

**SOUTH AYRSHIRE LICENSING BOARD/  
SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM.**

Minutes of the Joint Meeting in County Hall, County Buildings, Ayr,  
on 24th February 2012 at 2.00 p.m.

Attending for Licensing Board: Councillors Douglas Campbell (Chair of Licensing Board and member of Local Licensing Forum), Ian Fitzsimmons and Ann Galbraith.

Apologies: Councillors Bill Grant and Alec Oattes.

Attending for Local Licensing Forum: R. Rennie, S. Horne, C. Andrew, R. Russell, M. Ankers, A. Monkhouse, A. Kelly and M. McFadyean.

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

In Attendance: S. Wilson (for E. Caldow).

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

**1. Chair's Remarks.**

Councillor Douglas Campbell, Chair of the Licensing Board welcomed members of the Licensing Board and the Local Licensing Forum to this joint meeting and congratulated Rachael Rennie and Sandra Horne on their election as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively of the South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum for the ensuing year.

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Local Licensing Forum.**

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

**Decided:** to note the Minutes of the previous Forum meeting.

**3. Group Discussion on Alcohol Pricing.**

C. Andrew advised

- (1) that the Forum had met prior to this meeting when she had advised the Forum Members of her concerns regarding alcohol being sold at £1 a drink in Ayr Town Centre, often coupled with free entry to premises and targeted at the student population and questioning whether this met the licensing objectives;
- (2) that she had been able to purchase a 3l bottle of cider in an off-sales premises for less than £3 which exceeded the weekly number of units recommended for a man; and

- (3) that the operation of licensed premises had improved greatly in the last ten years, however, with the offer of £1 drinks in Ayr Town Centre she felt that matters had now regressed and she was bringing this issue to the Forum due to her concerns.

Councillor Campbell further advised

- (a) that the Forum had discussed the change in people's drinking habits and how more alcohol was now purchased in off-sales premises and consumed at home; and
- (c) that there was a recognition by the Board that in the current financial climate business was difficult for licenceholders, however, the Board was restricted in which policies it could approve or conditions it could apply until minimum pricing was introduced.

There then followed a discussion on off-sales premises advertising by leafleting; introducing conditions on existing licences; the Code of Practice which existed under the old Act; the introduction of a voluntary minimum price agreement between Premises Licenceholders; Over Provision; the Licensing Objectives; and personal responsibility for alcohol consumption.

**Decided:** to note the comments of all Members of the Forum and Board.

4. **A.O.C.B.**

A Member of the Forum enquired on the legislation regarding patrons in licensed premises smoking in the doorway or at the door of the premises and C. Andrew advised that this matter was regulated by Environmental Health Enforcement Officers and that smokers should move away from the front of the premises when smoking, however, it was difficult to prove that someone smoking outside premises had been inside those premises.

**Decided:** to note the position in relation to smokers outside licensed premises.

5. **Chair's Remarks.**

Councillor Campbell thanked all members for their attendance and contribution.

The meeting ended at 2.30 p.m.