

**Animal Licensing Forum
Council Chamber
Wednesday, 26th January 2011**

Present: Ken Rowe – Animal Welfare Officer NHDC
Georgina Clements – Waterdell Cattery
Vivienne Huffer – Cozy Cats Cattery
Peter Eymor – Country Boarding Kennels

Apologies: Giovanna Silverio – Licensing and Enforcement Manager
Steve Cobb – Senior Licensing Officer
Barry Huffer – Cozy Cats

Action

KR opened the meeting by welcoming those present. Housekeeping rules were outlined.

KR confirmed there was no formal agenda and will confirm the date of the next meeting(April) at a later date.

A demonstration of the Animal Licensing Forum pages on the NHDC Internet was given. Minutes and agenda will be posted and can be found at: www.north-herts.gov.uk/business/licensing/animal licensing.

With regard to Councillors attending Forum meetings, there were no nominations last year. Invitations were re-issued and Cllr Barnard (Conservative) and Cllr Courts(Lib Dem) have confirmed they will attend. There has been no Labour representative nominated.

The objective of the meeting was to discuss changes to the Animal Licensing Policy. KR explained that minor changes could be made in agreement with Cllr Lovewell/Andy Godman/GS/SC/Forum members, major changes would need to go to consultation. The policy is current for 3 years so consultation will begin in 2012 over a 12 week period. All license holders will be consulted on any changes.

Animal Licensing Policy – 2010

GC and VH requested that their disappointment that GS and SC were not in attendance be minuted. It was felt that both Officers knew well in advance the date of the meeting and brought into question their commitment to The Forum and where it ranked in importance. As changes were being discussed at the meeting, as decision makers GS and SC could advise what was a minor and what was a major change, it was an opportunity to bring the policy up to date to have something others could then use. KR confirmed that any feedback on the Forum can be suggested or raised as a formal complaint. It was agreed that any changes made would at this stage be minor changes as the document as it stands has not been deemed unworkable.

The changes to the policy were discussed, however it became apparent that the changes had not been made to the current policy. KR suggested that members be given a further week to go through the correct policy, amendments to be sent to KR (who will also go through the changes made by Barry) KR will then resend the changes to the

**KR/Forum
members**

Forum members for comment.

This was agreed by those present

The following points were discussed:

Impervious surfaces:

Clinical waste:

Vaccinations:

Size of exercise yards and sleep areas:

The definitions will be confirm when the agreed changes (if any) are made to the policy

5. Dates of the Next Meeting and e-mail Communication.

The Next meeting will be held on 6th April 2011 at 13.00hrs in The Council Chambers.

Comments, queries and agenda item can be sent to:

licensing@north-herts.gov.uk

this then allows for other officers to pick up any queries if Ken is away from the office.

Any other Business

None

Meeting closed at 2.30pm.

