

D R A F T
SOUTH AYRSHIRE LICENSING BOARD/
SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

Minutes of the Joint Meeting in Maybole Committee Room, County Buildings, Ayr,
on 6 November 2019 at 11.00 a.m.

Attending for Licensing Board:

Councillors Craig Mackay (Chair of Licensing Board), Laura Brennan-Whitefield, Andy Campbell, Ian Fitzsimmons and Margaret Toner.

Apologies: Councillors Siobhian Brown, Douglas Campbell, Lee Lyons and Bob Pollock.

Attending for the Local Licensing Forum:

Paul Zive (Chair of the Licensing Forum), Alex Kelly, Angela Stewart, Catrina Andrew, David Cuthill, Janice Lindsay, Michael Ankers, Rachael Rennie, Robin Russell, Sandy Paton, Serg. David Dougan and Sukhuinderjit Sangha

Apologies: There were no apologies.

Also Attending: Helen Ankers

Attending for:
South Ayrshire Council: Morag Douglas, Depute Clerk to the Board; and
Alison Nelson, Co-ordinator, Democratic Services

1. Chair's Remarks.

Councillor Mackay, Chair of the South Ayrshire Licensing Board welcomed members of the South Ayrshire Licensing Board and South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum to the joint meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of the joint meeting of the South Ayrshire Licensing Board and South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum.

The Minutes of the joint meeting of the South Ayrshire Licensing Board and South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum of 15 August 2018 (issued) were submitted.

Decided: to approve the Minutes of the previous joint meeting of the South Ayrshire Licensing Board and South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum as an accurate record proposed by Paul Zive and seconded by Councillor Ian Fitzsimmons.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4. Application for extended hours in the morning from Sports Clubs

Forum members raised concerns about the number of licenced premises that had R applied for extended hours in the morning.

Both the Forum members and Board members discussed this at length, Board members highlighted the fact that, during the Rugby World Cup, one application was approved however the applicant was given the opportunity to either extend in the morning or at night but not both, the applicant subsequently extending in the evening. The other was a private golf club which had facilitated a golf competition. Forum members raised health concerns and questioned the need to drink alcohol prior to 10am, which was outwith the Board's Policy. Board members intimated that they were not aware of an increased number of extended early morning hour's applications and acknowledged the concerns Forum members had regarding this issue.

5. What makes an event 'special' to justify extended hours?

Forum members raised concerns regarding the number of extended hour's applications being approved by the Board for a 'special' event and, on occasion, what appeared to be the inconsistency of some of the Board's decisions. Forum members and Board members then debated what determined a 'special' event. Board members intimated that it was a difficult balance between the health of local communities, the changing nature of how pubs/nightclubs operate, how people socialise and the commercial interests of the local licensed trade.

Board members explained that each application was considered on merit and that there was discussion prior to any decisions being made however the Minutes of the Licensing Board only recorded the actual decision. The Team Leader – Licensing explained the application process for extended hours and that there was limited information provided on some applications. The Chair advised that a Working Group had been established to examine Extended Hours. At the Board meeting on 24 October 2019 it was agreed that the Depute Clerk to the Board would prepare draft guidance for subsequent approval by the Board to accompany the Extended Hours application form to ensure that adequate information was provided by the applicant and that the form was submitted in sufficient time for all processes to be carried out prior to consideration by the Board. At the next meeting of the Board it was agreed that what constituted a 'special event' would be discussed.

6. Any Other Competent Business

There were no other items of business.

7. Chair's Remarks.

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

8. Date and Time of the Next Meeting

To be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 12 noon

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