following Committee's approval of the timetable for review the first stage of consultation had been held with the responses therefrom attached as Appendix A to the report. Paragraph 2.0 of the report provided a summary of the proposals following the consultation which were to rename the South Ward to the Middlebeck Ward and to address some of the elector ratios ahead of the elections scheduled to take place in 2027.

In considering the report, Members raised no queries or concerns with the proposals as detailed in Appendix B to the report.

AGREED (unanimously) that the Draft Proposals, as set out at Appendix B to the report, for the second and final stage of public consultation, be approved.

45 ADOPTION OF A PERMANENT PAVEMENT LICENSING SCHEME

The Committee considered the report presented by the Environmental Health & Licensing Manager which sought approval for the adoption of the Permanent Pavement Licence scheme to replace the current temporary scheme. Approval was also sought for the fees for pavement licences together with delegated authority being approved for the Business Manager – Public Protection to determine applications.

The report set out that a Pavement Licence permitted a pub, bar, restaurant, café, snack bar, coffee shop, or ice cream parlour to place street furniture in an approved location on the highway – defined as generally being footpaths restricted to pedestrians or roads and places to which vehicular access is restricted or prohibited. The designated area would be solely to provide an area for the serving and consumption of food and drink outdoors at such establishment. It was reported that the maximum fee for a Temporary Pavement Licence was £100, however the Council had opted to charge a fee of £50.00, with a renewal fee of £25.00. Paragraph 1.8 of the report detailed the proposed changes from the temporary scheme to the permanent scheme.

In considering the report Members did not raise any queries or concerns with the proposals as detailed within the report.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

- a) the Permanent Pavement Licence Scheme replace the temporary scheme be approved;
- b) the proposed fees for Pavement Licences be approved; and
- c) delegated authority be given to the Business Manager – Public Protection to determine applications, as within the Temporary Scheme – be approved.

46 UPDATE ON PERFORMANCE AND ENFORCEMENT MATTERS

The Committee considered the report of the Senior Licensing Officer, which set out the range and number of license applications received during the period October to December 2024 in relation to Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers, Private Ambulance Drivers together with House to House and Street Collections.

In considering the report, Members queried as to the reason for there not being any returns for House to House and Street Collections. In response Officers advised that no returns had been submitted but that an update would be provided. It was noted that a street collection had been carried out in Southwell with a Member querying whether the failure to supply the return would jeopardise any future applications. The Senior Licensing Officer advised she would contact the organisation in question.

In response to whether the issue of taxis being able to pick up disabled people at Newark Hospital, the Senior Licensing Officer advised that the situation was unresolvable at present.

AGREED unanimously that the report be noted.

47 MINUTES OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S SUB-COMMITTEE

NOTED the minutes of the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Sub-Committee held on 6 December 2024.

Meeting closed at 6.12 pm.

Chair