



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
EAST LOTHIAN LICENSING BOARD**

**THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2019
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HOUSE, HADDINGTON**

Board Members Present:

Councillor F Dugdale (Convener)
Councillor J Henderson
Councillor J McMillan

Clerk of the Licensing Board:

Mrs K MacNeill, Service Manager, Licensing, Administration and Democratic Services

Attending:

Mr R Fruzynski, Licensing Standards Officer
Ms G Herkes, Licensing Officer
Ms C Shiel, Licensing Officer
PC H Bowsher, Police Scotland

Committee Clerk:

Ms J Totney

Apologies:

Councillor L Bruce
Councillor J Goodfellow
Councillor W Innes

Declarations of Interest:

None

1 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – 24 JANUARY 2019

The minutes of the East Lothian Licensing Board meeting of 22 January 2019 were approved as a true record.

2 MAJOR VARIATION OF PREMISES LICENCE The Brig and Barrel (Masons Arms), 8 High Street, Belhaven, Dunbar

The Clerk advised that the application seeks to change the premises name to 'The Brig and Barrel'; vary the premises manager and operating plan; add off-sales; vary core hours to: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 11am to 11pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11am to 1am, and Sunday 11am to 12 midnight; add restaurant/bar meals, receptions and club meetings, recorded and live music, film, gaming, sports, televised sports and outdoor drinking; allow children and young persons; vary capacity from 66 to 95 people; vary layout plan for renovation, to include dining/drinking area; change ladies toilets; and shorten the beer garden to allow staff parking and deliveries.

Mr J Hughes, applicant, was present and outlined the changes and upgrades he has made to the premises.

In response to Councillor McMillan, he confirmed that there are strong local links with Belhaven Brewery, who would also be one of his suppliers; commenting that he would be supporting many local produce suppliers. He added that his premises would be sharing in the Brewery's 300 year celebrations, and advised that the family friendly pub would welcome walkers and cyclists using the John Muir Way. He advised Councillor Henderson that he had moved into the flat above the premises.

The Licensing Standards Officer (LSO) commented on the positive relationship with the applicant and fully supported the application.

PC Bowsher stated that Police Scotland support the application.

The Clerk drew members' attention to their Board papers which contained an email of support from the local Community Council.

Mr Hughes advised Councillor Dugdale that the off-sales element would be an added facility for the local community, especially those using the caravan site.

Decision

East Lothian Licensing Board agreed to grant the major variation to the premises licence.

3 OCCASSIONAL LICENCE APPLICATIONS Martin Blackburn, Bistro/Restaurant, Poldrate, Haddington

The Clerk advised that five occasional licence applications had been received covering the period 25 March 2019 to 2 June 2019. She added that there had been a representation from a member of the public who wished their comments to be considered by the Board.

Mr M Blackburn, applicant, was present. He confirmed that he had seen the representation and summarised the business case and operating model for re-opening the premises.

Responding to questions from Board members, he advised that there would be no internal changes to the current premises for the time being; reported that he had spoken to neighbouring residents about their concerns regarding outside drinking and noise, adding that he and his family live in one of the flatted properties above the premises; stated that smoking would not be permitted in the court yard and that the terminal hour for the court yard would be trialled at 22.00 hrs with a view to changing this to 20.00hrs if there are concerns from neighbours; consideration would be given to providing a minibus service to alleviate parking problems; parking spaces at the front of the premises would be reconfigured but would not be reduced in number; and stated that the food offering at the Poldrate would be different from other local restaurants.

The LSO provide a verbal report welcoming the re-opening of the premises and supporting the application, including the 22.00hrs terminal hour for the outside drinking area.

PC Bowsher also supported the 22.00hrs terminal hour for outside drinking. However, she advised that Police Scotland are seeking a restriction on the access for children and young persons (to 22.00 hrs) unless they are having a meal or attending a private event. The applicant confirmed he was agreeable to this condition.

Councillor McMillan was satisfied that the noise concerns had been addressed and stated that there is a growing market for eateries in the area due to the number of new homes in the area, adding that there is an aspiration to create a vibrant 'river quarter' in the town.

Decision

East Lothian Licensing Board agreed to issue the five occasional licenses subject to the condition that access for children and young persons be restricted to 22.00hrs unless they are having a meal or attending a private event.

Signed

Councillor Fiona Dugdale
Convener of East Lothian Licensing Board