

Hackney Carriage Byelaws

# BYELAWS

Made by Caerphilly County Borough Council  
under Section 68 of the Town Police Clauses  
Act 1847, and Section 171 of the Public  
Health Act 1875, with respect to Hackney  
Carriages in the County Borough of Caerphilly

**CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL****BYELAWS**

Made under Section 68 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and Section 171 of the Public Health Act 1875 by the Council of the County Borough of Caerphilly with respect to hackney carriages in Caerphilly County Borough.

**INTERPRETATION**

**1.** Throughout these byelaws:-

**“THE COUNCIL”** means the Council of the County Borough of Caerphilly

**“TABLE OF FARES”** means the table of fares fixed by the Council under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

**“THE COUNTY BOROUGH”** means the County Borough of Caerphilly.

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**PROVISIONS REGULATING THE MANNER IN WHICH THE NUMBER OF EACH HACKNEY CARRIAGE CORRESPONDING WITH THE NUMBER OF ITS LICENCE, SHALL BE DISPLAYED**

**2.** The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall:-

- (a) cause to be affixed on the outside and inside of the carriage the plates and disc provided by the Council on which shall be marked the number of the licence granted in respect of such carriage in a manner as follows, namely:-
- i. the exterior plate shall be fixed and displayed outside and on the rear of the vehicle and be at all times clearly visible from the rear and be maintained in a clean condition;*
  - ii. the interior plate shall be fixed on the inside of the carriage in such a position as to be easily observed by the passengers;*
  - iii. the licence disc to be fixed and displayed inside the vehicle on the lower left hand corner of the windscreen in order to be clearly visible from the front of the carriage by persons outside the vehicle.*
- (b) the proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall:-

- i. *not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer any such number to be concealed from public view while the carriage is standing or plying for hire;*
  - ii. *not cause or permit the carriage to stand or ply for hire with any such painting, marking or plate so defaced that any figure or material particular is illegible.*
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### **PROVISIONS REGULATING HOW HACKNEY CARRIAGES ARE TO BE FURNISHED OR PROVIDED**

**3.** The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall:-

- (a) provide sufficient means by which any person in the carriage may communicate with the driver;
- (b) cause the roof or covering to be kept water-tight;
- (c) provide any necessary windows and a means of opening and closing not less than one window on each side;
- (d) cause the seats to be properly cushioned or covered;
- (e) cause the floor to be provided with a proper carpet, mat or other suitable covering;
- (f) cause the fittings and furniture generally to be kept in a clean condition, well maintained, and in every way, fit for public service;
- (g) provide means for securing luggage if the carriage is so constructed as to carry luggage;
- (h) provide an efficient fire extinguisher and first aid kit which shall be carried in such a position as to be readily available for use;
- (i) provide and maintain an electric light in the interior of such carriage;
- (j) carry a spare wheel and tyre and suitable tools for the replacement of damaged or punctured tyres;
- (k) provide at least two doors for the use of persons conveyed in such carriage and a separate means of ingress and egress for the driver.

**4.** The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the same to be provided with a taximeter so constructed, attached and maintained as to comply with the following requirements, that is to say:-

- (a) the taxi-meter shall be fitted with a key, flag or other device, the operation of which will bring the machinery of the taximeter into action and cause the word **"HIRED"** to appear on the face of the taximeter;
- (b) such key, flag or other device shall be capable of being locked in such a position that the machinery of the taximeter is not in action and that no fare is recorded on the face of the taximeter;
- (c) when the machinery of the taxi-meter is in action there shall be recorded on the face of the taxi-meter in clearly legible figures a fare not exceeding the rate or fare which the proprietor or driver is entitled to demand and take for the hire of the carriage by distance in pursuance of the tariff fixed by the Council;
- (d) the word "Fare" shall be printed on the face of the taxi-meter in plain letters so as clearly to apply to the "Fare" recorded thereon;
- (e) the taxi-meter shall be so placed that all letters and figures on the face thereof are at all times plainly visible to any person being conveyed in the carriage, and for that purpose the letters and figures shall be capable of being suitably illuminated during any period of hiring;
- (f) the taxi-meter and all the fittings thereof shall be so affixed to the carriage with seals or other appliances that it shall not be practicable for any person to tamper with them, except by breaking, damaging or permanently displacing the seals or other appliances.

**5.** Every proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the same to be provided with a roof sign so constructed as to comply with the following requirements, that is to say:-

- (a) the sign shall bear the words **'FOR HIRE'** in plain letters at least two inches in height;
- (b) the sign shall be capable of being so operated that it indicates clearly and conveniently to persons outside the carriage whether or not the carriage is for hire.

**PROVISIONS REGULATING THE CONDUCT OF THE PROPRIETORS AND DRIVERS OF HACKNEY CARRIAGES PLYING WITHIN THE COUNTY BOROUGH IN THEIR SEVERAL EMPLOYMENTS, AND DETERMINING WHETHER SUCH DRIVERS SHALL WEAR ANY, AND WHAT BADGES**

- 6.** The driver of a hackney carriage provided with a taxi-meter shall:-
- (a) when standing or plying for hire, keep the key, flag or other device fitted in pursuance of the Byelaw in that behalf locked in the position in which no fare is recorded on the face of the taximeter;
  - (b) as soon as the carriage is hired by distance, and before beginning the journey, bring the machinery of the taxi-meter into action by moving the said key, flag or other device, so that the word **'HIRED'** is legible on the face of the taxi-meter and keep the machinery of the taxi-meter in action until the termination of the hiring;
  - (c) cause the dial of the taxi-meter to be kept properly illuminated throughout any part of the hiring which is during the hours of darkness, this being the time between half-an-hour after sunset to half-an-hour before sunrise, and also at any other time at the request of the hirer.
- 7.** A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not tamper with, or permit any person to tamper with, any taxi-meter with which the carriage is provided, with the fitting thereof, or with the seals affixed thereto.
- 8.** The driver of a hackney carriage shall behave in a civil and orderly manner and shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of persons conveyed in or entering or alighting from the vehicle.
- 9.** The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage who has agreed or has been hired to be in attendance with the carriage at an appointed time and place shall, unless delayed or prevented by some sufficient cause, punctually attend with such carriage at such appointed time and place.

- 10.** A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not convey or permit to be conveyed in such carriage any greater number of persons than the number of persons specified on the plate affixed to the outside of the carriage.
- 11.** The driver of a hackney carriage shall, when standing or plying for hire, and when hired, display on his person in such a manner as to be plainly visible, the hackney carriage driver's badge issued to him by the council.
- 12.** The driver of a hackney carriage so constructed as to carry luggage shall, when requested by any person hiring or seeking to hire the carriage:-
  - (a) convey a reasonable quantity of luggage;
  - (b) afford reasonable assistance in loading and unloading;
  - (c) afford reasonable assistance in removing it to or from the entrance of any building, station or place at which he may take up or set down such person.

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**PROVISIONS FIXING THE RATES OR FARES TO BE PAID FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGES WITHIN THE COUNTY BOROUGH; AND SECURING THE DUE PUBLICATION OF SUCH FARES**

- 13.** The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not be entitled to demand and take a fare greater than that recorded on the face of the taxi-meter, save for any extra charges authorised by the Council's table of fares, for the time being in force, which it may not be possible to record on the face of the taxi-meter.
- 14.** The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the table of fares for the time being in force, to be exhibited inside the carriage, in clearly distinguishable letters and figures.
- 15.** The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage bearing the table of fares in accordance with the preceding byelaw, shall not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer the letters or figures in the statement to be concealed or rendered illegible at any time while the carriage is plying or being used for hire.

## **PROVISIONS SECURING THE SAFE CUSTODY AND RE-DELIVERY OF ANY PROPERTY ACCIDENTALLY LEFT IN HACKNEY CARRIAGES AND FIXING THE CHARGES TO BE MADE IN RESPECT THEREOF**

- 16.** The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall immediately after the termination of any hiring, or as soon as practicable thereafter, carefully search the carriage for any property which may have been accidentally left therein.
- 17.** The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall, if any property accidentally left therein by any person who may have been conveyed in the carriage be found by or handed to him:-
- (a) carry it, as soon as possible, and in any event within 48 hours, if not sooner claimed by, or on behalf of its owner, to the Council Offices, Pontllanfraith, Blackwood and leave it in the custody of the officer in charge of the office on his giving receipt for it;
  - (b) be entitled to receive from any person to whom the property shall be re-delivered an amount equal to five pence in the pound of its estimated value (or the fare for the distance from the place of finding to the office of the Council, whichever be the greater) but not more than five pounds.

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## **PENALTIES**

- 18.** Every person who shall offend against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine not exceeding two pounds for each day during which the offence continues after conviction therefor.

## **REPEAL OF BYELAWS**

- 19.** The byelaws relating to hackney carriages which were made by the former Rhymney Valley District Council on the 7th day of January, 1975 and which were confirmed by the Secretary of State on the 7th day of March 1975 are hereby repealed.

The **Common Seal** of **Caerphilly** )  
**County Borough Council** was )  
hereunto affixed this **20th** )  
day of **April 2001** )  
in the presence of: )

I. G. Medicott  
Authorised Officer

The Foregoing Byelaws are hereby confirmed by the National Assembly for Wales and shall come into operation on 1st October 2001.

D. H. Jones  
Head of Transport Policy Division

Date 12 - 09 - 01