

Fife Licensing Forum

Due to Scottish Government guidance related to COVID-19, this meeting will be held remotely.



Thursday, 22 April, 2021 - 2.00 p.m.

AGENDA

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1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **MINUTE OF JOINT MEETING OF FIFE LICENSING FORUM/FIFE LICENSING BOARD OF 26 NOVEMBER 2020** 3 - 4
3. **QUESTIONS TO THE FORUM BY THE BOARD**
4. **QUESTIONS TO THE BOARD BY THE FORUM**
5. **IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC ON THE LICENSED TRADE – Discussion**
6. **ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**
7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** –Forum meeting on 3rd June 2021 at 2.00 p.m.

Morag Ferguson
Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Finance and Corporate Services

Fife House
North Street
Glenrothes
Fife, KY7 5LT

15 April, 2021

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2020 FLF 1

THE FIFE COUNCIL - JOINT MEETING OF FIFE LICENSING BOARD AND FIFE LICENSING FORUM - REMOTE

26 November, 2020

2.00 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.

PRESENT: Representing Fife Licensing Board

Councillors Carol Lindsay (Convener), Alistair Cameron, John Docherty, Garry Haldane, Andy Heer, Donald Lothian and Ryan Smart.

Representing Fife Licensing Forum

Jeff Ellis (Convener), John Barclay, Jim Bett, Gordon Hood (Police Scotland), Fiona Rattray and Paul Smith.

ATTENDING: Rebecca Shovlin, Policy Officer, Fife Alcohol and Drug Partnership; June Barrie, Legal Services Manager (Depute Clerk to Fife Licensing Board), Kimberley Langley, Solicitor, Elizabeth Mair, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGIES FOR Fife Licensing Board

ABSENCE: Councillor Gavin Ellis.

Fife Licensing Forum

David Henderson, Douglas Hardaker (LSO's), Izzy Corbin, Clare Campbell (NHS Fife).

14. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Carol Lindsay, Convener of Fife Licensing Board, welcomed members of both the Fife Licensing Board and Fife Licensing Forum to the meeting.

15. MINUTE OF JOINT MEETING OF FIFE LICENSING FORUM/FIFE LICENSING BOARD OF 25 APRIL 2019

Members considered the minute of the previous joint meeting held on 25 April 2019.

Decision

The minute of the Joint Meeting of the Fife Licensing Board and Fife Licensing Forum held on 25th April 2019 was noted.

16. MINUTE OF MEETING OF FIFE LICENSING FORUM OF 14 NOVEMBER 2019

Members of the Fife Licensing Forum considered the minute of meeting held on 14 November 2019.

Decision

The Forum noted the minute of meeting held on 14 November 2019.

17. FIFE LICENSING BOARD ANNUAL FUNCTIONS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Members considered the Fife Licensing Board Annual Functions Report 2019-2020 and financial statement for the same period.

Decision

Members noted:-

- (1) the information in the reports; and
- (2) that income was down slightly at the end of the period due to the effects of the COVID pandemic.

18. IMPACT ON LICENSED TRADE OF CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Members discussed the impact of the COVID pandemic on the licensed trade and hospitality sector. Paul Smith advised of a letter which had been issued by the Glasgow Licensing Forum to the Scottish Government expressing concern at the impact of COVID restrictions on hospitality, events and licensed trade sectors, specifically the 10 p.m. curfew and a ban on the playing of music, and requesting a meeting to discuss the issues and work with the Government on a way forward for recovery. Paul also referred to results set out in a report on field studies carried out by acoustic consultants which indicated that well-managed background music could be safely reintroduced to hospitality settings without significantly increasing the risks related to increased vocal effort or breaching physical distancing requirements. It was suggested that a similar letter to that from the Glasgow Licensing Forum be issued from Fife. June Barrie advised that any letter could only be sent on behalf of the Forum and not the Licensing Board as the restrictions had been made under public health legislation and not licensing regulations.

Decision

It was agreed that the letter from Glasgow Licensing Forum and the acoustic report from KSG Acoustics be circulated to members for their comments on whether a letter should be sent from the Fife Licensing Forum to the Scottish Government, expressing similar concerns.

19. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that dates be set for 2021 following the usual pattern and circulated to members.

20. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

There being no other competent business raised, the Convener, thanked everyone for their attendance.
