

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING & APPEALS COMMITTEE

23 March 2009

Report of Central Services Director

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 WATERLOO ROAD – UPDATE ON ISSUES CONCERNING THE TAXI RANK AND UNLAWFUL PARKING

1.1 Residents in the Waterloo Road and adjacent areas have expressed concern regarding unlawful parking and associated noise and pollution problems caused by taxis waiting to enter the taxi rank.

1.2 This issue was discussed at the trade meeting with drivers on 18 February and their cooperation was sought to improve the situation. It was clear from this meeting that the trade was eager to resolve the problems.

1.3 On 11 March the Chief Executive chaired a meeting consisting of representatives from Planning and Engineering, Community Safety, Licensing, Parking and the Police to discuss issues surrounding Waterloo Road.

1.4 The following avenues will be explored with a view to alleviating the issues:-

1. a meeting with Network Rail to discuss the possibility of further rank space in Barden Road and the use of the car park off the High Street;
2. a review of the upper High Street area with a view to increasing rank spaces particularly in the evening coupled with a programme to educate potential customers in that area;
3. an inspection of the area in the vicinity of Old Wells Court to ascertain if the unlawful parking issue can be engineered out;
4. the provision of hailing points in the town centre area; and
5. following notification to all drivers there will be an increase in the level of enforcement by the licensing office.

A further report will be submitted in due course.

Background papers:

contact: Melvyn Wood

Nil

Julie Beilby
Central Services Director