



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
EAST LoTHIAN LOCAL LICENSING FORUM**

**3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2015**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HOUSE, HADDINGTON**

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**Forum Members Present:**

George Hood (Chair)  
Steven Wray  
Ricky Ross  
John Thayers (MELDAP)  
Bernard Harkins  
Stuart Baxter  
Rudi Fruzynski (LSO)  
PC Heather Bowsher (Police Scotland)  
Kirsten Baird

**Council Officials Present:**

Jim Goodfellow

**Minute Secretary:**

Christine O'Brien

**Visitors Present:**

None

**Apologies:**

None

**1. Election of Officers for the year 2015/2016**

Elections were held for the posts of Chair and Secretary for the year 2015/16.

**Decision**

The Forum agreed: George Hood as Chair for 2015/16  
Christine O'Brien as Secretary 2015/16

**2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 December 2014:**

**Amendments required:**

Stuart Baxter was present

Christine O'Brien was present

Apologies Kirstine Macneil should read Kirstie MacNeill

Point 2 of Paragraph 8 should read SALSUS

The Minutes were agreed as a true record after amendments.

**3. Alcohol Deliveries**

Licensing board asked to view an application on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015 by Gullane Mini Market for a major variation to the premises licence to slightly increase the alcohol display and to add into the operating plan deliveries of alcohol.

Increase in display area was accepted.

Police objected to the alcohol delivery facility on the basis that such deliveries raised serious concerns that the facility to private addresses could be used by children and young persons to order drink and have older siblings and friends accept delivery of it.

**Decision**

Following debate and representation from Mr McDonald Licence agents on behalf of applicants the application was granted on the condition that the delivery driver used by the shop must hold a personal licence.

The Forum agreed:

It was agreed that a working group would be set up to consider home delivery service and their views on the same and report back to the Board.

**4. Licensing Standards Officer Report**

Rudi Fruzynski reported:

Three Variable applications were granted for the following premises: Aberlady Bowling Club, Gullane Mini Market and Longniddry British Legion.

The Board determined it was appropriate to grant general extensions to the Scottish Golf Open Championship this extension would apply from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July

inclusive and would allow an extension of the terminal hours for the sale of alcohol until 1am. These extensions will only apply to on- sale and not to off-sale.

Rudi reported that in the recent period there had been a small number of complaints and gave additional details of the overall business dealt by the Board.

#### **5. Kirstie MacNeill Clerk of the Licencing Board**

Mrs MacNeill sent her apologies. Her report was read by another member of the Forum.

The Annual meeting is to be organised between the Forum and Licensing Board.

The New Air Weapon and Licencing Bill will also be looking at the period of suspension regarding personal licences for those who have not completed their refresher course but at present the 5 year ban is still in place.

It was reported that the charge for Licence Fees are not cost efficient due to administration cost.

#### **6. Police Report**

Heather Bowsher reported that it had been a quiet 2-3 months.

Briefly discussed that over the last 3 week a number of properties had been broken into.

1 premises licence review.

1 premises remains on monitoring list.

The closure of Madison's in Musselburgh had resulted in a huge benefit for police at closing times but there were concerns regarding migration of clientele to other establishments.

Police are looking at test purchasing being carried out under a new approach which will look at whole areas rather than intelligence information.

Heather Bowsher confirmed that any under 18s trying to buy alcohol would be charged by the investigating officer.

Discussion around drunken people entering licence premises, this is an offence and police should be called if refusing to leave but as mentioned it is a grey area regarding drunkenness/drunkenness state. (Refusal book must be kept up to date)

I.D. given out to siblings, friends etc. and confiscated while being used will be returned to issuing agency which could lead to charges if stolen and if not you may have problems in obtaining a replacement as you have given this up voluntarily.

#### **7. Pub Watch R.A.S.P Report**

PC Jeff Howe gave a talk on Terrorism.

3 people added to ban list.

New allergy guide line and poster implemented as new regulation came in on the 13/02/15.

## 8. **Alcohol Focus**

There was a discussion on the lowering of the drink driving limit which came into force on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

Key alcohol findings: the proportion of 13 to 15 year olds who reported drinking alcohol is at its lowest since SALSUS began in 1990.

There was discussion about alcoholic availability facts and figures this can be found at [www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk](http://www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk) during discussion it was noted that the figures in the eyes of the Forum were not a true reflection as the supermarket industry who have one of the largest volume of sales within East Lothian refuse to divulge facts and figures of their alcoholic sales.

## 9. **Any Other Business**

There was discussion around the location of future Forum meetings to try and improve attendance figures. Queen Margaret University offered to host one of the meetings which would give younger people an opportunity to attend possibly a September or December meeting.

Date of next meeting: -            Tuesday 2 June 2015 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber,  
Townhouse, Haddington