HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL LICENSING (REGULATORY) COMMITTEE 21 JUNE 2007 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Mrs. S. Francks - CHAIRMAN

Mr. C.G. Joyce - VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr. P.R. Batty, Mr. M.B. Cartwright, Mr. D.M. Gould, Mr. M.R. Lay, Mr. K. Morrell, Mr. L.J.P. O'Shea and Mr. B.E. Sutton

Officers in attendance: Mr. Mark Brymer, Mrs. P.I. Pitt and

Mr. T.M. Prowse

73 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Messrs. J.C. Bown (for whom Mr. Lay substituted in accordance with C.P. Rule 4.3), P. Hall, R. Mayne, J.R. Moore, K. Nichols and A.J. Smith.

74 MINUTES (LR1)

On the motion of Mr. Lay, seconded by Mr. Batty, it was <u>RESOLVED</u> – the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2006 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

75 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No interests were declared at this stage.

76 APPLICATION FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE INCREASE (LR2)

The Chairman welcomed Mrs. Tina Duane of the Hinckley and Bosworth Taxi Association who attended for this item.

Circulated to Members at the meeting were copies of Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council's current Hackney Carriage Fare Card and a "National Tariff Troubles" document.

Further to Minute No. 469 of 14th March 2006, the Principal Licensing Officer reported on an application by the local Taxi Drivers Association for an increase in hackney carriage fare scales. The reasons put forward for this were the increase in running costs, the high price of fuel and the increases in insurance premiums.

As last year the Committee was requested to determine whether to vary the current fare scales. Again, any variations would need to be advertised and any subsequent objections brought before this Committee.

Whilst sympathetic to this application from the trade, reservations were expressed with regard to the percentage increase in tariffs. Discussion also arose with regard to the comparison in fares between hackney carriages and private hire cars. Members were informed that overall there was very little difference between the two, with discounts being given to frequent users and disabled people.

On the motion of Mr. Lay, seconded by Mr. Sutton, it was <u>RESOLVED</u> – tariffs 1, 2 and 3 be increased as set out in the report of the Head of Health & Environment.

(The meeting closed at 6.52 pm)