

FALKIRK COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the FALKIRK LOCAL LICENSING FORUM held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on THURSDAY 13 AUGUST 2015 at 2.30 p.m.

FORUM MEMBERS

PRESENT: Gordon Emslie (Personal Licence holder); Aileen Holliday (NHS Forth Valley); David Gibson (Social Work); Madelene Hunt (Person resident in Forum Area), Ian Lovie (Scottish Grocers Federation); Bruce Rennie (District Bowling Association); Warren Luke (Person resident in Forum Area); Inspector Billy Drummond (Police Scotland); and Thomas Ross (Licensing Standards Officer).

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Sandy Turner.

APOLOGIES: Jill Bennet (Person resident in Forum Area); Lorraine Fisher (Education); Caird Forsyth (Falkirk Alcohol and Drug Partnership); Charles Gillespie (Person resident in Forum Area); Nash Lalli (Personal Licenceholder); and Rose Mary Glackin (Clerk to Falkirk Council Licensing Board).

CHAIR: Gordon Emslie.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

PRESENT: Alison Barr, Consumer Protection Manager; and Antonia Sobieraj, Committee Services Officer.

1. MINUTES

The Forum **approved** the minute of meeting held on 19 May 2015.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

(a) Events Alcohol Management Plans

Inspector Billy Drummond advised that he had not yet received an update on whether alcohol management plans had been developed for major events in Glasgow and Edinburgh. He would seek this information for the next Forum meeting.

(b) Draft Statement of Licensing Policy

Alison Barr advised that the Draft Statement of Licensing was presented to the meeting of the Licensing Board on 15 June 2015. The draft Statement was adopted for consultation purposes. The period of consultation responses was eight weeks

3. THE AIR WEAPONS AND LICENSING (SCOTLAND) BILL

There was circulated report dated 29 July 2015 from the Clerk to the Licensing Board on the provisions of the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Bill which was enacted on 24 June 2015 and setting out the resultant changes to the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

Alison Barr highlighted the key aspects of the Bill which included:-

- the Bill's Royal Assent on 4 August 2015;
- the amendment to the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005:-
- the main changes to the 2005 Act in relation to liquor licensing concerning Statements of Policy and annual reports by reintroducing a "fit and proper person" test and transferring premises licences;
- the extension of the licensing provisions of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982;
- the creation of new offences of buying or attempting to buy alcohol on behalf of or for a child or young person or giving alcohol (or otherwise making it available) to a child or young person;
- the removal of the requirement to refuse a personal licence application if the applicant has previously had a personal licence revoked in the last five years due to failure to adhere to the refresher training requirement, and
- the Board's publishing of a statement of policy every three years and running for 18 months after the next Council election (which is in May 2017) to 18 months after the following Council election.

Discussion included the undernoted issues:-

- the training requirements;
- the issues associated with change of address and notifying the licensing authority;
- the "fit and proper person" test;
- the transfer of licences;
- the responsibilities of licenceholders;
- the creation of new offences; and
- the significantly increased workload for Police Scotland.

After consideration the Forum noted the report.

4. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

(a) Tom Jones Concert 1 August 2015

Alison Barr advised that the event had been planned in significant detail with an operation plan including an alcohol management plan in place. A pre event preparation briefing with the Head of Stewarding, the Event Organiser and the personal licenceholder was held at 3.00 p.m. on the day of the event.

During the event four bar areas were in operation, with a snake queuing system and a Challenge 25 policy in place. The stewarding of the event was first class and shuttle buses operated from Edinburgh and Glasgow. One significant incident was recorded by Police Scotland. Street Pastors were on hand to assist those exiting the concert. There were however no taxis available directly outside the venue within the designated taxi area.

The Forum noted the information.

(b) Joint meeting with Licensing Board

The Forum agreed that the joint meeting with the Licensing Board be held on Tuesday 24 November 2015 at 2.30 pm.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Forum noted that the next meeting was on Tuesday 20 October 2015 at 6.00 p.m.

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