

STIRLING LOCAL LICENSING FORUM
THURSDAY 21 MARCH 2019 at 2.00 pm
WALLACE ROOM, VIEWFORTH, STIRLING
NOTE OF MEETING

| Present: | |
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| Thomas Fox | Holder of Personal Licence |
| Oliver Harding | NHS – Consultant in Public Health |
| Inspector Jo Jolie | Police Scotland |
| Theresa Marsilli | Team Leader |
| Paul Smith | Member – Holder of premises and personal licences – Castle Leisure |
| Sanda Trenchard | Police Scotland |
| Thomas Wilson | Licence Holder |
| In Attendance: | |
| Iain Breakenridge | Arnprior Community Council |
| Councillor Danny Gibson | Chair, District of Stirling Licensing Board |
| Penny McCoull | Port of Menteith Community Council |
| Philomenia McCllung | Braehead Community Council |
| David McDougall | Governance Officer |
| Kirsty Street | Governance Intern – Licensing Team |
| Islay Moore (Minute Taker) | Support Officer |
| Apologies: | |
| Cl Gill Boulton | Police Scotland |
| Elaine Brown | Substance Misuse Officer - ADP |
| Audrey Clare Burns | Stirling University |
| Stephanie Cameron | Licensing Standards Officer |
| Councillor Douglas Dodds | Vice Chair, District of Stirling Licensing Board |
| Michael Grassom | Service Manager – Children’s Services |
| Nick Manton | Communications Manager – Stirling University |
| Ruth McColgan | Clerk to the Licensing Board |
| Lee Robb | Holder of Personal Licence |

LF106 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received as noted above.

LF107 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Mr Paul Smith agreed to Chair the meeting however advised that he was on 6 different licensing forums and would prefer someone else to take the role on for future meetings. Round table introductions were made and it was noted that it was positive to see community representation on the Forum.

LF108 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of the Meeting of the Stirling Local Licensing Forum held on Thursday 29 November 2018 was approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

LF109 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

The Agenda items were taken in the order noted below.

LF108 PARTNER ORGANISATIONS COMMENTS

Licensing Standards Officer (LSO) Update

The Governance Intern advised that there would be a new Licensing Standards Officer starting in April. The importance of this role was noted for meeting with the public and engaging with the licensing trade.

NHS Update

There was no update from the NHS representative.

Police Scotland Update

Police Scotland advised that there were no broad issues at the moment. The Police representative provided an update on the "Ask for Angela" scheme, noting that posters had been distributed to licensed premises. There had been no feedback on this yet and it was noted that it was voluntary to take the posters. There had been concerning reports of the 'Ask for Angela' being used by the public as a prank/joke which was worrying in terms of undermining the process and wasting resources. The risk associated with this was that the scheme could become a cry wolf scenario and lose impetus. There had been 3 or 4 occasions in the last month that were not genuine but so far there had been no genuine scenarios. Targeted inspections had been made and Police Scotland would be attending Pub Watch next week. It was noted that GDPR could not be breached when identifying individuals barred from premises. These individuals were generally known to front door staff and cameras help with identification which was mandatory for late opening beyond 1am.

Councillor Danny Gibson joined the meeting at this point.

It was noted that exclusion orders were issued for worst offenders and an exclusion order was the default position for violent behaviour. A request was made for exclusion order statistics to be presented at the next meeting. **ACTION: Police**

LF109 CHIEF CONSTABLE'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2017 – 31 MARCH 2018

A summary of the Chief Constable's Report was presented and it was noted that licensed premises would receive letters for high risk events which identified issues and enabled problem solving. A hearing to the Board was a last resort and visits were recorded. One premises was being monitored and following improvement the monitoring was to be removed. There was a great working relationship with CCTV operators coordinating incidents and identifying incidents.

It was raised that the Police inspections during busy times exposed risk to the premises by taking people away from their jobs. There had been no issues ever noted at the inspections and the frequency of them during peak times presented a risk when premises were at capacity. Better timing of visits would assist traders and

also ensure inspections would continue to take place. Police Scotland noted this suggestion and would discuss with the Commander. **ACTION: Police**

An update was requested regarding serious and organised crime. **ACTION Police**

LF111 POLICY ON EXTENDED HOURS

A handout was given to all present at the meeting on extended hours applications. The Chair advised that the handout presented a summary of extended hours applications refused and approved between 2017 and 2019 and indicated a shift toward refusing extended hours applications for night clubs. There was a fear that Stirling would lose customers to other areas due to extended hours being refused.

In response, the Governance Intern advised that extended hours applications were assessed on their own merits and against the Statement of Licensing Policy.

In response, the Chair to the Licensing Board advised that there was a significant change in 2017 following the elections. A New Licensing Board was formed and where extended hours were previously determined by officers they were now determined via discussion with the Chair and Vice Chair. All decisions were recorded and the onus was on the applicant to explain what made the event special. Grounds for refusal had to be demonstrated however it had to be clear what was special about the event.

This would be raised direct with the Licensing Team.

Councillor Gibson left the meeting at this point.

Discussion took place on the effects of late opening in terms of alcohol consumption and health. Evidence to support the discussion was sought for discussion at a future meeting.

LF112 PARTNER ORGANISATIONS COMMENTS (Continued)

ADP Update

There was no update on ADP.

Education Update

It was noted that there was a street work youth project in place that connected with Police in the City Centre. The project covered Thursday/Friday and Saturday evenings until midnight in the City Centre to protect young people. Volunteers known as Street Pastors were trained to survey the streets looking for vulnerable people. The project included 4 Street Pastors, 4 Active workers, support staff on call and Police who could be contacted by mobile. There would be a further update at the next meeting. **ACTION: TM.**

Social Services Update

There was no update.

Stirling University Update

There was no update.

LF113 MINIMUM UNIT PRICING AND THE EFFECTS OF DRINKING AT HOME

The item was deferred to the next meeting.

LF114 DISCUSSION ON OPERATION STEADFAST

Operation Steadfast was Policing in partnership with Stirling Council dealing with anti-social behaviour. The project worked closely with Alcohol and Drug Partnership and it was noted that there was a reduction in crime and theft as a result. A social inclusion project was included to help prevent people coming into the criminal justice system. A Police van was present at Friar Street to monitor crime and bottles were marked to identify where they had been sold from. The project continued to Fresher's week and was successful at Christmas also.

It was also noted that concerns had been raised by residents in the city centre that there were a core number of individuals causing offense and that the Police van was often parked however unmanned. This was noted by Police Scotland and would be discussed with their team as the van should only be there when manned.

In response to questions it was confirmed that Street pastors were trained and taxi stewards were also linked in with the operations.

LF115 COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Licensing of Outdoor Musical Events

The representative from Port of Menteith Community Council addressed the Forum and advised that there was an upheaval to the Community in terms of disruption to residents during the Doune the Rabbit Hole event. The disruption included late night flood lighting and noise from the generators. The toilet facilities were poor therefore it was requested that restriction on times would be taken into consideration when considering the license. It was noted that this would be passed onto Licensing as the Forum was not the place to manage these issues.

The representative from Arnprior Community Council advised that there were potential health and safety issues in terms of bars at events. The bar should be operated in a professional manner and should be adequately stewarded. There was a frustration from the community that they were not being represented. It was noted that this would be passed onto the Licensing Team

LF116 AOB

It was suggested that Licensing Trends and Issues be added to the workplan as a standing item. **ACTION: IM**

It was raised that there had been a trend for heavily intoxicated people being refused entry to licensed premises then vomiting in the street. The Police would investigate the origin of the alcohol consumption and would review. **ACTION: Police**

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 4 July 2019 at 2pm in the Council Chambers.

The meeting closed at 3.50 pm.