

**North Ayrshire Licensing Board
2 March 2015**

Irvine, 2 March 2015 - At a meeting of the North Ayrshire Licensing Board at 10.00 am in the Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine.

Present

Ronnie McNicol, Tom Marshall, Robert Barr, Ian Clarkson, Grace McLean, Catherine McMillan, and Donald Reid.

In Attendance

W O'Brien, Solicitor (Licensing), G Cullen, Licensing Standards Officer, K Sharkey, Trainee Solicitor, C Pollock, Licensing Administration Officer, and M Champion, Administration Assistant.

Also In Attendance

Chief Inspector Shaw and Sergeant McIntosh (Police Scotland).

Convenor

Councillor McNicol.

Apologies for Absence

John Bruce and John Easdale.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Reid declared an interest in Case 2, involving the Co-operative Group Food Ltd.

The Convenor confirmed that the agenda running order was to be amended slightly. Item 3, the Chief Constable's Annual Report, would be considered before Item 2, Licences and Applications.

1. Minutes

The Board were asked to confirm the Minutes of the Board meeting held on 19 January 2015. The Convenor proposed that the Minutes be adopted and this was seconded by Councillor Marshall. The Board unanimously agreed to confirm and adopt the Minutes.

3. Chief Constable's report to North Ayrshire Licensing Board for period 01/04/2013 – 31/03/2014.

The Board considered the Chief Constable's Annual report for the year to 31 March 2014.

Chief Inspector Shaw said that he was available to answer any questions that the Board may have regarding the report.

Having considered the report, the Convenor thanked the Chief Inspector and stated that the Board were pleased to note the report.

2. Licences and Applications under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

The Board considered a report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board on matters under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005. The report, on this occasion, contained 1 Appendix;

A. Premises Licence applications or any other applications requiring a Hearing.

The Licensing Board agreed to dispose of the matters as follows;

A. Premises Licence applications or any other applications requiring a Hearing

A.1 Dirrans Store, 24B Seymour Avenue, Kilwinning

The Board considered an application for grant of a Provisional Premises Licence made by Muhammed Anees for the above premises. Mr Anees was present.

The Board considered the terms of a report by the Solicitor (Licensing) which set out the results of consultations on the application and summarised the issues arising. Mr O'Brien updated the Board on progress made against the observations set out in the report.

An objection to the application had been made by Dr Sonya Scott, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, NHS Ayrshire and Arran. Mr Anees confirmed that he had seen a copy of the objection prior to the Board meeting. Copies of the written objection were given to the Board Members. Ruth Shepherd of NHS Ayrshire and Arran was present.

Mr Anees addressed the Board regarding the application and issues arising. He explained that the shop is not trading at present but would re-open if the licence was granted, and this would result in the creation of 2 jobs. It is the only convenience store in the area and it is a 20-30 minute walk for residents to get to the next nearest shop. Mr Anees argued that the local area is not overprovided for, however, with reference to the Board's recent consideration of a case in Springside, he suggested that if the Board were going to consider overprovision then perhaps they could continue the application and make a site visit.

Ms Shepherd then addressed the Board, re-iterating the content of Dr Scott's objection. Ms Shepherd reminded the Board of its Overprovision Policy, which concluded that all areas within North Ayrshire were overprovided. NHS Ayrshire and Arran fully support and endorse this position.

Ms Shepherd informed the Board that the area in which the proposed premises is located has health statistics which are significantly worse than the Scottish average. Ms Shepherd added that there is a strong correlation between the availability of alcohol and alcohol related harm, and if this application were to be granted it would add significantly to the availability in this particular area.

In response to Ms Shepherd's comments, Mr Anees said he was an experienced and responsible operator. He did not think that there would be an increase in alcohol related harm if the licence were granted. The local community are happy for the shop to have a licence and there have been no neighbour objections. Mr Anees added that he would be willing to review / minimise the alcohol display capacity figure to a figure deemed appropriate by the Board.

Councillor Barr asked if the premises had previously held a licence. Mr Pollock confirmed that the shop was previously licensed under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 1976.

Councillor Reid commented that the alcohol display area being requested is approximately 33% of the total sales area, which appears excessive. Mr Anees reiterated that he would be willing to review / minimise the proposed alcohol display area.

The Board adjourned to the Members Lounge with the Solicitor (Licensing) at 10.20 am to deliberate in private and re-convened at 10.27 am.

Having considered the terms of the report, and the submissions made, Councillor Clarkson moved that the Board grant the application. Councillor McMillan seconded the motion. Councillor Marshall moved, as an amendment, that the application be refused, on the grounds of overprovision and inconsistency with the Licensing Objective (d) protecting and improving public health. Councillor McLean seconded the amendment.

There was then a roll-call vote. Councillors Clarkson, McMillan and Reid voted for the motion. Councillors Barr, Marshall, McLean and McNicol voted for the amendment.

The amendment was accordingly carried and the Provisional Premises Licence refused.

A.2 Co-operative Food, 19 Cardiff Street, Millport

Having declared an interest in Case 2, Councillor Reid withdrew and took no part in the proceedings relating to the Co-operative Group Food Ltd.

The Board considered an application for grant of a Provisional Premises Licence made by the Co-operative Group Food Ltd for the above premises. The Applicant was represented by Peter Lawson, Solicitor, and he was accompanied by Mr Gormley, Co-operative Group Food Ltd Acquisitions Manager, and Jonathan Kirkland, Premises Manager at the Co-operative Food store in Largs.

The Board considered the terms of a report by the Solicitor (Licensing) which set out the results of consultations on the application and summarised the issues arising. Mr O'Brien updated the Board on progress made against the observations set out in the report.

In total, 9 objections had been lodged with the Licensing Section in relation to the application, including an objection made by Dr Sonya Scott, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, NHS Ayrshire and Arran. At Mr Lawson's request, the Convenor listed the objections that would be considered by the Board. Mr Lawson confirmed that he had seen a copy of all objections prior to the Board meeting. Copies of the written objections were given to the Board Members. Ruth Shepherd of NHS Ayrshire and Arran and objectors Alexander Caldwell and James Thomson were present. Objector Margaret Caldwell was represented by Mr Russell, Solicitor.

Referring to the objection lodged by Kenneth Gibson, MSP, Councillor Barr queried whether it was competent for the objection to be lodged on Scottish Government headed note paper. Mr O'Brien confirmed that the objection was competent.

Mr Lawson addressed the Board regarding the application and issues arising. He said that the Co-operative is a highly responsible operator with an excellent compliance record. They have very robust systems, including the Citrus staff training system. The Co-op has a long record as an ethical retailer whose policy is not to get involved in price wars and they do not advertise alcohol in the windows of their premises.

Mr Russell then addressed the Board and submitted maps which detail the specific provision of licensed premises in the town of Millport. The town has a population of 1280 and there are already at least 6 premises with an off sales facility. Therefore, Mr Russell argued that there was already an existing state of overprovision, and there was no robust or reliable evidence to suggest that any benefits would outweigh the detriment resulting from a licence granted to the Co-op. Mr Russell invited the Board to refuse the application on the grounds of overprovision and an inconsistency with the Licensing Objective protecting and improving public health.

Mr Thompson addressed the board regarding his objection. He stated that the basis of his objection is overprovision, pure and simple. Mr Thompson said that, given the alcohol related harm which already exists in Millport, the last thing that the population of Millport need is another premises selling alcohol.

Ms Shepherd then addressed the Board. She highlighted that Millport already has 25 sq. m. of alcohol display capacity. The Co-op is applying for 25.75 sq. m., which, if granted, would effectively double the off sales availability in the town. Ms Shepherd re-iterated that there is a strong link between availability and alcohol related harm.

Referring to the overprovision assessment report, Mr O'Brien clarified that the off sales capacity at Crocodeli is 4 sq. m.

Referring to Section 4(1) of the Board report, Mr Lawson said that it was his counter argument that public health in the local area would be improved if the application was granted. This is because the proposed new premises would create a total of 15 new jobs, all of which would be taken up by local people, except for the role of Premises Manager. Mr Lawson argued that being in employment has a direct link to positive health benefits. He added that the store would offer a wide range of healthy goods, regularly re-stocked by daily deliveries, and this would result positive health benefits, as well as an in increased choice for the population of Millport.

Regarding the issue of overprovision, Mr Lawson said that although there are public houses on Millport which have an off sales permission, in order to make a competent comparison, interested parties should consider only genuine off sales premises.

Regarding the NHS objection and in particular Ms Shepherd's argument that increased availability of alcohol results in a detriment to public health, Mr Lawson said that there is no causal link to prove this argument. Recent reports indicate that no causal link has been established. Further studies have been commissioned and funded in relation to this issue, which would indicate that a causal link had yet to be established.

Mr Lawson then addressed issues raised by the objectors concerning crime, overprovision, and noise nuisance caused by deliveries to the store. He informed the Board that the Co-operative Group Food Ltd is a responsible operator and there is no evidence to suggest that crime would occur if the licence were granted. The viability of the store would be determined by market forces, and the issue of deliveries was

considered during the Planning process and is not a relevant consideration for the Board.

Mr Lawson argued that the application would not be inconsistent with any of the Licensing Objectives. He said that with the Co-op's record, experience, and Compliance Statement, they were ideally placed to enforce the licensing laws. The company have a state of the art staff training system, will install a CCTV system with 17 cameras at the new premises, and will at all times have 3 Personal Licence Holders on duty. Challenge 25 is enforced in all Co-op stores and the company operate a 4 stage till prompt system which is designed to make the staff member look at the customer during a transaction. All transactions are electronically registered and monitored/inspected by management. The store would be fitted out to the highest standard and delivery times would be scheduled in order to prevent nuisance to local people.

Mr Lawson argued that it was a false assumption to include Millport in the same locality as the North Coast. Given the obvious barrier of the Firth of Clyde, it would be fair to say that alcohol consumed in Millport is most likely to have been purchased in Millport. Mr Lawson said that the Co-operative Group Food Ltd held the view that the additional benefits and added value that would result from the proposed new store would be sufficient to overcome the Board's overprovision policy. On that basis, Mr Lawson commended the application and invited the Board to grant.

In response to Mr Lawson's comments regarding the Co-op's policy of not advertising alcohol in the windows of their premises, Mr Russell informed the Board that in the Co-op's Dalry store there is presently an advert in the window promoting their 'Fairtrade wine of the month'. Regarding the prospective employment opportunities referred to by Mr Lawson, Mr Russell said that whilst the creation of employment is always desirable, it is not the remit of the Licensing Board. He added that it remains to be seen whether the job figures quoted by Mr Lawson would in fact be delivered. Although the Co-op has an ethical history, ultimately it is a commercial organisation.

Mr Lawson explained that he detailed the prospective employment opportunities that would result from the new Co-op store in order to support his argument that the proposed store would improve public health. He acknowledged that the creation of employment may not be the remit of the Board, however, neither are the commercial / competition concerns raised by the objectors.

Councillor Marshall noted that the Co-op was proposing to increase the alcohol provision in Millport by almost 120%. He also commented that the employment opportunities detailed by Mr Lawson are a 'red herring', as the overall effect would be neutral given that jobs would be lost elsewhere if the proposed Co-op store was granted a licence.

Mr Lawson explained that in a normal application for this type / size of store, they would be seeking 30 – 40 sq. m. of alcohol display capacity. This application is only seeking 25.75 sq. m., which is approximately 10% of the total sales space.

Councillor Marshall asked if the Applicant would consider reducing the alcohol display capacity requested. Mr Lawson confirmed his client would consider reducing their requested capacity figure, and would also be happy to offer other undertakings to the Board.

Referring to the NHS figures for hospitalisations attributable to alcohol, Councillor Clarkson asked Ms Shepherd how the area of Millport compared to the rest of

Scotland. Ms Shepherd said that the area was not statistically different from the Scottish average, however, it should be noted that the figures for Scotland are very high, and are higher than those in England and Wales.

The Board adjourned to the Members Lounge with the Solicitor (Licensing) at 11.17 am to deliberate in private and re-convened at 11.31 am.

Having considered the terms of the report, and the submissions made, Councillor Marshall moved that the Board refuse the application, on the ground of overprovision. Councillor McLean seconded the motion. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to refuse the Provisional Premises Licence.

The Board noted Mr Lawson's request for a Direction under Section 25, and for a Statement of Reasons. The Convenor directed that Subsection (2) of Section 25 would not apply in relation to any subsequent Application made during the period of one year, beginning on 2 March 2015.

Councillor Reid re-entered the Council Chambers and re-joined the meeting.

The Convenor suggested that the Board consider Cases 3 and 4 together. John Corrigan, representing Acre Lettings Ltd, confirmed that he was content for the Board to proceed as per the Convenor's suggestion.

A.3 Acre Lettings Ltd, 23 Aitken Street, Largs

A.4 Acre Lettings Ltd, 17-19 Aitken Street, Largs

The Board considered 2 applications for grant of Provisional Premises Licence made by Acre Lettings Ltd for the above premises. The Applicant was represented by John Corrigan.

The Board considered the terms of 2 reports by the Solicitor (Licensing) which set out the results of consultations on the applications and summarised the issues arising. Mr O'Brien updated the Board on progress made against the observations set out in the reports.

Dr Sonya Scott, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, made an objection to the application for 23 Aitken Street. Rev Patricia Laird, Minister, Largs Church of the Nazarene, made objections to both applications. Largs Community Council made an objection to the application for 23 Aitken Street, and a representation to the application for 17-19 Aitken Street.

Mr Corrigan confirmed that he had seen a copy of all objections and the representation prior to the Board meeting. Copies of the written objections and the representation were given to the Board Members. Ruth Shepherd of NHS Ayrshire and Arran and Rev Laird were both present.

Mr Corrigan addressed the Board regarding the applications and issues arising. He informed the Board that Acre Lettings have been operating in Largs for 20 years, purchasing and re-opening closed and derelict buildings / businesses. The company have a successful record.

Regarding the application for 23 Aitken Street, Mr Corrigan explained that there is a specialist fish retailer next door, and a specialist butcher nearby, and research has suggested that a delicatessen outlet would be successful in conjunction with these

other businesses. Mr Corrigan suggested that the requested alcohol display area is relatively small and the intention is that fine wines would be offered for sale. Mr Corrigan added that the project would create 6-8 jobs and the area around Aitken Street would benefit from a high end deli type premises.

Rev Laird then addressed the Board, re-iterating the content of her written objection. She highlighted a concern that both premises, which are located on either side of the church, are proposing the sell alcohol. These proposals would have a detrimental effect on the health and safety of people who visit and utilise the church for various reasons. A number of these are aged and / or vulnerable persons.

Ms Shepherd then addressed the Board, re-iterating the content of Dr Scott's objection. Ms Shepherd said that there is a strong association between the availability of alcohol and levels of alcohol related harm. Alcohol is not an essential commodity and it does not matter if it is good or bad quality alcohol. Ms Shepherd added that there is a Tesco store just a short distance from the proposed premises.

Mr Corrigan explained that Aitken Street is a retail street and it is unfortunate that the church is located in the middle of both proposed premises. At present, other than supermarket type provision, Largs does not have anything different such as this proposed delicatessen.

Councillor Clarkson asked Rev Laird if she had objected to any other applications in the past. Rev Laird said she had not although these applications are on the church's doorstep and she has concerns about alcohol and what it can do to people.

Regarding the application for 17-19 Aitken Street, Mr Corrigan explained that the proposal is for a restaurant. The premises already has planning permission for class 3 use, it just doesn't have a licence yet. The intention would be that the deli and the restaurant would operate in conjunction and 'feed off' each other.

The Board adjourned to the Members Lounge with the Solicitor (Licensing) at 11.49 am to deliberate in private and re-convened at 12.04 pm.

Regarding the application for 23 Aitken Street, having considered the terms of the report, and the submissions made, Councillor Clarkson moved that the Board grant the application. Councillor McMillan seconded the motion. Councillor Barr moved, as an amendment, that the application be refused, on the grounds of overprovision. Councillor McLean seconded the amendment.

There was then a roll-call vote. Councillors Clarkson and McMillan voted for the motion. Councillors Barr, Marshall, McLean, McNicol and Reid voted for the amendment.

The amendment was accordingly carried and the Provisional Premises Licence refused.

Regarding the application for 17-19 Aitken Street, having considered the terms of the report, and the submissions made, Councillor Marshall moved that the Board grant the application, without the permission for 'live performances'. Councillor McLean seconded the motion. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to grant, without the permission for 'live performances'. The Provisional Premises Licence is granted subject to Standard Conditions (Edition 5) Parts A and C.

A.5 Premises Licence 0405 Lamlash Bay Hotel, Shore Road, Lamlash

The Board considered an application for variations of a Premises Licence made by the Licence Holder, Ian Kirsop, for the above premises. The Licence Holder was not present or represented.

The Licence Holder was requesting the following variations:

1. Add 'pavement café'.
2. Alter layout by demolishing perimeter wall.

Mr O'Brien informed the Board that Mr Kirsop had telephoned the office prior to meeting to inform us that due to a technical fault the ferry from Arran was cancelled today and therefore he would not be able to attend. On that basis, Mr Kirsop requested that the case be continued to a future meeting.

Having considered the information provided by Mr O'Brien, the Convenor moved that the Board decide to continue consideration of the application to a future meeting. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to continue consideration of the application to a future meeting.

A.6 Premises Licence 0426 Waterside, Ardrossan Road, Seamill

The Board considered an application for variations of a Premises Licence made by the Licence Holder, Simpsinns Ltd, for the above premises. The Licence Holder was represented by Irene Leslie, General Manager, Simpsinns Ltd.

The Licence Holder was requesting the following variations:

1. New layout plan.
2. Variation of Sunday trading hours.
3. Increase capacity.
4. Change of Premises Manager.
5. Permit use of outdoor drinking from 7.00 am.
6. Variation of Access Terms for under 18s.

The Board considered the terms of a report by the Solicitor (Licensing) which set out the results of consultations on the application and summarised the issues arising. Mr O'Brien updated the Board on progress made against the observations set out in the report.

Mrs Leslie said that she had nothing further to add to the information that was already before the Board.

Referring to the proposal for the premises to offer hotel accommodation, Councillor Reid asked Mrs Leslie what restrictions / measures would be in place to prevent customers from drinking outside after the hours permitted. Mrs Leslie said that customers would be informed of the rules and restrictions in relation to outside drinking at the point of sale.

Referring to variation 5, Mr O'Brien asked Mrs Leslie for her comments regarding the suggested amended wording of Standard Condition C.5.2. Mrs Leslie requested that the suggested wording be amended slightly to include 'visitors' as well as 'residents'. All Board Members confirmed their agreement to Mrs Leslie's request.

Having considered the terms of the report, and the submissions made, the Convenor moved that the application be granted. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to grant.

Standard Condition C.5.2 is amended to read:

'No drinks (alcoholic or not) shall be taken into or consumed in such areas earlier than 11.00 am and later than 10.00 pm, except that tea, coffee and other soft drinks may be served after 7.00 am to visitors or residents having breakfast meals'.

A.7 Premises Licence 0256 The Buccaneers, Sandylands Holiday Park, Saltcoats

The Board considered an application for variations of a Premises Licence made by the Licence Holder, Park Resorts Ltd, for the above premises. The Licence Holder was represented by Niall Hazard, Solicitor, and he was accompanied by James Bradshaw, General Manager, Sandylands Holiday Park.

The Licence Holder was requesting the following variations:

1. Variation of Sunday on-sales operating hours.
2. Variation of layout plan to include Outdoor Drinking Area.
3. Variation of Activities to include conference facilities, restaurant facilities, receptions, club or group meetings and films.
4. Variation of access terms for children and young persons.

The Board considered the terms of a report by the Solicitor (Licensing) which set out the results of consultations on the application and summarised the issues arising. Mr O'Brien updated the Board on progress made against the observations set out in the report.

Mr Hazard explained that the application was the result of a 'tidying up' exercise. The request to amend the access terms for children and young persons is being made due to the family centric nature of the premises. The proposed outdoor drinking area has not yet been built and there are still some decisions to be made regarding the layout. Assuming the Board were to grant the application, the area would be constructed later this year.

Ms Cullen informed the Board that during the consultation period the Licensing Police visited the premises to assess the suitability of the proposed variations. The visit was satisfactory and the Police confirmed that they had no objections to the application.

Mr Hazard explained to the Board that, should they approve the proposed outdoor drinking area, then family friendly, holiday park type activities would take place within the area and as such the Licence Holder wished to request some latitude in relation to the restriction placed on the use of loudspeakers by Standard Condition C.5.1.

The Convenor commented that the premises is a substantial distance from the nearest residential area and the holiday park is well managed.

All Board Members confirmed their agreement to Mr Hazard's request concerning the use of loudspeakers.

Having considered the terms of the report, and the submissions made, the Convenor moved that the application be granted. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to grant.

Standard Condition C.5.1 is amended to read:

'No televisions, radios or other devices for amplifying sound shall be positioned at any time in Outdoor Drinking Areas'.

A.8 Premises Licence 0428 Café Thyme, Auchencar, Machrie, Isle of Arran

The Board considered an application for variations of a Premises Licence made by the Licence Holder, Hamza Gunaydi, for the above premises. Mr Gunaydi was not present or represented.

The Licence Holder was requesting the following variations:

1. Extend operating hours.
2. Amend under 18 access arrangements.

The Board considered the terms of a report by the Solicitor (Licensing) which set out the results of consultations on the application and summarised the issues arising. Mr O'Brien updated the Board on progress made against the observations set out in the report.

Having considered the terms of the report, the Convenor moved that the application be granted. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to grant.

A.9 Premises Licence 0152 Springside Bargain Stores, 4 Overton Road, Springside

The Board considered an application for variation of a Premises Licence made by the Licence Holder, P/Ship of Springside Stores, for the above premises. The Licence Holder was represented by Harbans Summel.

The Licence Holder was requesting the following variation:

1. Increase Sunday operating hours from 12.30-22.00 to 10.00-22.00.

The Board considered the terms of a report by the Solicitor (Licensing) which set out the results of consultations on the application and summarised the issues arising. Mr O'Brien updated the Board on progress made against the observations set out in the report.

An objection to the application had been made by Dr Sonya Scott, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, NHS Ayrshire and Arran. Mr Summel confirmed that he had seen a copy of the objection prior to the Board meeting. Copies of the written objection were given to the Board Members. Ruth Shepherd of NHS Ayrshire and Arran was present.

Referring to Section 2 of the Board report, Mr O'Brien advised the Board that in this case, where only additional licensed hours are being sought, the objection from the NHS, citing overprovision, is not relevant. Mr O'Brien informed the Board that there was no reason not to grant the application.

Having considered the terms of the report, the Convenor moved that the application be granted. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to grant.

A.10 Premises Licences 0088, 0117, 0154 & 0423 Martin McColl Stores Ltd

On the basis of information initially received from the Licence Holder's agent, and subsequently confirmed by the Chief Constable, Martin McColl Stores Ltd were cited to attend the Board for a Section 37 Review Proposal. The Licence Holder was not represented.

The Board considered the terms of a report by the Solicitor (Licensing) which set out the Chief Constable's Notice and summarised the issues arising. The Board also had regard to a report by Grace Cullen, Licensing Standards Officer.

Having considered the terms of both reports, the Convenor moved that no action be taken. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to take no action against the Licence Holder.

A.11 Premises Licence 0060 Fiddlers', Shore Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran

The Board considered applications for Extended Hours (56/15 & 57/15) made by Donal Boyle for the above premises. Mr Boyle was not present or represented.

The Convenor noted that the premises are on Arran and perhaps Mr Boyle may have been unable to attend due to the cancellation of the ferry. On that basis, the Convenor moved that the Board decide to continue consideration of the applications to a future meeting. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to continue consideration of the applications to a future meeting.

A.12 Premises Licence 0317 Saltcoats Bowling Club, Springvale Place, Saltcoats

The Board considered an application for Extended Hours (110/15) made by Saltcoats Bowling Club. The Club were represented by William Malcolm, Secretary, and Malcolm McGregor, Match Secretary.

The Board considered the terms of a report by the Solicitor (Licensing) which set out the results of consultations on the application and summarised the issues arising. Mr O'Brien updated the Board on progress made against the observations set out in the report. The Board also had regard to a report by Grace Cullen, Licensing Standards Officer.

Mr Malcolm addressed the Board regarding the application. He explained that Clubs are struggling and this is a great opportunity which would greatly benefit Saltcoats Bowling Club. The event is an open darts competition which is being organised by the Ayrshire Darts Association. The darts event will be take place in the Club's function suite and the name and address of all attendees will be taken. Non-members will not be permitted in the members' area and children will not be allowed to be at the premises during the event.

The Convenor noted that there was no Police objection, but he questioned why the Club required the extension from 9.00 am. Mr Malcolm informed the Board that 9.00 am is no longer required and 11.00 am would be acceptable.

The Board noted the amendment to 11.00 am.

Ms Cullen reminded the Board that the event being proposed is not listed within the Board's own policy as an acceptable event for Extended Hours.

Having considered the terms of both reports, and the submissions made, the Convenor moved that the amended application be granted. There was no counter-motion and the Board unanimously agreed without dissent or abstention to grant.

It was agreed that all Extended Hours applications which seek hours prior to 11.00 am should come to the Board. Board Members also indicated that they were in favour of an expansion of the list of acceptable events contained within the Licensing Policy Statement.

The meeting ended at 12.42 pm