

SOUTH AYRSHIRE LICENSING BOARD.

Minutes of a hybrid webcast meeting held on 22 May 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors William Grant (Chair); Laura Brennan-Whitefield; Martin Kilbride; Bob Pollock and Gavin Scott.

Apologies: Councillors Kenneth Bell and Duncan Townson.

Attending: L. McChristie, Co-ordinator – Licensing and Depute Clerk to the Board; C. Andrew, Licensing Standards Officer; I. McColl, Police Inspector - Police Scotland; J. Chapman, Committee Services Officer and E. Moore, Committee Services Assistant.

Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that it would be broadcast live.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Board in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. Date of Next Board Meeting

The Chair advised that the next Board meeting would be held on Thursday 12 June 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The **Minutes** of the Meeting of South Ayrshire Licensing Board of 24 April 2025 (issued) were submitted.

Decided: to continue to the next Board meeting on Thursday 12 June 2025.

4. Update by Licensing Standards Officer (LSO)

The Licensing Standards Officer advised –

- (1) that the past month had been busy in South Ayrshire with events who had benefitted from an Occasional Licence;
- (2) that the Girvan annual folk festival brought additional visitors to hospitality premises to enjoy entertainment. Some premises were granted extended hours that allowed them to get the full benefit from those who attended. The event was focused around and within the licensed premises, there was no doubt that it benefitted the local trade and helped boost attendance at existing premises;
- (3) that on the same weekend Ayr Low Green played host to the Pavilion Festival over 3 days. The event took place within a festival village set up specifically for musical performances.

There was a large public bar and a VIP bar within, with the whole area covered by an Occasional Licence. She attended each day to liaise with colleagues from Police Scotland and to monitor the operation of the bar areas;

- (4) that she was particularly pleased to report back on the supervision of both the bars which was carried out by hands on, knowledgeable and very visible managers on the day. That meant bar staff were in turn well briefed, the que well managed and staff had the time and support to assess the person they served. This was an over 18's only event and alcoholic and soft drinks were purchased using tokens, the efficiency at the bar area itself was obvious. Licensing signage was prominently on display and drinking water was available on request, with that being highlighted on the price lists at the bars. Stewarding of the que at the public bar was also very well managed by SIA badged stewards who was good at interacting with the crowd and supporting the staff at the bar;
- (5) that Ayr Agricultural Show also recently took place at the Racecourse with Occasional Licences in place for the secretary tent, members bar, public bar and individual hospitality at some of the traders areas. When the bar was due to open there was a considerable que waiting for entry to the fenced off area, however this dispersed very quickly when the gate opened, this was due to the efficient system employed by the stewards and the agreed increase in capacity, which also meant that a food truck was also sited within the area. A pre-show planning meeting for the event is always organised by the show secretary Lorraine Barclay who ensured that briefing packs are provided to the hospitality providers before the show. The advance planning and consultation regarding the licence had ensured the efficiency of the licensed areas over the past number of years and is an example of good practice;
- (6) that reports from the local trade suggested that patrons from the show did continue on to premises within Ayr town centre after the event closed, with food led premises and those with entertainment reporting increased trade;
- (7) that the recent good weather had sparked an increase in demand for outside drinking areas at licensed venues. Some premises already have permission for this in their operating plan, it rarely relates to tables and chairs on a public footpath or beside a road. Possession of an open container of alcohol in a public space without the benefit of a liquor licence is an offence. Therefore, it is important that licence holders ensure that alcohol is not served to or consumed at external seating areas at the front or side of premises without this being included in their licence;
- (8) that additionally, she noted a number of premises advertising 'entertainment' in their external drinking areas that had not been included in the operating plan. That ranged from the erection of outdoor television screens and speakers to the creation of outdoor stages, offering DJ's and live musicians. Whilst again there are a few premises who had permission for this, following an application to the Board, consultation with other departments, the local community and the production of an acoustic report and noise management plan, there are a number of premises who do not. This is important as it could lead to neighbour complaints, noise issues, anti-social behaviour and ultimately a breach of the licensing objectives; and
- (9) that she recently approached a few premises regarding that, and applications are expected at future Board meetings. However, she proposed to write to all premises in the area to remind them of the need for applications and the importance of obtaining permission before offering that to customers. She would appreciate the Boards support of that proposal as whilst we are very keen to see premises in the area thrive, there is a clear process in the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 and South Ayrshire Board have a clear policy to ensure that all premises are treated equally with regards to applications and that the licensing objectives are upheld.

The Board

Decided: to note the update from the LSO.

5. **Revocation of Personal Licences**

There was submitted a **report** (issued – Members only) of 10 March 2025 by the Clerk to the Licensing Board advising of the revocation of eleven Personal Licences.

The Board

Decided: to note the revocation of eleven Personal Licences since the last Board meeting.

6. **Applications for Transfers Granted Under Delegated Powers**

There was submitted a **report** (issued) of 8 May 2025 by the Clerk to the Licensing Board advising of the following determination of an application for the Transfer of a Licence between the last Board meeting and this Board:-

- (1) The Wee Mans, 31 Green Street, Ayr
The above premises licence was transferred to LAL (Public House) Limited on 15th April 2025.
- (2) The Saints (formerly The Castle Inn), 49 Cassilis Road, Maybole
The above premises licence was transferred to Sandi Graham on 1st May 2025.

The Board

Decided: to note the transfer granted under delegated powers.

7. **Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005**

(a) **Application for Provisional Grant**

The Board considered the following application:

Applicant

(1) T.J Morris (Scot) Limited

Premises

Home Bargains
30 Parkhouse Street
Ayr

Off Sale

Monday	10:00 – 22:00
Tuesday	10:00 – 22:00
Wednesday	10:00 – 22:00
Thursday	10:00 – 22:00
Friday	10:00 – 22:00
Saturday	10:00 – 22:00

Having heard from the Depute Clerk and a representative from T.J. Morris (Scot) Limited,
The Board

Decided: to grant the above application.

7 (b) Application for Variation

The Board considered the following application:

Applicant

(1) Motor Fuel Limited
Station

Premises

Ayr (Castlehill Road) Service

Castlehill Road
Ayr

Change off sale core hours to 10am to 10pm each day following grant of a planning permission variation.

Having heard from the Depute Clerk and the applicant's representative,

The Board

Decided: to grant the above application.

Order of business varied under Standing Order No. 13.3, to consider application 7(c) at the end of the meeting.

7 (d) Premises ceasing to exist

The Board noted that the following licence now ceased to exist as the licence had been surrendered.

(1) Venue 38, 38A Carrick Street, Ayr

Decided: to note the Premises Licence ceasing to exist.

Councillors Kilbride and Scott left the meeting at this point.

7 (c) Application for Personal Licence – Daniel James Allan

Continued application from 24 April 2025.

The Board then heard from the Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board, Police Scotland, the Applicant and a friend of the Applicant, who spoke to their letter of recommendation for the Applicant, and following questions,

The Board

Decided: to grant the above application.

9. Closing Remarks

The Chair thanked officers and the Board for their hard work and concluded the meeting.

The meeting ended at 10:37.

DRAFT