

MINUTE of MEETING of the WEST LOTHIAN LICENSING BOARD held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, on 8 NOVEMBER 2019.

Present – Councillors Dom McGuire (Convener), Alison Adamson, David Dodds, Peter Heggie, Bruce Fairbairn, Dave King and Damian Timson

Apologies – Councillor George Paul

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. MINUTE

The Board confirmed the Minute of its Meeting held on 11th October 2019 as a correct record. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE - TWIG DISCO, 41 LIVERY STREET, BATHGATE

Introductions were made by all parties.

The licence holder was present and represented by Mr Alistair MacDonald, MacDonald Licensing.

Police Scotland was represented by Sergeant Coleen Hope. Douglas Froud, Licensing Standards Officer was also in attendance.

The Depute Clerk referred the Board to the report prepared on behalf of the Chief Solicitor regarding the application. . Mr MacDonald stated that the contents of the report were not disputed. The Clerk advised that a site visit to the premises had taken place earlier in the week which Councillor Dodds had attended. Councillor Dodds provided the Board with an overview of the layout of the premises.

Mr MacDonald made a number of submissions in support of the application. Sergeant Hope on behalf of Police Scotland then read out their letter of representation. The LSO was invited to comment on the application and he asked the applicant a number of questions regarding how school discos would be run at the premises.

The Board asked the applicant a number of questions regarding the application and how school discos would operate at the premises. Mr MacDonald indicated that he accepted there may be a need for additional conditions and that his client would be happy to accept the substitution of the current children and young person's conditions in the Board's policy except condition 5 which was not applicable, to make arrangements to cover alcohol while the premises were open for under 18's events and to have a condition added to the licence that a point of contact must be gathered for any child whose parent or guardian was not staying on the premises.

Due to a number of the issues raised by the Board and other parties

present Mr MacDonald requested that the application be continued to the next meeting of the Board to allow him and his client additional time to explore the following matters:-

- a) Potential demarcation of age groups such as 10-14 and 14-17 or 10-14 and 13-17;
- b) Splitting the hours of opening in accordance with age groupings;
- c) Detailed consideration of the supervision requirements that would have to be put in place depending on events organised and supervised by a school or community group against events organised by the applicant through general advertising;
- d) Development of an appropriate dispersal policy; and
- e) Investigate whether PVG checks were required by law rather than an additional condition being attached to the licence if the application was approved.
- f) Possible additional conditions that the applicant would accept to satisfy the concerns raised during the hearing

Decision

To continue the application to the December meeting of the Board to allow the applicant further time to consider the matters detailed above.

4. APPLICATION FOR PERSONAL LICENCE - BRIAN GUEST

Introductions were made by all parties.

The applicant was present. He confirmed that he had received a copy of the report and objection from Police Scotland and did not dispute any of the content.

Police Scotland was represented by Sergeant Coleen Hope. Douglas Frood, Licensing Standards Officer, was also in attendance.

The Depute Clerk referred the Board to the report on the application.

Sergeant Hope read the letter of objection from the Divisional Commander in which Police Scotland recommended that the application be refused.

Mr Guest made submissions to the Board in support of his application.

The Board had an opportunity to question all parties.

Mr Guest was given the opportunity to sum up before all parties left the room to allow the Board to deliberate in private.

Following private discussion, all parties returned.

Decision

To grant the application for a Personal Licence.