

## **REGULATORY PANEL (SITE VISIT).**

Minutes of meeting to undertake a site visit on 18 September 2019  
leaving County Buildings at 11.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Brian Connolly (Chair), Andy Campbell, Ian Cavana, Peter Convery, Ian Fitzsimmons, Mary Kilpatrick and Craig Mackay.

Apology: Councillor Margaret Toner.

Attending: M. Douglas, Team Leader (Licensing); H. Talbot, Team Leader (Building Standards); S. McInnes, Civil Engineer, Building Standards; and J. McClure, Committee Services Lead Officer.

### **1. Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Panel in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

### **2. Site Visit to Ayr Racecourse.**

Reference was made to the Minutes of 20 June 2019 (Page 1, paragraph 4) when it had been decided to carry out a site visit of Ayr Racecourse and the Panel undertook an accompanied site visit of these grounds.

Brian Ferries, General Manager and Mark Gajic, Safety Officer, welcomed the Panel to the Racecourse and showed them round the grounds.

Having viewed the reception area, two regulated stands, the Ayrshire Suite and the hospitality marquee, the General Manager and Safety Officer advised:- of the different types of ticket available, that all stewards were briefed prior to race meetings; that water stalls were sited throughout the course providing free water to racegoers; a rest room was provided for Police Scotland; and that taxi marshals were available to guide racegoers to the next available taxi from the rank at the end of the race meetings.

The General Manager, Ayr Racecourse outlined his support for a Safety Advisory Group to be established and the Team Leader – Building Standards advised that seventeen Scottish Local Authorities currently had Safety Advisory Groups; that this group would require input from Police Scotland, Fire and Rescue, Building Standards, Legal and Licensing and that he was liaising with officers in these sections and following the guidelines from the Scottish Government in an attempt to establish Terms of Reference to set up this Group; and that it was hoped a Safety Advisory Group would be established prior to issuing the next Safety Certificate in July 2020.

Following questions, the Panel thanked the General Manager and the Safety Officer for the tour of the premises.

### **3. Site Visit to Somerset Park, Ayr.**

Reference was made to the Minutes of 20 June 2019 (Page 2, paragraph 5) when it had been decided to carry out a site visit of Somerset Park, Ayr and the Panel undertook an accompanied site visit of these grounds.

Roy Provan, Safety and Stadium Manager welcomed the Panel to the ground and showed them the various parts of the stadium, including the disabled viewing area, the newly built trackside wall, the stand, the terracing and the internal areas; and the Safety and Stadium Manager advised that 30/32 stewards were in attendance at smaller matches and 120 stewards attended for those matches with greater attendance; that Police Scotland only attended those matches with a large attendance and/or of high risk; and outlined the process for fans exiting the stadium on larger match days.

Following questions, the Panel thanked the Safety and Stadium Manager for the tour of the ground and welcomed the recent works carried out.

The meeting ended at 12.45 a.m.