

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE	13 MARCH 2019	7

REQUEST TO REMOVE HACKNEY CARRIAGE STAND

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

A request has been received from a resident of the Borough for the removal of an appointed Hackney Carriage Stand. The Committee will be requested to consider the request and recommend the appropriate consultation should take place.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Committee notes the report and considers instructing Officers to conduct the appropriate consultation exercise.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

There are no previous decisions relating to this request.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	√
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	√
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	√
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	√
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	√

REPORT

1. Section 63 of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 states that. "a District Council may from time to time appoint stands for Hackney Carriages for the whole or any part of a day in any highway in the District which is maintainable at the public expense...". By virtue of subsection (5) this power also extends to the revocation of such stands.
2. A request has been received from a member of the public living in the vicinity of the stand located on Church Road, St Annes adjacent to the Victoria Public House, that the stand be removed. The resident states,

“To whom it may concern,

I am writing with reference to the taxi rank on Church Road, st Anne’s, fy8 3ne. I would like to submit a formal request to have this rank removed or at least erect signs to say rank no longer in use as it is having a severe detrimental effect on the immediate residents. This request has been made before by other residents and has duly been ignored. I am not willing to let this issue slide as my wife works as an out of hours social worker and frequently has to park down the adjacent alley way which is completely unlit when she returns home in the early hours, putting her at considerable risk as well as the other residents who are forced to park there as a result of the completely unused taxi rank. I am aware that one taxi driver parks here around once or twice a month to eat his lunch, to put every other council tax paying resident at such a massive disadvantage for one taxi driver is simply unacceptable. Of course there is ample parking down said alleyway which would allow countless taxis to pull up to take on refreshment. The local pub does not require this rank as taxis simply pull up directly outside the pub, never using the rank. I am happy to provide photographic evidence of this rank at any and all hours of the day or night while it is completely empty, causing animosity with local residents as they vie for the two spaces available. I have already wrote to our local councillor to assist with this and I am happy to do whatever it takes to make my wife safer and the local residents able to park near their homes.”

3. The location of the stand may be seen below:



4. Before appointing or revoking any stand, the Authority is required to give notice to the Chief Officer of Police for the area and give public notice of the proposal by advertisement in at least one local newspaper circulating in the area. A period of 28 days follows for any objections of representations. The Highway Authority must also be consulted.
5. The Committee is therefore requested to note the request and consider instructing officers to undertake the necessary consultation exercise and report back to a future meeting of the Public Protection Committee.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	Any costs arising from the implementation of the request as described within the report will be met from existing budgets.
Legal	No implications arising directly from the report.
Community Safety	Hackney Carriage stands play a vital role in the removing of persons from Town Centres, particularly late at night and by placing at places of public resort should facilitate a speedier removal of taxi customers.
Human Rights and Equalities	Hackney carriages are a vital form of transport for the disabled who may have difficulties accessing other forms of public transport.
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	No implications arising directly from the report.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	No implications arising directly from the report.

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection