

SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM.

Minutes of meeting of South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum in County Buildings, Ayr,
on 24th February 2012 at 1.00 p.m.

Present: R Rennie (Chair), C. Andrew, Councillor D. Campbell, S. Horne, A. Bradford,
R. Russell, A. Monkhouse, A. Kelly, M. Ankers and M. McFadyean.

Apologies: Sergeant U. Menzies, E. Caldow and R. Campbell.

Attending: S. Wilson (for E. Caldow).

Attending for V. Andrews, Clerk to the Board; M. Douglas, Licensing Policy Officer;
South Ayrshire and J. McClure, Committee Services Officer.
Council:

1. Appointment of Chair of Local Licensing Forum.

V. Andrews invited nominations for the appointment of Chair of the Local Licensing Forum for the ensuing year.

Decided: unanimously that R. Rennie be elected to the post of Chair of the Local Licensing Forum for the ensuing year.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chair of Local Licensing Forum.

V. Andrews invited nominations for the appointment of Vice-Chair of the Local Licensing Forum for the ensuing year.

Decided: unanimously that S. Horne be elected to the post of Vice-Chair of the Local Licensing Forum for the ensuing year.

3. Welcome.

C. Andrew welcomed Susan Wilson, who was representing Elaine Caldow, to her first meeting of the Forum.

4. Minutes of previous meeting.

The Minutes (issued) of the Local Licensing Forum of 18th November 2011 were submitted.

Decided: to approve the Minutes as a correct record.

5. **Matters Arising.**

C. Andrew advised

- (1) that with reference to item (6) on page 3 of the Minutes entitled "Intermediate Data Zones in South Ayrshire" when it had been noted that Elaine Caldwell would request further information at the meeting of the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, Elaine had spoken to colleagues regarding this and was awaiting this information which she would distribute to this Forum when it was received; and
- (2) that with reference to item (8) on page 5 of the Minutes entitled "Scottish Parliament's Health and Sport Committee – Call for Written Evidence on the Alcohol (Minimum Pricing) (Scotland) Bill, when it had been noted that Catrina Andrew would compile a response to the Scottish Government in support of minimum pricing on behalf of the Forum, she had written a response in consultation with the Chair, had submitted this to the Scottish Government and the response had been published on the Scottish Government website.

Decided: to note the update from the Licensing Standards Officer.

6. **Minutes of previous Licensing Board meetings.**

The Minutes (issued) of the meetings of South Ayrshire Licensing Board which had taken place since the previous Forum meeting were submitted.

Decided: to note the Minutes of the Licensing Board meetings of 10th November and 8th December 2011.

7. **Group Discussion on Alcohol Pricing.**

There was submitted a report (issued) by the Licensing Standards Officer outlining drink and entry prices for nightclub type premises in Ayr and Girvan and the maximum units that men and women should consume per week and C. Andrew advised

- (1) that she had presented a report to the Licensing Board at its meeting on 8th December 2011 on drinks promotions and that she had then been requested to seek information from Ayrshire and Arran NHS on the effects of the cheap alcohol promotions to form a basis for discussion at this meeting of the Forum;
- (2) that, as Licensing Standards Officer, she was the link between the Licensing Board, the Licensed Trade and the public, she had been monitoring nightclub type premises in Ayr Town Centre and was concerned to note that £1 drinks were available with free entry into the premises and she had discussed these concerns with the Members of the Board as this practice of selling cheap alcohol was not in accordance with the licensing objectives;
- (3) that she had also visited off-sales premises to collect prices of types of alcohol which were targeted at younger people and she had been concerned to note that it was possible to purchase a bottle of cider for £2.99 which exceeded the weekly recommended number of units for a man; and

- (4) that she was interested in receiving feedback from Forum Members on these issues.

There then followed a discussion on the economic climate; reduction in custom and competition between establishments; the amount spent and number of drinks consumed per person on an average night out; promotions targeted at students; the lack of patrons at nightclub type premises when public house type premises had later opening hours; the existence of a "curfew" in other local authority areas and whether this was advantageous; the operation of SafeAyr and taxi marshalls; crime statistics in Ayr Town Centre; the Board not having powers to enforce a minimum price for alcohol; supermarkets selling alcohol cheaper than wholesalers; practices of off-sales premises; and Strathclyde Police charging licenceholders who sold alcohol to those people already drunk; and Strathclyde Police visiting premises.

Decided: to note the position with regard to alcohol pricing and to continue this discussion with members of the Licensing Board at the meeting taking place at 2.00 p.m.

8. Date of Next Meeting.

Decided: to agree that the date of the next meeting of the Local Licensing Forum would be arranged in conjunction with the Chair.

The meeting ended at 1.55 p.m.