



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

**TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2014  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HOUSE, HADDINGTON**

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### **Forum Members Present:**

George Hood (Chair)  
David Black (Secretary)  
Christine O'Brien  
Ricky Ross  
Bernard Harkins  
John Thayers  
David Dickson  
David Forrest  
PC Heather Bowsher (Police Scotland)  
Stuart Baxter

### **Council Officials Present:**

Rudi Fruzynski (LSO)

### **Visitors Present:**

There were no visitors present

### **Apologies:**

Stuart Logan  
Oskar Grodnicki  
Kirsten Baird

## **1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2014**

The minutes of the meeting of the Local Licensing Forum held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014 were approved as a true record.

## **2. AIR WEAPONS AND LICENSING (SCOTLAND) BILL – IMPLICATIONS FOR THE LICENSING TRADE**

As the consultation on the Bill was due to close before the next Forum meeting in December, the members agreed to try and put together a working group to look at Bill and, if required, reply on behalf of the Forum.

## **3. LOCAL LICENSING FORUM CONSTITUTION**

After a discussion between the Forum members it was agreed that a working group would be formed to review and put forward necessary changes to the constitution.

## **4. LICENSING STANDARDS OFFICER'S REPORT**

Rudi Fruzynski reported on the following matters:

A summary of applications, requests for variations, occasional licences and transfer of licences received during July and August 2014.

Refresher Courses – All outstanding refresher courses had to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014. Anyone who failed to comply with the training within the 5 years would have their license revoked. Of the 557 letters sent out, 218 were completed with 4 licenses being surrendered. Forum Chair, George Hood, asked Mr Fruzynski to confirm whether it was the case that members whose licences were revoked could not re-apply for 5 years. Mr Fruzynski explained that this was currently under review.

Payment of annual fees - Annual fees were due by the 01/10/14. Any late fees would result in premises owners having to attend a board meeting to explain the late payment. Those who don't pay will lose their license. Mr Fruzynski asked that all licenses and holders remain up to date.

## **5. POLICE REPORT**

PC Heather Bowsher noted that due to the Commonwealth Games and other commitments there was not a great deal to report.

All new license applications to date (6) have been granted since over provision was added to Licensing Board statement of policy which states rebuttal presumption on all new license applications. It was agreed the Chair would approach the Licensing Board to seek clarification on over provision before next meeting.

National Day of Action – 6 searches were completed for legal highs, one of which was in off sales licensed premises. Two people were detained as a result of illegally informing customers how to use legal highs. A request was made to Police Scotland to make it illegal to sell legal highs in licensed premises.

PC Bowsher reported that a new rape and assault video had been proving very effective and she suggested it might worth showing at local Pubwatch meetings.

## **6. PUBWATCH/RASP – REPORTS FROM LOCAL SCHEMES**

The following matters were noted:

George Hood and Christine O'Brien would remain as Chair and Secretary (respectively) of RASP.

New ASBOs would be put in place for repeat offenders.

Two premises were to be asked to leave RASP after their continued failure to attend meetings and offer any input.

## **7. ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND**

The newsletters were taken as read.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.