

ABERDEEN LICENSING FORUM
13th September, 2007

Present: Ross Blackadder, Neil Carnegie, Hamish Cattanach, William Christie, Sergeant Ian Christie, Ken Eddie, Graeme Knowles, Allan McIntosh, Reuben McKay, Harry Miller, Inspector Peter Morrison, Raymond Morrison, Mike Taylor, Eddie Tobin, Dr. Lesley Wilkie, and Michael Wilson.

APOLOGIES

1. Apologies were intimated on behalf of Mary Crawford and Matt Dexter.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON

2. Allan McIntosh was unanimously appointed to the Chair for this meeting only.

It was agreed that biographical information regarding the members of the Forum be sought and circulated prior to the next meeting.

COMPOSITION AND REMIT OF THE FORUM

3. There was circulated prior to the meeting a note of the composition and remit for the Forum as detailed in Appendix A to the Minute. The Forum noted the contents of the note.

PROCEDURES

4. To enable the Forum to consider whether or not to adopt a protocol of procedure, the Clerk was requested to seek to obtain from other Forums copies of their own procedure notes. Further consideration of the matter was meantime deferred.

ABERDEEN CITY LICENSING BOARD - DRAFT STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

5. The Forum had before them for consideration a Draft Statement of Licensing Policy, November 2007 - November 2010, issued to them for consultation purposes by the Clerk to the Licensing Board.

The Forum resolved to comment thereon as follows:-

- Paragraph 1.2 and Appendix 3 - Coloured larger-scale version of plan of city centre area for regular extensions to be circulated to members of the Forum.
- Paragraph 2.1 - Add "Health" to list of organisations consulted.
- Paragraph 9.2 - Board should indicate its views on overprovision of licensed premises as soon as possible, and in any event before the requirement to do so comes into force in 2009.
- Paragraph 15 - In the opinion of the Forum, a personal licence holder should be on the relevant licensed premises at all times. If it is not possible to impose such a condition, there should at least be a requirement for a personal licence holder for premises which are open late at night to be on the premises after 1am.
- Paragraphs 16.4 and 16.5 - "performers" should read performers. (i.e. inverted commas omitted)
- Paragraph 17.3 - "displays" at or near checkouts should read "displays of promotional material".
- Paragraph 20.6 - Proposed curfew not favoured. Instead, it is suggested that public houses close at 12 midnight or earlier with entertainment premises opening until 2am with minimum prices set for sales of alcohol.
- Paragraph 20.11 - This paragraph should be omitted altogether.
- Paragraph 27 - The Forum were generally of the view that the Board should consider the nature of premises and the use thereof rather than imposing a time beyond which children should be excluded.
- Appendix 4 Paragraph 10 - "15" hours continuous trading should read "14".

PROGRAMME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

6. The Forum agreed to meet four times each year, one month prior to the meetings of the Licensing Board should these continue on a quarterly basis. The Forum also agreed to meet annually with the Board on a date to be agreed.