CONGLETON BOROUGH COUNCIL
AS AT JULY 1978

BYELAWS

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

Interpretation

1. Throughout these byelaws “the Council” means the Borough Council of Congleton and “the district” means the non-metropolitan district of Congleton comprising the former Borough of Congleton, the former Urban District of Alsager, Middlewich and Sandbach and the former Rural District of Congleton.

2. a. The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the number of the licence granted to him in respect of the carriage to be legibly painted or marked on the outside and inside of the carriage, or on plates affixed thereto.

   b. A 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.

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 everyway 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 which shall be carried in such a position as to be readily available for use;

i. provide at least two doors for the use of persons conveyed is 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 taximeter shall be fitted with a key, flag, or other device the turning 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 taximeter is in action there shall be recorded on the face of the taximeter 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 byelaw in that behalf;

d. the word “FARE” shall be printed on the face of the taximeter in plain letters so as clearly to apply to the fare recorded thereon;

e. the taximeter shall be so placed that all letters and figures on the face thereof are at all times plainly visible to any person being conveyed shall be capable of being suitably illuminated during any period of hiring;

f. the taximeter 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.

Provisions regulating the conduct of the proprietors and drivers of hackney carriage plying within the district in their several employments and determining whether such drivers shall wear any and what badges

5. The driver of a hackney carriage provided with a taximeter 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 taximeter into action by moving the said key, flag or other device, so that the word “HIRED” is legible on the face of the taximeter and keep machinery of the taximeter in action until the termination of the hiring;

c. cause the dial of the taximeter to be kept properly illuminated throughout any part of a hiring which is during the hours of darkness as defined for the
purposes of the Road Transport Lighting Act 1957, and also at any other time at the request of the hirer.

6. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not tamper with or permit any person to tamper with any taximeter with which the carriage is provided, with the fittings thereof, or with the seals affixed thereto.

7. The driver of a hackney carriage shall, when plying for hire in any street and not actually hired,
   a. proceed with reasonable speed to one of the stands fixed by the byelaw in that behalf;
   b. if a stand, at the time of his arrival, is occupied by the full number of carriages authorized to occupy it, proceed to another stand;
   c. on arriving at a stand not already occupied by the full number of carriages authorized to occupy it, station the carriage immediately behind the carriage or carriages on the stand so as to face in the same direction;
   d. from time to time when any other carriage immediately in front is driven off or moved forward cause his carriage to be moved forward so as to fill the place previously occupied by the carriage driven off or moved forward.

8. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage, when standing or plying for hire, shall not by calling out or otherwise, importune any person to hire such carriage and shall not make use of the services of any other person for the purpose.

9. The driver of a hackney carriage shall believe 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.

10. 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.

11. The driver of a hackney carriage when hired to drive any particular destination shall, subject to any directions given by the hirer, proceed to that destination by the shortest available route.

12. 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.

13. If a badge had been provided by the Council and delivered to the driver of a hackney carriage he shall, when standing or plying for hire, and when hired, wear that badge in such position and manner as to be plainly visible.

14. 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.

Provisions fixing the stands of hackney carriages

15. Each of the several places specified in the following list shall be a stand for such number of hackney carriages as is specified in the list:-

(a) The Fairground, Congleton (in a plot of land situate on the easterly side of Market Street and to the immediate south of the Omnibus Station) 9

(b) Wagg Street, Congleton (on the westerly side of the carriageway adjacent to the Lion and Swan Hotel) 3

Provisions fixing the rates or fares to be paid for hackney carriages within the district, and securing the due publication of such fares

16. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall be entitled to demand and take for the hire of the carriage the rate or fare prescribed by the following table, the rate or fare being calculated by distance unless the hirer express at the commencement of the hiring his desire to engage by time.

Provided always that where a hackney carriage furnished with a taximeter shall be hired by distance the proprietor or driver thereof shall not be entitled to demand and take a fare greater than that recorded on the face of the taximeter, save for any extra charges authorised by the following table which it may not be possible to record on the face of the taximeter.

Fares for Distance

(i) Mileage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>New Pence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If the distance does not exceed one mile – for the whole distance</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If the distance exceeds one mile – for the first mile</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For each subsequent one-seventh of a mile or uncompleted part thereof</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For each two mile journey</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For each three mile journey</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(ii) Waiting Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiting Time</th>
<th>New Pence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For each period of six minutes or uncompleted part thereof</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(iii) Extra Charges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extra Charges</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For hiring’s begun between midnight and six a.m.</td>
<td>50% of the above rate of fare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For each person in excess of one for the whole distance carried</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>