

ANNEX 2.

'A' 'B' and 'C'

Hackney Carriage stands operating from 0730 to 2200 daily
 'No Waiting at any Time' Restrictions apply with exemption for hackney carriages to wait during operative hours of Hackney Carriage Stand

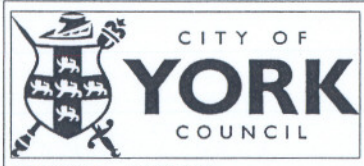
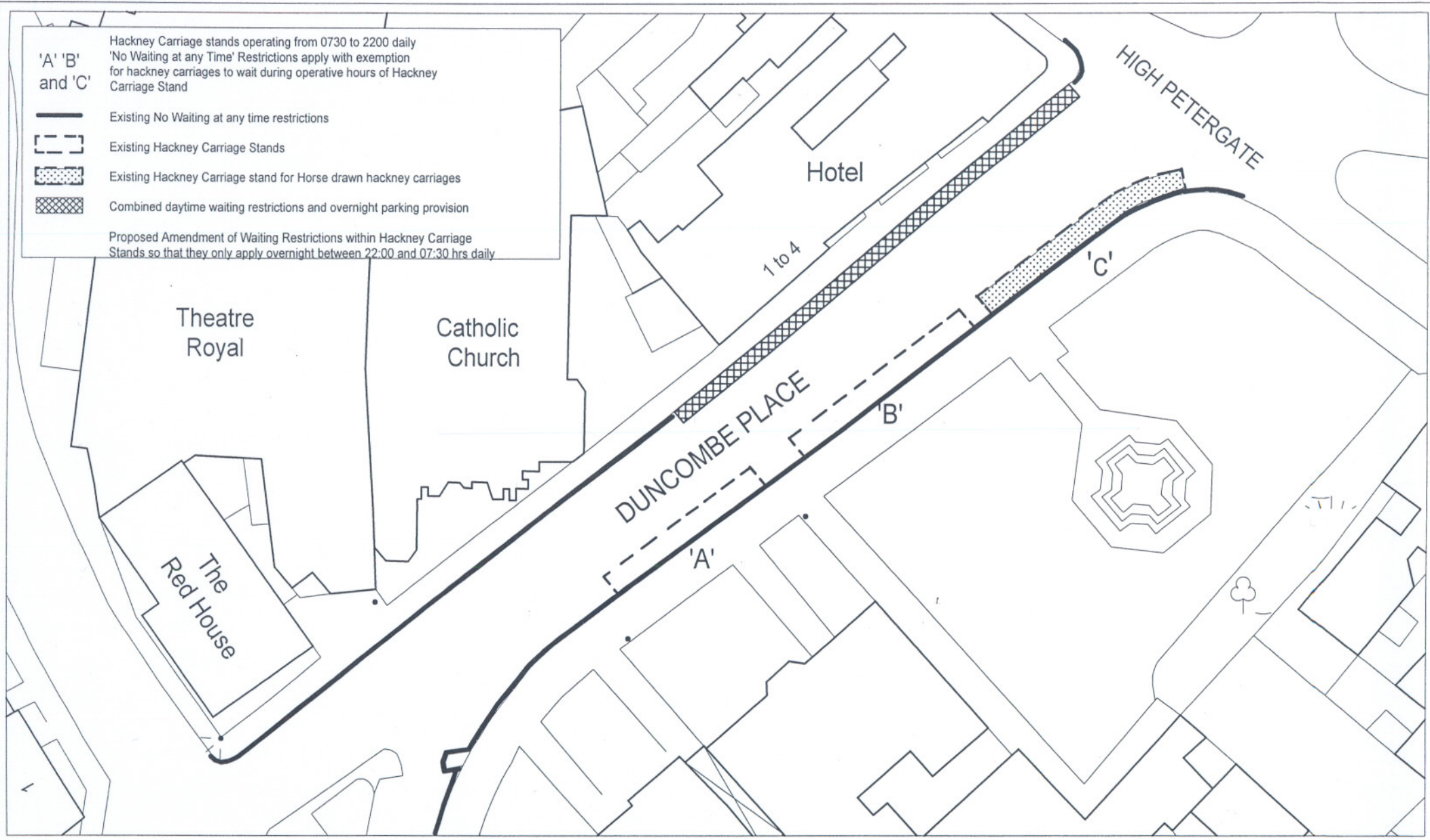
Existing No Waiting at any time restrictions

Existing Hackney Carriage Stands

Existing Hackney Carriage stand for Horse drawn hackney carriages

Combined daytime waiting restrictions and overnight parking provision

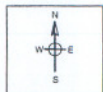
Proposed Amendment of Waiting Restrictions within Hackney Carriage Stands so that they only apply overnight between 22:00 and 07:30 hrs daily



9, St. Leonards York, YO1 2ET
 Telephone: 01 3161

DUNCOMBE PLACE YORK - Proposed amendment to Waiting Restrictions within designated Hackney Carriage Stands so that they only apply during non-operative hours of stands.

SCALE: 1:500 DRAWN BY: JB/PSL DATE: 23/01/2008
 Originating Group: Project Drawing No. NM/06/116A



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HOUSE OF COMMONS

Adam Wilkinson,
Interim Director of Neighbourhood Services
The Guildhall
York
YO1 9QN

LONDON SW1A 0AA

COPY

2 copies of same letter sent



26 January, 2009

Dear Adam Wilkinson,

Thank you for your letter of 21 January which came in response to my letter of 16 January to Terry Collins, the former Director of Neighbourhood Services about problems with the taxi rank in Duncombe Place on Christmas Eve.

I also wrote to North Yorkshire Police about the problem. I have had a reply from Lisa Winward, Acting Superintendent Operations Commander, and I am enclosing a copy for your information.

I think it would be sensible if the Licensing Officers from the Council were to meet with representatives from the police, York Taxi Drivers Association and the Manger of the Dean Court Hotel in order to discuss how the problems in Duncombe Place might be addressed. In addition if this rank is to close at 22:00pm it would be helpful if signs could be erected to inform people where the nearest operational taxi ranks are. I have also been told that there is an issue with safety at St Leonards Place and this may be something which the council could take a closer look at.

Please let me know if the council would be willing to convene a meeting. If I can be of any further assistance please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Bayley
MP for City of York



Ref: DAB/AC

10th February 2009

Richard Haswell
 Head of Licensing & Safety
 City of York Council
 9 St Leonard's Place
 York
 YO1 7ET

PLANNING
 11 FEB 2009
 DESIGN



**Best Western
 Dean Court Hotel
 York**

Duncombe Place
 York YO1 7EF
 Tel: 01904 625082
 Fax: 01904 620305

e-mail: info@deancourt-york.co.uk
www.deancourt-york.co.uk

Dear Richard

Thank you for your letter, and for the opportunity to put on record our reasons for the strongest possible objection to the proposed extension of operating hours for the Duncombe Place taxi rank.

Firstly, may I yet again voice my contempt for the drivers' total disregard of the ten o'clock rule, and my deep regret that the Council have never sought to enforce it. Rule breakers should be penalised. I cannot break rules and remain unpenalised. Why have they not been brought to book?

Secondly, the troubles with large gatherings of youths (mostly Goths) was all about early evening time – and the Council and Councillors' measures that you have listed in your letter, have all but eliminated the problems that they caused - gratitude for which is on record. BUT for the drivers to quote their riddance as evidence that this bigger taxi rank noise problem is no longer, is purely a red-herring! The problem with these youths was their large numbers and consequent "behaviour". They were never out and about late at night and certainly not queuing for taxis, nor the worse for drink, I hasten to add!

I have always said that even civilised folks like you and me will, by dint of being part of a substantial number gathered together, after a pleasant and not excessive night out, create unbearable levels of conversational chat/noise late at night. When one adds the drunken yobs to this situation, as frequently happens, the result is, as we know all too well; totally unacceptable levels of disturbance.

Accolades

AA*** 77%

ETC***

Silver Award

Egon Ronay

In the USA

FROMMER'S

FODOR'S

2 AA Rosettes Award

food & service

RAC Restaurant Award

AA Romantic Hotel
 of the Year 1999

And, what's more, there is a knock-on effect that too would be more unbearable if this extension were to be granted. Couples who wish to avoid the queue and the yobbish behaviour, order other taxis and congregate under our windows, having decided that Duncombe Place is a sensible landmark for all taxis to use! Moving them on when guests ring down to my night staff results in verbal abuse - and the police can hardly be expected to attend to stop people talking!

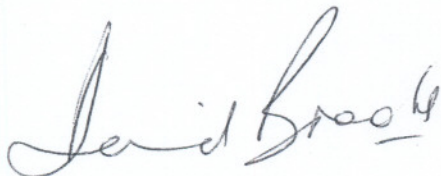
We suffer these late-nighters urinating through our pavement grills (which are above store areas) and in our doorways. We have taken these people to task at great risk to our staff's safety!!

Our residents and others in the area are entitled to an acceptable level of peace and quiet just like all other neighbourhoods.

The 10pm transfer must be maintained and enforced. The effect that an extension to twenty-four hours will have is, frankly, unthinkable.

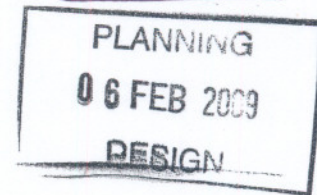
We feel there is a strong case with which to request immediate and permanent rejection of this proposal.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Brooks". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

David Brooks MHCIMA
General Manager

ANNEX 5



Duncombe Place Management Committee
The Garret
5 Duncombe Place
York YO1 7ED

Tel 01904 621125

4 February 2009

Richard Haswell
Head of Licensing and Safety
York City Council
9 St Leonard's Place
York YO1 7ET

Your ref 030209/RHH/SC

Dear Mr Haswell

Duncombe Place Taxi Rank

Thankyou for your letter of 3 February 2009.

I am writing on behalf of Duncombe Place Management Committee to express the Committee's very strong objection to the proposed extension of the taxi rank hours to a 24 hour operation.

We feel that the taxi trade is being ingenuous in suggesting that the reason for imposing the 10pm curfew in 2007 was that there was noise and disturbance due to youths congregating in Duncombe Place Gardens. That problem did exist, but usually at earlier hours than the taxi rank disturbances, and thanks to the Council's actions and efforts, which are much appreciated by the residents of Duncombe Place, the situation in the Gardens has improved with a reduction in underage drinking, broken bottles, graffiti and, we believe, drug dealing.

However our wish to limit the operating hours of the taxi rank was then, and still remains, the behaviour of customers waiting at that rank. Shouting, swearing, fighting, urinating in our doorways, dropping litter and even banging on our windows into the early hours of the morning is still the norm here, rather than the exception, on most weekends.

Our wish would be that not only should 10pm curfew be retained, but that it should be properly monitored and strictly adhered to. As it is some taxi drivers have never observed the curfew nor respected the Council's rules. Last night, in midweek, I counted 3 taxis waiting at the rank as I drew my blinds at 23.45pm. Last Saturday I was woken at about 1am by the noise from about 20 customers waiting for a taxi to circle and pick them up. This is absolutely typical.

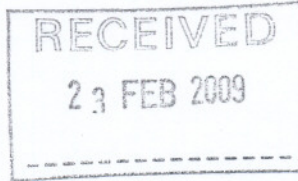
I have spoken to various members of the Council's staff in the past about our problems and have been told that due to staff shortages it is difficult to monitor taxis waiting at the rank after 10pm, and that the taxis cannot be prevented from circling and picking up passengers at busy times. We sympathise, but if the Council wants to have a city centre for residents as well as revellers, we need protection.

The reduction in official taxi hours has reduced the problem somewhat by reducing the numbers who come to queue outside our windows but we would undoubtedly suffer much more disturbance if the official hours are extended as proposed. We believe that, far from reversing its earlier decision, the Council should make a greater effort to enforce the existing rules and should also provide clear signage directing taxi users to the nearest night taxi ranks.

Yours sincerely

Lorna Evans

Lorna Evans



17 Thorpe Lane
Cawood
Selby
YO8 3SG

22/02/09

Richard Haswell
Head of Licensing and Regulation
City of York Council.

Ref: Your letter dated 11th February 2009

Dear Mr Haswell

Please find enclosed the comments of York Taxi Association on Late night Taxi Ranks and other Taxi Rank issues, together with a sketch plan of Rougier Street requested by John Lacy and various other maps which may be of use to you.

Duncombe Place.

We would like this rank to be returned to a 24hour rank. It is well lit and regarded by the Public as the safest Taxi Rank in York. We feel the issues regarding its closure at 10pm have been addressed by your office.

St. Sampson's Square/ Lendal.

We would welcome a part- time rank in both these areas to service both visitors and York residents. We find that visitors tend to move back to their Hotels and other accommodation from about 7pm onwards, so we would suggest a time from 7pm to 3am.

Station Rise.

We would ask that a part-time rank be opened outside the War Memorial, suggested time; 9pm to 3am.

Exhibition Square.

We would suggest, that if possible, the Rank outside the toilets be extended forward (towards the Theatre) to create a Rank for six spaces from the existing three spaces.

Rougier Street.

We would ask that the Rank on Rougier Street be moved to the other side of the road from where it is now situated, (see attached sketch plan). The problem with this Rank is that for such a busy area it only has three spaces, whereas more spaces could be made available opposite and the Taxis would be facing the customers, thereby lessening any Public Order issues.

This would also alleviate any issues with the bus company regarding Taxis blocking the bus stops. We would also ask that if possible, a bus shelter be established at the head of the new rank. Suggested time for this part-time rank would be 9pm to 3am.

Night Club Ranks.

We brought to your attention that Taxi Ranks outside The Gallery, Ziggy's and True Night Clubs are often over loaded. This is due to the fact that steady streams of customers leave these clubs, in the early hours of the morning, needing Taxis in numbers in order to reduce any Public Order or Public Safety issues. You showed a common sense attitude to this, as have York Police, as long as we don't cause any obstructions. However, we would ask that the Taxi signs outside these Night Clubs, if agreed and legally possible, have the words "and feeder areas" added.

General.

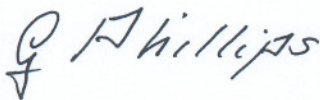
Whilst a good idea in theory, we have found that in practice, Taxi Ranks opposite each other, as outside The Gallery and Exhibition Square do not work. You would think that the Public would use the Rank which faces the direction in which they are going, but they don't. Therefore, we would be in favour, if other Ranks were opened, to release the Rank opposite The Gallery for four spaces which is on the bus stop (and interferes with the late night buses to the University), and the Rank outside the Art Gallery, opposite the Rank in Exhibition Square.

We welcome your commitment to clean and upkeep the shelters in Duncombe Place and St. Saviourgate.

We also welcome your commitment to make all Taxi Ranks as safe an environment as possible, especially your suggestions regarding St. Saviourgate Rank.

We would also appreciate more prominent signing of Taxi Ranks with a suggested rank pole top featuring the crest now displayed on the vehicles, with the possibility of this being lit during the night hours.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G Phillips". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G'.

Graham Phillips
Secretary York Taxi Association.