

SOUTH AYRSHIRE LICENSING BOARD.

Minutes of a hybrid webcast meeting held on 15 January 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Laura Brennan-Whitefield (Chair); Martin Kilbride and Duncan Townson.

Attending
Remotely: Councillor Kenneth Bell.

Apologies: Councillors William Grant; Bob Pollock and Gavin Scott.

Attending: L. McChristie, Co-ordinator – Licensing and Depute Clerk to the Board; C. Andrew, Licensing Standards Officer; J. Chapman, Committee Services Officer and C. McCallum, Committee Services Assistant.

Opening Remarks

In the absence of the Chair, the Depute Clerk welcomed everyone to the meeting, outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that it would be broadcast live.

Appointment of Chair

The Depute Clerk to the Board sought nominations for the appointment of Chair. Councillor Kilbride seconded by Councillor Townson moved that Councillor Brennan-Whitefield chair this meeting of the Licensing Board. As this was an unopposed motion Councillor Brennan-Whitefield took the chair.

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 February 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The **Minutes** of the Meeting of South Ayrshire Licensing Board of 9 December 2025 ([issued](#)) were submitted.

Due to the lack of members in attendance who had been present at the meeting of 9 December 2025, consideration of these minutes was continued to the next Board meeting,

The Board

Decided: to continue consideration of the Minutes of 9 December 2025 until the next Board meeting of 12 February 2026.

4. Update by Licensing Standards Officer (LSO)

The Licensing Standards Officer advised

- (1) that feedback following the festive season suggested that whilst hospitality venues were well supported at Christmas and New Year, the increased running cost of premises meant that profits were less than had been in previous years; and
- (2) that the rise in minimum wage and national insurance contributions for staff had a significant impact on all licensed premises large and small and as a result they are operating with less staff resulting in a lot of premises having shifts with only one staff member on duty. This is also significant in terms of the Boards policy statement and the expectation that a personal licence holder should always be on duty and this may mean that premises will require all staff to hold a personal licence (or at least have completed the SCPLH training) to ensure that all staff are trained to the same level and equipped with the knowledge they require regarding complying with the legislation; and
- (3) that whilst January is traditionally a quiet month for the licensed trade, the LSO is extremely busy with visits requested by licence holders and premises managers looking for information and guidance on future projects, events and increased facilities. This is extremely positive in terms of strong working relationships with the trade but also an indication of continued investment and new ideas for South Ayrshire this year; and
- (4) that there will be several significant events for the hospitality trade in 2026 but the most eagerly anticipated is the football world cup. The Scottish Government are very clear that the decisions regarding Licensing in each Local Authority area will lie firmly with the relevant Licensing Board. Each Board will take decisions regarding what is most appropriate for premises in their area and in anticipation of a future debate by the Board the LSO had met with a few licence holders to discuss their views about extended hours. Additionally, the South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum will meet at the end of this month to hold a full discussion with the intention of providing feedback to the Board for their February meeting.

The Board

Decided: to note the update from the LSO.

5. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005

(a) [Application for Variation of a Premises Licence](#)

The Board considered the following application:

Applicant

Prestwick Golf Club
2 Links Road
Prestwick

Premises

Prestwick Golf Club
2 Links Road
Prestwick

Existing Licensed Hours

On-Sales

Monday	10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Tuesday	10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Wednesday	10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Thursday	10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Friday	10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Saturday	10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Sunday	10.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Off-Sales

10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.

Proposed Licensing Hours

On-Sales

Monday	9.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m.
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m.
Wednesday	9.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m.
Thursday	9.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m.
Friday	9.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m.
Saturday	9.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m.
Sunday	9.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m.

Off-Sales

10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.

- Increase core hours to allow 9am start Monday to Sunday
- Remove seasonal variations
- Add conference facilities
- Add Pro Shop (no alcohol sales) and Golf Buggy with Drinks and Snacks to additional activities
- Update Children and Young Persons Statement

Having heard from the LSO and the applicant's representative, the Board

Decided: to grant the above application.

6. **Gambling Act 2005**

(a) **Application for Transfer of Adult Gaming Centre**

The Board considered the following application:

Applicant

Genda Europe Limited

Premises

Craig Tara Holiday Park
Dunure Road
Ayr

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

Decided: to grant the above application.

7. [LSO Request for renewal of Delegated Powers for Occasional Licences](#)

Having heard from the LSO, the Board

Decided: to grant delegated powers for Occasional Licences as requested in the LSO report.

8. [Application for Extended Hours](#)

The Board considered the following application:

Applicant

Christopher Morrison

Premises

Number Forty Seven
47 Templehill
Troon

Superbowl 2026 – 8 February 2026 02:30am - 03:30am

Having heard from the LSO, 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 10:30 a.m.