

SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM.

Minutes of meeting of South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum in County Buildings, Ayr
On 30th November 2016 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: B. Mackie (Chair of the Licensing Forum), R. MacLellan, C. Andrew, P McCarroll, K. Leinster, K. Whitehead, S. Bradford, P. Zive, A. Kelly, R. Rennie and M. McFadyean.

Attending for South Ayrshire Council: D. Moore, Committee Services Assistant.

1. Chair's Remarks.

The Chair welcomed all Forum Members to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the Local Licensing Forum meeting of 24th August 2016 (issued) were submitted.

Decided: To approve the minute as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Forum Meeting.

The Chair informed the Board that, as discussed at the previous meeting of the Forum, he had drafted two letters to the Licensing Board in relation to two recent Board decisions, one regarding protecting children from harm and the other regarding the Board's deviation from policy regarding Extended Hours from 8 a.m. It was agreed that these letters represented the views of the Forum as a whole and that they should be sent out to the Licensing Board on the Chair's behalf.

Decided: C. Andrew to circulate the letters to Licensing Forum members on behalf of the Chair of the Local Licensing Forum.

4. 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 18th August, 23rd August, 15th September and 27th October.

5. Matters Arising from Previous Licensing Board Meetings.

C. Andrew advised Forum members that, in order to get around the restrictions on Under-18s access to licenced premises at the Scottish International Airshow, it was evident that some parents had left children unaccompanied out with the perimeter of

the designated drinking area. A Forum member questioned whether it was hypocritical of the council to be encouraging people to come to the area and consume alcohol despite the fact that people coming to Ayr and Troon from outside of Ayrshire to consume alcohol during summer months was a problem which had been recognised by the Police and public services.

P. McCarroll informed the Forum of an application which had been submitted to the Licensing Board for a music festival in Troon Town Hall, which requested a licence to sell alcohol with children having unlimited access to all areas, including the areas where alcohol was being served. The Board heard that a compromise was reached whereby children were only allowed access to areas of the venue where alcohol was not sold or consumed. P. McCarroll informed the board that protecting children from alcohol was a recurring theme in many applications and presented a significant challenge on a regular basis. He informed the Forum that the support of the Forum was vital in continuing to ensure that children are protected from alcohol.

Decided: to note the position.

6. Joint West of Scotland Forum Meeting.

The Chair informed Forum members that he and C. Andrew had recently attended a meeting with representatives from other Licensing Forums throughout Scotland. The Forum heard that concern at the lack of influence that Forums had on Licensing Board decisions was a common theme. C. Andrew informed Forum members that a representative from the Scottish Government was in attendance and had indicated that if there was a national 'forum group' set up, the Scottish Government may be inclined to send a representative to meetings. It was, however, made clear that the Scottish Government were not inclined to change their policy and there would not be any funding made available for such a group.

Decided: to note the position.

7. ADP Licensing Event.

The Chair gave feedback to Forum members relating to the recent ADP Licensing Event which was held in County Buildings. The Forum heard that the overprovision policy was discussed, specifically the generic nature of it. The Chair informed the Forum that the fact that the overprovision policy was so general and not specific made it more difficult for the Licensing Board to tackle this issue. It was noted that the new Licensing Board, which was to be in place by May 2017, would be reviewing Statement of Licensing Policy and Forum members agreed that there should be considerable discussion prior to that regarding what role the Forum could play in shaping that policy.

Decided: to circulate the current Statement of Licensing Policy and discuss at the next Forum meeting.

8. Dates of 2017 Licensing Board Meetings

There was submitted a report (issued) of November 2016 outlining the dates of the 2017 Licensing Board meetings.

Decided: to note the dates of the 2016 Licensing Board meetings as follows:-

- Thursday, 12th January 2017;
- Thursday, 9th February 2017;
- Thursday, 9th March 2017;
- Thursday, 20th April 2017.

9. Dates of proposed 2017 Licensing Forum Meetings:

There was submitted a report (issued) of November 2016 proposing dates for 2017 meetings of this Forum. It was noted that, as the new Licensing Board would require training after taking up their roles on the board, the joint meeting between the Forum and the Board would take place in August 2017.

Decided: to agree the dates for future Licensing Forum meetings as follows:-

- Wednesday, 8th February 2017 at 10.00 a.m. in the Troon Room, County Buildings, Ayr;
- Wednesday, 7th June 2017 at 10.00 a.m. in the Troon Room, County Buildings, Ayr ;
- Wednesday, 16th August 2016 at 10.00 in the Troon Room, County Buildings, Ayr; (Joint Meeting with the Licensing Board) and
- Wednesday, 8th November 2016 at 10.00 a.m. in the Troon Room, County Buildings, Ayr.

10. A.O.C.B:

The Chair raised the issue of attendance at meetings and suggested that contact be made with those who have not attended Forum meetings for a sustained period of time reminding them of the Forum's policy on attendance.

Decided: to circulate the dates of the 2017 Licensing Forum meetings to all Forum members along with a reminder of the Forum's policy on attendance.

The meeting finished at 11.15 a.m.