

**Shetland Islands Area Licensing Board
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Thursday 15 September 2015 at 10.00am**

Present:

M Bell P Campbell
A Cooper A Duncan
G Robinson C Smith
G Smith

Apologies:

C Smith A Westlake

In Attendance (Officers):

P Dinsdale, Licensing Standards Officer
P Wishart, Solicitor
Sgt. M Brill, Police Scotland
S Wilkinson, Student
L Gair, Committee Officer

Chairperson

Mr G Smith, Convener to the Board, presided.

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest

None

1. Application under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 for Variation other than a Minor Variation of a Premises Licence

1.	<u>Application for Variation other than a Minor Variation of Premises Licence</u>	<u>Decision</u>
(a)	<p><u>Shetland Recreational Trust</u> The Solicitor introduced the application, and advised that Mr Leask and Mr Geddes, representatives for the Shetland Recreational Trust, were present.</p> <p>The Board were advised that there is an exiting onsales licence and in referring to the letter attached to the papers he explained that the off sales application was to address the difficulties at food fairs and would better accommodate producers selling alcohol at the fair during core hours.</p> <p>The Police and the Licensing Standards Officer had no further comments to make.</p> <p>At the request of a Member, the Board were advised where in the games hall, the sale of alcohol would take place, and that it would be physically set up during the event using tables and portable display units. The Board were informed that there were no concerns from building control.</p>	GRANTED

	<p>Mr Duncan moved that the Board approve the grant of the application and commented that Clickimin was a well run venue. He had attended many events that had been managed well and he was pleased to see that a solution had been found rather than continuing the unprofessional practice of producers selling outside. Mr Campbell seconded.</p> <p>In response to a further question Mr Leask advised that the licensed area had been defined and would be contained in a 7 metre section of the hall with 1m high portable display units on top of the tables and confirmed that this set up had been discussed with the producers.</p>	
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2. Chief Constable's Report to the Shetland Islands Area Licensing Board

The Board considered a report by the Chief Constable for the financial year 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

Sgt Brill introduced the report highlighting the local policing priorities listed on page 11 of the agenda. In referring to the 160 licensed premises in Shetland he commented particularly on the well run shops and halls stating that the Police provide support by attending halls when discos and dances are on. He confirmed that the primary hotspots are in Lerwick and establishments are visited regularly in town. Sgt. Brill went on to explain the Pub Watch Scheme used by establishments to share information.

A Member asked if there were any particular concerns at the moment. Sgt. Brill said that there will always be peaks and troughs but a system was in place to ensure that the Police service reacts early in order to get a high visibility patrol out there. In responding to a question Sgt. Brill also confirmed that any serious issues in regard to licensed premises would be brought before the Board.

A Member asked if there were any "hotspot" in rural areas. Sgt. Brill explained that halls are one off sporadic events and the Police liaise with door staff but these are generally well run and there have been no serious assaults like there were in the past.

In terms of the incidents noted on page 14 of the agenda, Sgt. Brill was asked whether the Police liaise with licence holders and whether that have been any serious warnings issued. Sgt Brill said that from his recollections there had been none. He also responded to a query on what could be done to reduce the percentage of young folk drinking and advised that the NHS and other agencies were working on educating young folk but it was when matters escalate to criminal activity it becomes a police matter. There is concern around where children get alcohol from and who may be getting it for them. He confirmed that where it is from the family home the Police will speak with the parents and if required a full investigation would be undertaken and although prosecution is not ideal that would be considered on a case by case basis.

During further discussions Members commented on the problems faced by public halls when young folk arrive intoxicated and that improvements had been made with more communication between event organisers and taxi operators. It was also noted however that as a consequence of the demands placed on the volunteers who run the halls there are now considerably less events being held.

The Chair noted that this was a positive report and thanked Sgt Brill for his contributions and Police Scotland for working in partnership to keep the public safe.

The meeting concluded at 10.20am.

Convener