

MINUTE of JOINT MEEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE LICENSING BOARD and LOCAL LICENSING FORUM held on Tuesday 1 November 2016 at 10.45 within the Council Chamber, Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB.

PRESENT

Clackmannanshire Licensing Board Members

Councillor Kenneth Earle (In the Chair)
Councillor Donald Balsillie
Councillor Irene Hamilton
Councillor George Matchett, QPM
Councillor Graham Watt

Local Licensing Forum Members

Muriel Lockerbie, ex-Tullibody, Cambus and Glenochil Community Council
Ruth MacDonald, Project Officer, Clackmannanshire and Stirling Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP)

IN ATTENDANCE

June Andison, Licensing Administrator
Paul Fair, Licensing Standards Officer
Stuart McQueen, Solicitor, Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board
Anne McPherson, Administrative Support to the Local Licensing Forum.

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Craig Holden, Councillor Les Sharp and Amanda Gerlach (The Old Brewery).

2.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair of Clackmannanshire Licensing Board, the meeting was chaired by Councillor Kenneth Earle who had been nominated by the Board as Chair of the Licensing Board meeting which directly preceded the Joint Meeting of Clackmannanshire Licensing Board and the Local Licensing Forum.

The Chair welcomed the Board and Forum members to its annual joint meeting.

2.0 MINUTES OF MEETING – 8 DECEMBER 2015

The minutes of the joint meeting of the Clackmannanshire Licensing Board and Clackmannanshire Local Licensing Forum held on 8 December 2015 were submitted for approval.

Moved by Councillor Graham Watt. Seconded by Councillor George Matchett, QPM.

Decision

The minutes of the joint meeting of the Clackmannanshire Licensing Board and Clackmannanshire Local Licensing Forum held on 8 December 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by Councillor Kenneth Earle as Chair of today's meeting.

3.0 OPEN FORUM DISCUSSION

Remit/Membership of the Forum

At the last meeting a request was made that for future meetings, Forum members would provide a list of questions or matters they wished to discuss in advance of the meeting. It was noted that no such list had been submitted to today's meeting. The Licensing Standards Officer (LSO) advised that no specific matters have been put forward.

The LSO advised that over the last year there has been a degree of difficulty in terms of forum membership and attendance which is similar to the picture across Scotland and is one of the matters of policy in terms of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 general principle that has not been a great success. Several forums nationally have not met for a considerable period of time despite this being a statutory obligation. Locally, steps have been taken to remove from the membership list those who have indicated that they no longer wish to be involved and, as a result, membership has reduced to four or five members, including the statutory members. There is limited representation from the licensed trade. The LSO spoke about his statutory role and active steps to encourage membership and to drive the Forum. Following recent community council elections, nominations for representation on the Forum will be sought from the new Community Councils. The Licensing Standards Officer is the point of contact.

Councillor Matchett asked for guidance in terms of the Council's responsibility towards the Forum. The Depute Clerk advised that, other than the statutory meeting, the Licensing Standards Officer has a separate responsibility in terms of facilitating the Forum. It is the role of the Licensing Board to hold a joint meeting on an annual basis and have regard to any advice or recommendations made to it through consultation in terms of licensing policy. The LSO is a statutory member of the Forum by virtue of his/her role as Licensing Standards Officer. The local authority is required to provide relevant administrative support to the forum. There is a statutory requirement for the Forum to meet at least four times in each calendar year.

Licensed Trade Association

In response to a question on the Licensed Trade Association, the Licensing Standards Officer advised that the association has disappeared from the area and is now part of the Scottish Licensed Trade Association. There is no organisation that represents licensed trade interests locally.

Clackmannanshire and Stirling Alcohol and Drug Partnership

Ruth MacDonald, Project Officer, Clackmannanshire and Stirling Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) advised that the ADP work across Clackmannanshire. Outwith the Forum, the ADP has a delivery programme to reduce alcohol harm throughout the population. Ms MacDonald informed the Forum about a recent "Rethink Your Drink" awareness campaign and promotion of family support services undertaken by the ADP.

There was agreement that statistics provided by the ADP would be helpful in terms of formulation of the new Statement of Licensing Policy.

Chief Constable's Report to Clackmannanshire Licensing Board

The Chief Constable's report had been considered by the Licensing Board meeting directly preceding the joint meeting. All those present at the joint meeting had been present or had attended at the Board meeting to hear the presentation of the Chief Constable's report.

4.0 AOCB

None.

Ends 11.15 am.

