

SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

Minutes of the meeting of South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum in County Buildings, Ayr on 15 August 2018 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: A Kelly, A Stewart, C Andrew, M Ankers, P Zive (Chair) and R Rennie.

Attending: H Ankers

Apologies: J Govan and S Bradford

Attending for South

Ayrshire Council: A Nelson, Co-ordinator, Democratic Services.

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed all present.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of J Govan and S Bradford.

3. Minutes of the Previous South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum meeting of 6 June 2018

The minutes of the South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum meeting held on 6 June 2018 (issued) were submitted.

Decided: to approve the minutes as a correct record; proposed by A Kelly seconded by P Zive.

4. Matters Arising from the South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum Minutes

It was noted that a meeting of the Forum Working Group, established to discuss the South Ayrshire Licensing Board Draft Policy Statement of Licensing Policy had taken place and would be reported under Item 7 of the Agenda.

Decided: to note the position.

5. Minutes of the Previous South Ayrshire Licensing Board Minutes – 17 May 2018, 14 June 2018 and 21 June 2018

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 South Ayrshire Licensing Board meetings of 17 May 2018, 14 June 2018 and 21 June 2018.

6. Matters Arising from the South Ayrshire Licencing Board Meetings

21 June 2018

It was noted that the figure, as detailed on page 1 of the South Ayrshire Licensing Board (Special) Meeting held on 21 June 2018 - 1 (2) should have read 339 and not 3339 as detailed.

7. Response to South Ayrshire Licensing Board Draft Statement of Licensing Policy

The Chair introduced the draft response to South Ayrshire Licensing Board Draft Statement of Licensing Policy which had been previously circulated to South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum members.

The draft response from the South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum covered the main areas as detailed below:-

- 5.3 Consideration of premises licence applications
- 6.2 Noise Nuisance
- 6.3 Outdoor Drinking Facilities
- 6.4 Children and young persons on licensed premises
- 11 Extended hours applications
- 12 Occasional Licences

Forum members generally felt that the Draft Statement of Licensing Policy could have been written in a more user friendlier manner and provided clearer guidance for the people expected to use it.

The Forum welcomed the change in wording in relation to neighbour noise issues and the requirement to have a noise consultant's report and that this would give new operators the opportunity to consider all the requirements prior to applying for a licence.

The Forum supported the general policy of 'no outside drinking beyond 10pm'. However Forum members felt that the wording 'unless with the express consent of the Board' offered the opportunity to apply for more time rather than express a view that 10pm was generally acceptable to the Board. M Ankers suggested changing the wording 'generally acceptable' to 'the norm'.

With regard to children and young people on licensed premises, Forum members acknowledged that this was a challenging issue particularly considering the variety of events and premises. Forum members felt there was a clear distinction between those premises that children would be attending for the purposes of having a family meal or to attending a family function and those which were simply drinking establishments. Considering the diversity of events taking place throughout the Council area the Forum felt that it was important that a consistent approach was taken by the Board regarding children's access to permanently licenced premises and occasionally licensed events and that if children were going to be permitted to an event which is mainly a music event with a bar then the Board must take a similar approach when considering a licensed premises.

With regard to proof of age the Forum suggested changing the wording to 'as per I.D. listed in the Act' as this represented a wider range of acceptable proof of age documents instead of 'acceptable of Young Scot cards or passports as proof of age'.

The Forum generally supported the information provided by the Board in relation to Extended Hours Applications, however members felt that there should be further clarification regarding how many applications it would consider from one premises before it expected an application made to vary the premises licence.

The Forum welcomed the Board's suggestion that applicants could contact Environmental Health and the Licensing Standards Officer for advice and information when considering events. This was seen as a positive step in minimising complaints and expense.

The Forum also welcomed the explanation of 'Family Friendly' in this section and was pleased that the Board had retained their previous practice of considering whether the 'event' itself was suitable for children. Forum members however felt that specific Criteria, on what the Board determined was a requirement for a 'Family Friendly' premises/event, would be helpful.

The Forum raised concerns about the number of premises which appeared to operate by using occasional licences rather than a premises licence – predominantly wedding venues. Members felt that there should be a limit to the number of occasional licences that the same applicant could apply for one venue to prevent these being favoured over the application of a premises licence.

Forum members generally shared the opinion of the Board that the information, currently available, did not support the view that there was an overprovision in South Ayrshire although members accepted that there were some towns and villages that appeared to be well catered for.

Decided: to submit the comments of South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum's in response to the consultation on South Ayrshire Licensing Board Draft Statement of Licensing Policy.

8. Any Other Competent Business

There were no further items of business.

9. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Forum would take place on Wednesday 7 November 2018 at 10.00am in the Troon Committee Room, County Buildings, Ayr.

The meeting ended at 10.45pm