

REGULATORY PANEL

Minutes of a hybrid webcast meeting of
29 May 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

Present in County Hall: Councillors Alan Lamont (Chair), Ian Cavana, Martin Kilbride and Mary Kilpatrick.

Present Remotely: Councillors Lee Lyons and Craig Mackay.

Apologies: Councillors Alec Clark, Mark Dixon and Duncan Townson.

Attending: K. Briggs, Service Lead – Legal and Licensing; L. McChristie, Co-ordinator (Licensing); H. Talbot, Co-ordinator (Building Standards); G. Armstrong, Fleet Inspector; J. McClure, Committee Services Lead Officer; and C. McCallum, Committee Services Assistant.

Chair's Remarks

The Chair

- (1) welcomed everyone to the meeting; and
- (2) outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that this meeting would be broadcast live.

1. Sederunt and Declarations of Interest.

The Co-ordinator (Licensing) called the Sederunt for the meeting and having called the roll, confirmed that 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. Minutes of Previous Meeting – 30 April 2025

The Co-ordinator (Licensing) advised that Councillor Kilpatrick's apologies had been omitted from this minute.

As Councillors Clark, Kilbride, Kilpatrick and Townson were not in attendance at this meeting, they were not eligible to vote on these minutes.

The minutes of 30 April 2025 (issued) were submitted and approved subject to the inclusion of Councillor Kilpatrick's apologies.

3. Annual Inspection and Revised Safety Certificates for the Regulated Stands at Ayr Racecourse

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 21 May 2025 by the Director of Housing, Operations and Development advising of the outcome of the annual technical inspections at Ayr Racecourse; and seeking approval to extend the existing Safety Certificates for the two stands.

The Panel heard the Co-ordinator (Building Standards) advise that a site visit had been undertaken on 6 May 2025 and that all required assessments, surveys, certification and reports were now in place with the exception of the Structural Certificate, which was signed off after the 2025 Maintenance Programme had been completed; refer to the number of minor items to be repaired in the 2025 Maintenance programme which should be completed by 30 June 2025; highlight concerns within the Structural Report; and outline that Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue, Scottish Ambulance Service, NHS Ayrshire and Arran and the Council's Environmental Health Service had no adverse comments.

Questions were raised by Panel Members in relation to the safety of the upper tier of the Eglinton Stand and whether there were plans to upgrade this stand; and in relation to the Medical Plan and these were responded to by Ross Donald, the Operations Manager (Ayr Racecourse) and the Co-ordinator (Building Standards).

The Panel

Decided: to agree

- (1) that the current Safety Certificates should remain in force until 30 June 2025; and
- (2) that the revised Safety Certificates would come into force on 1 July 2025, for a period of one year.

4. Annual Inspection and Revised Safety Certificate for Somerset Park, Ayr.

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 21 May 2025 by the Director of Housing, Operations and Development advising of the outcome of the annual technical inspections at Somerset Park, Ayr; and seeking approval to extend the existing Safety Certificates for the ground.

The Panel heard the Co-ordinator (Building Standards) advise that a site visit had been undertaken on 26 March 2025; that all assessments, surveys, certification and reports were now in place; that Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue, Scottish Ambulance Service, NHS Ayrshire and Arran and the Council's Environmental Health Service had no adverse comments; that the annual Structural Assessment Report had been received by the Council along with the required Structural Safety Certificate and that within the Report there were a number of maintenance works required and a schedule of works had been prepared and issued to AUFC for completion prior to 14 July 2025. He further advised that an inspection would be scheduled by Building Standards to confirm that all necessary works had been completed by 14 July 2025 to the satisfaction of the Council.

Questions were raised by Panel Members in relation to access to the ground; and planned improvement works and these were responded to by Roy Provan, Safety Manager (Ayr United FC) and the Co-ordinator (Building Standards).

A Member requested a site visit to view the recent improvements made at Somerset Park; and another Member requested that a site visit also take place to Ayr Racecourse; and the Co-ordinator (Building Standards) advised that he would arrange this.

The Panel

Decided: to agree

- (1) that the current Safety Certificates should remain in force until 30 June 2025;
- (2) to grant delegated powers to the Service Lead (Planning and Building Standards) to grant the revised Safety Certificates from 1 July 2025, for a period of one year subject to matters being to the satisfaction of Building Standards following the further inspection;
- (3) that, should this inspection not be to the satisfaction of Building Standards, this matter be referred back to this Panel for consideration; and
- (4) that the Co-ordinator (Building Standards) arrange site visits to Somerset Park and Ayr Racecourse.

5. **Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 - Licences**

(a) **Short Term Lets**

First Floor, 19 Charlotte Street, Ayr

Having heard from the Co-ordinator (Licensing), the Panel

Decided: to note that this application would be continued to a future meeting of this Panel for consideration.

(b) **Taxi Vehicle Licence**

The Panel heard from the Co-ordinator (Licensing), from the Fleet Inspector and from the licence holder, Sean Graham, in relation to the proposed suspension of the licence currently held by him.

The Panel

Decided: to take no further action in relation to this matter.

(c) **Private Hire Vehicle Licences**

The Panel heard from the Co-ordinator (Licensing), from the Fleet Inspector and from the licence holder, John James McCartney, in relation to the proposed suspension of the licence currently held by him.

The Panel

Decided: to take no further action in relation to this matter.

(d) Training

The Panel considered the proposed suspension of various licences as the licence holders had not completed the mandatory training.

The Panel

Decided:

- (i) having heard from the Co-ordinator (Licensing) that, as the undernoted licence holders had not completed training, to suspend the licences held by them for their unexpired duration with immediate effect on the ground that a condition of the licence has been contravened; and to grant delegated powers to the Service Lead - Legal and Licensing to reinstate these licences once proof of completion of the training course had been exhibited:
 - (A) Jamshaid Iqbal; and
 - (B) Helen Marshall;
- (ii) having heard the Co-ordinator (Licensing) advise that Gavin Walker had surrendered his licence, to take no further action in relation to this licence holder;
- (iii) having heard the Co-ordinator (Licensing) advise that Iain Lawrence had now responded to correspondence advising that he had completed the training in December 2024 and had now submitted the appropriate certification; to take no further action in relation to this licence holder;
- (iv) having heard the representative for the applicant, Angela Graham, advise that Ms Graham was booked on the next training course, to request that Ms. Graham submit the appropriate certification confirming completion of training within one week of the course, however, should this not be submitted, to suspend the licence held by her for its unexpired duration on the ground that a condition of the licence has been contravened; and to grant delegated powers to the Service Lead - Legal and Licensing to reinstate this licences once proof of completion of the training course had been exhibited; and
- (v) to note Members' disappointment that, despite various reminders being issued to licence holders, the appropriate training was not being undertaken and licence holders were not responding to correspondence from the Licensing Section.

The meeting ended at 10.55 a.m.