

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

Minutes of the Joint Meeting in County Hall, County Buildings, Ayr,  
on 14th May 2015 at 11.00 a.m.

Attending for Licensing Board: Councillors Ann Galbraith (Chair of Licensing Board), Andy Campbell, Peter Convery, Allan Dorans, Ian Douglas, Sandra Goldie, Mary Kilpatrick and Rita Miller.

Attending for Local Licensing Forum: R. Rennie (Chair of Licensing Forum), R. MacLellan C. Andrew, P. McCarroll, S. Horne, R. Russell, A. Kelly and M. McFadyean.

Apologies: S. Bradford and M. Ankers.

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

**1. Chair's Remarks.**

Councillor Galbraith, Chair of the Licensing Board welcomed members of the Licensing Board and the Local Licensing Forum to this joint meeting.

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

The Minutes (issued) of the Local Licensing Forum of 12th November 2014 were submitted.

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

**3. A.O.C.B.**

**(1) Off-Sales Premises.**

R. Rennie referred to the granting of two off-sales licences at the Board meeting of 23rd April 2015 and enquired what factors the Board had taken into account when considering these applications as Forum Members felt that there was over provision in South Ayrshire and Board Members responded

- (a) that each application was considered on its own merits and that, for the applications concerned, the representative for the applicant had presented an argument that the sale of alcohol was necessary for the business to continue; and there were no objections received, however, the Forum's concerns would be taken on board;

- (b) that a strong case for approving this application had been presented by the applicant's representative when he had reported that, of over 300 stores in the UK owned by the applicant, the majority had off-sales licences and in these premises there had been no complaints, no reviews by Licensing Boards and no sales to under-age persons;
- (c) that the applicant's representative had also outlined how the licensing objectives would be met, how training of staff members was taken very seriously, that the sale of alcohol was ancillary to the normal business and the types of alcohol being sold, therefore, there was no reason for the Board to refuse these applications; and
- (d) that, should the Board have considered that granting these licences would lead to an increase in the sale of alcohol, the Board could have taken a different view.

R. Rennie then

- (i) advised that the Forum, at its meeting prior to meeting with the Board, had agreed
  - (A) that she should write to all Community Councils in South Ayrshire reminding them that they had the opportunity to object to an application for a licence should they deem this appropriate and requesting any comments they had on the number of off-sales premises in South Ayrshire at present; and
  - (B) that Forum members should research their local area with regards to the number of off-sales premises in their area and the most frequently used premises and report back to the next Forum meeting; and
- (ii) asked the Board Members if they thought the introduction of a Policy Statement on Over Provision would be advantageous,

and the Chair advised that the Board's current Licensing Policy Statement was approved by the Board at its meeting on 12th February 2014 when it was decided that there was currently no over provision in South Ayrshire, however, this was an issue which the Board could reconsider.

**Decided:** that the Forum should forward their findings on off-sales premises for Board Members to consider the possible introduction of a Policy on Over Provision.

## **(2) Availability of Alcohol.**

Forum Members outlined their concerns at the accessibility of alcohol and their fears for children that alcohol would be seen as a norm in society as the Board had been granting off-sales licences for general and convenience stores; and the Chair advised that the Board would consider these points raised.

**Decided:** to note the concerns of the Forum.

4. **Chair's Remarks.**

The Chair thanked all members of the Board and Forum for their attendance and contribution.

The meeting ended at 11.30 a.m.