

SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

Minutes of the meeting of South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum in County Buildings, Ayr on 28 August 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

- Present:** Catrina Andrew (Chair), Alex Kelly, David Cuthill, Janice Lindsay, Paul Zive, Rachael Rennie, and Sandy Paton
- Officers:** A Steven, Co-ordinator, Democratic Services
- Apologies:** Sukhuinderjit Sangha and Sergeant Sheryl Syme

The Licensing Standards Officer welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Forum and with agreement from members chaired the meeting. The Chair apologised that this was the first meeting of the year and advised that meeting dates had been set for 2025 to ensure the target of four meetings per annum was met.

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Minutes of the previous Forum meeting of 26 October 2023

Following the Forum meeting on 26 October the Forum met with the Board. The meeting was well attended.

There was a training session held in November in Ayr Town Hall. Unfortunately it was not possible to record the session and the Chair thanked everyone who attended and helped out.

Rachael Rennie, seconded by Janice Lindsay, moved approval of the minute of the 26 October 2023.

The Forum

Decided: to approve the minutes.

3. Minutes of previous Board Meetings

The Chair advised of changes within the Council structure, Councillor William Grant will remain as Chair of the Board and Councillor Kenny Bell will replace Councillor Lee Lyons.

There was a discussion on the voting system at the Board and how it could be confusing for applicants. The link to watch previous Board meetings was circulated to Forum members.

The minutes of the Board meetings of the 11 January 2024, 8 February 2024, 7 March 2024, 18 April 2024 and 16 May 2024 were circulated and the following was discussed:-

- the approval of extended hours for premises in Ayr for the Superbowl final. The Forum were in agreement of the decision as the event was ticketed and well organised.
- the Pavilion Food Village and how it had been granted consecutive 14-day occasional licences as it was not eligible for a premises licence. The Forum were in agreement of this decision and were glad that the Board were not following Board policy in this occasion.
- the transfer of outside space from Notion, which wasn't using the space, to Mulligans. This was a controversial application that allowed the takeover of space and change of permissions. The Chair of the Board visited the premises and it was approved. A neighbouring property had previously had their application refused.
- the application for the Open Golf and the decision by the Board to refuse the use of glass outwith designated areas. The Forum agreed that glass should not be allowed.

The Forum agreed that the Board are appreciating trades are struggling and that times have changed. There is more demand for outdoor facilities and as long as venues are being responsible and respectful to neighbouring properties this should be encouraged.

The Chair proposed that the Forum write to the Board to express their support for looking at innovative ideas. Granting extended hours for the Superbowl and extending temporary licences for outside areas is deviating from Policy however the Forum were in agreement with these decisions.

4. 2025 Schedule of Meetings

The 2025 schedule of meetings was approved.

5. AOB

A member asked if the Council were planning on advertising for Forum members. The Chair confirmed that they would look at what vacancies there were and advertise to appoint new members. It was agreed that the Licensing Standards Officer would continue to Chair Forum meetings until a new Chair was appointed.

6. Date and Time of the next Forum Meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 27th November at 10am, followed by a meeting of the Licensing Board at 11am.

The meeting ended at 11.20 am