

Hexham Local Joint Pitch Council

Minutes of meeting held by conference call on Thursday 9 November 2006

In attendance:

Chair and secretary	Haig Jenkinson	Betting Ring Manager
	Charles Enderby	Hexham Steeplechase Co. Ltd.
	Brian Clarke	Northern BPA

1 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

CE told Council that he had looked into the possibility of bookmakers parking in the caravan park but this really was not going to prove manageable.

CE however did confirm to BC that he had no problem with bookmakers bring cars into the betting ring after racing just so long as the public were clear of this area in order for bookmakers to load equipment.

There were no other matters arising and the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2 Bookmaker Race Sponsorship

BC told CE that he had spoken with more than 90% of bookmakers who regularly bet at Hexham and all had agreed that they would like to contribute to sponsorship of a bookmaker race at the track on a similar basis to that being operated at Sedgefield and Catterick.

BC told Council that he had discussed with bookmakers a voluntary contribution to be collected alongside the badge box monies of £5 per meeting. This should bring in between £1200 and £1400 per year for sponsorship of a bookmaker race.

CE was most grateful to BC and asked him to thank the bookmakers for this generous gesture. He indicated he would like to give bookmakers publicity for their sponsorship both by naming a race as the "Tattersalls Bookmakers Handicap" and also acknowledging their sponsorship in the racecard.

A racecard raffle for a free bet to be placed with any of the on-course bookmakers – drawn say after the second race with the punter able to redeem this bet throughout the rest of the afternoon was discussed as a way of generating some further publicity.

CE will look at diary arrangements but it is likely that the sponsored race will be held on Saturday 16 June in 2007.

3 Designated Numbers 2007

HJ had previously furnished Council members with a paper regarding bookmaker attendances and opt-in /opt-out details in 2006 together with a paper on crowd attendances.

Discussion surrounding the interim report from the Office of Fair Trading into their judgement on the NJPC decisions regarding setting of designated numbers took place and Council touched on the fact that the Gambling Commission powers would be enabled from September 2007.

CE felt the designated numbers set throughout 2006 had not precluded anybody from working at Hexham if they wished to and had been working well. BC concurred with CE's sentiments and, with the meetings in 2007 pretty much following the same format as those held in 2006, the Council unanimously decided to leave the numbers unchanged.

4 AOB

CE told Council it was currently his intention to host the usual free admission day for punters at the March fixture.

CE told Council that Tattersalls admission prices would be increased to £10 from January 2007.

HEXHAM DESIGNATED NUMBERS 2007

24	5 Feb, 23 Apr, 5 Oct, 9 Nov, 21 Nov, 12 Dec
26	15 Mar
31	1 Apr, 5 May, 12 May, 29 May, 2 Jun, 16 Jun, 24 Jun, 13 Oct