

## **SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM**

### **Minutes of the meeting of South Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum in County Buildings, Ayr on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 10am.**

**Present:** Catrina Andrew (Chair), Sergeant David Markin, David Cuthill, Janice Lindsay, Paul Zive and Sandy Paton

**In Attendance:** Aileen Dempster - Police Scotland, Lee Kirkwood – Communities Assistant (SAC) and A Steven - Co-ordinator Democratic Services (SAC)

**Apologies:** Sukhuinderjit Sangha; Alex Kelly and Rachael Rennie

The Licensing Standards Officer welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that Lee Kirkwood was in attendance as a member of the public however a report would go to Cabinet to appoint Lee as a Forum member. David Markin introduced himself as the Sergeant with the remit covering licensing for the area and Aileen Dempster introduced herself as part of the Police licensing team.

#### **1. Apologies**

As above.

#### **2. Minutes of the previous Forum meeting of 27 November 2024**

The Chair advised that the Board had instructed letters to the Scottish Government outlining their concerns on the increased Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) of alcohol from 50p to 65p.

Janice Lindsay, seconded by David Cuthill moved approval of the minute of the 27 November 2024.

The Forum

**Decided:** to approve the minutes.

#### **3. Minutes of previous Board Meetings**

The minutes of the Board meetings of the 27 November 2024, 5 December 2024 and 16 January 2025 were circulated and the following was discussed:-

- the confusing voting process at Board meetings
- the application for transfer by the Central Bar in Prestwick due to the premises changing hands
- the Horse Shoe Bar's application for a variation to change from an on-licence to an off-licence and how this should stop complaints of noise and antisocial behaviour
- Buzzworks' extended hours application for the Vic and the Vine and how three applications had been submitted to extend opening hours. The application was

- refused even though other applications for a 3.30am closing had been approved for other premises including the Ghillie Dhu where there had been no issues
- the Failford had given up their licence and was now residential accommodation as well as The Bracken Bar at Heads of Ayr Caravan Park which had closed during Covid and hadn't reopened
  - Premises licence renewals and how licences were suspended if the annual fee wasn't paid. There were four premises in total, two of which had been converted to housing and the other two have now been paid
  - the December Board meeting had a large agenda and there was a lot going on at that time
  - Glan Park had given up their licence and if they changed their mind it would be a new full application
  - the Chair's report to the Board on the challenges faced by the sector and how this was picked up by the Scottish Licence Trade news
  - the lack of people in bars and how the trend is now drinking at home
  - how young people don't know how to behave as they don't go out and that there is an increase in sexual assaults
  - approving applications through Delegated Powers if there were no objections from Licensing or Police Scotland and how the Chair would document this so that the Forum were informed of any applications approved through Delegated Powers
  - Mulligans extended hours application for the Superbowl and how they had applied as an event of local or national significance. The application was approved however on the basis that it was a special event, not an event of local or national significance
  - The Fourways in Mossblown's licence ceased to exist and it was now residential accommodation

#### **4. AOB**

There was a discussion on the application by the organisers of the Pavilion Festival which had been refused by the Board for an additional event on the Friday which would allow 14-year-olds and over to attend. Unlike other family events held in South Ayrshire, there would be no designated area for alcohol. It was not felt that this was a suitable environment for under 18s as it would be no different from allowing under 18s into bars and nightclubs. The organisers had suggested that under 18s had to be accompanied by someone over the age of 21 or wore wristbands. Police Scotland didn't object to the application due to being confident that the plan was robust enough to deal with any issues that arose. The Forum were in agreement with the Board's decision.

There was also a discussion on Occasional Licences and if a tiered fee process could be introduced that would increase as venues or a person applied for licences.

#### **5. Date and Time of the next Forum Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 21 May 2025 10am.

The meeting ended at 11.35am