LICENSING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE

11 February 2004

Attendance:

Councillors:

Carter (Chairman) (P)

Baxter (P) Bennetts (P) Coates (P) Evans (P) Hammerton (P) Johnston (P) Mather (P) Maynard (P) Pines (P) Sutton

Others in Attendance:

Councillor Wagner (Standing Deputy for Councillor Sutton)

1097. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Sutton.

1098. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no questions asked or statements made.

1099. <u>ELECTORAL REVIEW – MICHELDEVER PARISH</u> (Report LR98 refers)

The City Secretary and Solicitor advised that on the day the above report was published, he had been informed that Micheldever Parish Council had co-opted another Member, bringing the total number of Parish Councillors to nine. He recommended that no action be taken to allow for flexibility in the future.

RESOLVED:

That an electoral review of Micheldever Parish Council be not undertaken, because there was no evidence that the interests of the local community or effective local government would be better served by a reduction in the number of Parish Councillors from ten to eight.

1100. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTORAL DIVISIONS – DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE BOUNDARY COMMITTEE FOR ENGLAND (Report LR101 refers)

The City Secretary and Solicitor advised that he had received representations from the Ward Member for Sparsholt, expressing his concern that the Parish of Headbourne Worthy had not been moved within the boundary of Downlands Division, thus splitting the District Ward of Sparsholt. Headbourne Worthy Parish had been transferred to Sparsholt District Ward in the earlier District Electoral Review on numerical grounds, even though its community affinity was more towards the rest of the Worthies. The Ward Member for Sparsholt considered that the County Review should take a consistent approach and include the Parish in the same Division as the rest of the District Ward. In his view this could be achieved without adverse impact upon the permitted variance from the electoral equality ratio - in view of the small number of electors involved (371 on the February 2004 Register).

During discussion, Members of the Committee indicated that they did not want to suggest changes in one instance because they considered that other boundary issues could also be raised and it was preferable to deal with the Commission's proposals as an entity.

A Member asked at what stage would it be possible for the whole of Whiteley to be included in the same electoral area. The City Secretary and Solicitor advised that changes could be made for local government purposes when the District boundaries were reviewed, although such a Review was not currently in the timetable.

RECOMMENDED:

THAT THE BOUNDARY COMMITTEE FOR ENGLAND BE INFORMED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL HAS NO COMMENTS REGARDING THE CHANGES TO THE COUNTY ELECTORAL DIVISIONS FOR THE WINCHESTER DISTRICT.

1101. <u>LICENSING (HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE) SUB-COMMITTEE</u> (Report LR102 refers)

The Chairman explained that he requested the above report following a recent Hearing. He believed that Hearings undertaken by an 11 Member Committee was both time consuming and potentially intimidating for the witnesses. He also suggested that the Sub Committee could be amended, in the future, to accommodate Hearings required under the Licensing Act 2003.

RESOLVED:

1 That a Licensing (Hackney Carriage and Private Hire) Sub-Committee be established to hear individual cases in respect of the Council's functions of licensing hackney carriages and private hire vehicles.

2 That the terms of reference and appointment of the Sub-Committee be as set out in Appendix 1 to the above report.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and concluded at 7.10pm