

JULY 5TH 2010

NEWSLETTER

Please note: in this Newsletter the word TAXI includes PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES unless specifically precluded by law.

The Official Minutes of the Taxi Working Group held on 29th June can seen on the Councils' Tax Licensing web pages, and can also be seen at www.d-t-n.co.uk



On this new website, built and managed by a licensed proprietor, you can post questions and

comments, view answers and see documents useful to the taxi trade. The Official Minutes, Agendas and Reports of the Councils' Licensing Committee meetings will also be available by a link.

The Taxi Forum held on 29th June made some progress. We managed to learn Grandfather Rights for the new Knowledge Test will not be granted. Current drivers will need to take the test at next renewal, but only once.

Much was said about vehicle testing. It will all be in the Consultation. Please make use of this opportunity to respond and let the Council know your views. Extract from the minutes of 29th June:-

“Proposals have been ordered by the Licensing Committee to go to consultation before further action can be taken. Questionnaires will be sent in due course, due back for October 2010. A target for implementation of the proposals is January 2011”.

Another extract of the minutes: - “Graham (Taylor, DCC Fleet Manager) is to form a small group in relation to vehicle testing to consult, and will consult from licence holders across the County. He needs assistance and ideas for conditions, such as “What standard does a vehicle need to meet to be in exceptional condition?” There is a need for failure and proper standards for this element which will drive up the standard of vehicles. Consistency is important, for example, does everyone have their wheelchair equipment checked by the appropriate experts”

Anyone wishing to join this group contact Steve Tomes 01824 706342



And here is a picture of some law books lest you don't see any for a while!

Although at the meeting Roly informed everyone the Byelaws for the whole of Denbighshire had been found, he did not offer sight of them to anyone yet read rules from the byelaws. He also stated the Blue Book was unenforce

able. When pressed, reasons given was “there was no way of recording offences”. Read into that what you will.

Questions have been asked and replies are awaited.

At the meeting, the matter of wearing badges was discussed. Jake has been enforcing the wearing of badges and for your information the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 states:

Private Hire Vehicle Drivers - “shall at all times when acting in accordance with the driver's licence granted to him wear such badge in such position and manner as to be plainly and distinctly visible”.

Hackney Carriage Drivers - The Town Police Clauses Act 1847 states: Byelaws can be made for “regulating the conduct of proprietors and drivers of hackney carriages plying within the prescribed distance in their several employments and determining whether such drivers shall wear any and what badges...”



An Austin 12/4 Low Loader taxi from the mid-1930s. Cabs could be found in many different colours before the 1940s and fleets would have their own colour. Rights acknowledged lvta.co.uk

Questions have been asked:-

- ☞ I have asked why we pay £48 for a CRB check when the CRB charge £36
- ☞ I have asked for taxi ranks to be provided adjacent to the new Tesco development in Prestatyn to replace the 'missing' one
- ☞ The legality of the 'licensing' of testing stations
- ☞ Why was this not subject to tendering
- ☞ The exclusion of taxis in DCC Public Transport web-pages
- ☞ The £98K from Licensing used to offset budget overspends elsewhere in the Environment Directorate – as mentioned by Cllr. Williams at the Taxi Forum meeting.
- ☞ The truth about conditions and byelaws
- ☞ When was a 5 year age limit for PHVs' approved?
- ☞ By law, how many tests per year per vehicle are the council allowed to require

Please note: it is not clear which Licensing functions are affected by this revelation as the Council license many things including – caravan sites, sex shops, pubs and clubs, animal movement, dog breeding etc.

If you are being told by Officers to do things which you think are not legal or are being intimidated, or treated badly, - let me know as soon as you can – Mobile 07788825661

Email chris_122756@yahoo.co.uk

If you want an application form to join the GMB, let me know.

Standing in the middle of the road is very dangerous; you get knocked down by the traffic from both sides.

- [Margaret Thatcher](#)

FUND FOR CRIME AND DISORDER

And, read on, the following has been taken from DCC Community Safety Partnership Pages: -

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 makes local authorities responsible for effectively tackling crime and disorder. With partners (Police, Police Authority, Fire & Local Health Board) the Council is obliged to conduct the annual strategic assessment. It must identify local priorities and consult with local communities and community safety practitioners to see if they are the right priorities for Denbighshire.

The partnership this year has attracted grants of just over £864k to help it deliver its strategy.

Denbighshire has a Community Safety Section to ensure that the authority's commitment to community safety remains focused.

STILL CONFUSED? Check DCC web-pages for reports and plans. The Community Safety Section, should you have concerns about your safety, is at:-

Community Safety, Planning & Public Protection
Denbighshire County Council

North Wales Police
Ffordd William Morgan
St. Asaph
LL17 0HQ Tel: 01745 58847

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