

The Highland Licensing Board

Meeting – 4 February 2014

Agenda Item	11.8
Report No	HLB/021/14

Application for a major variation of Premises Licence under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005

Fort William Football Club, Claggan Park, Claggan, Fort William

Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board

Summary

This Report relates to an application for a major variation of Premises Licence in respect of Fort William Football Club, Claggan Park, Claggan, Fort William.

1.0 Description of Premises

The Fort William Football Club is a detached timber clad building adjacent to the grounds of Fort William Football Club and is situated within the village of Claggan.

The building comprises of a bar, hospitality suite, kitchen and toilet facilities.

1.1 Current Core Operating Hours

The premises currently enjoy the following operating hours:

On-Sale:

Monday to Thursday: 1800 hours to 2400 hours
Friday & Saturday: 1100 hours to 0100 hours
Sunday: 1200 hours to 2400 hours

2.0 Summary of Variation Application

2.1 Variation Sought

The applicant seeks to vary the premises licence as follows:-

- (i) To permit the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises (off-sales) during the following hours:-

Monday to Thursday: 1800 hours to 2200 hours
Friday to Sunday: 1100 hours to 2200 hours

- (ii) Increase the commencement hour for on on-sales on Sunday from 1100 hours (currently 1200 hours).

3.0 Background

3.1 On 13 December 2013 the Licensing Board received an application for a major variation of a Premises Licence from Fort William Football Club.

3.2 The application was publicised during the period 17 December until 7 January 2014 and confirmation that the site notice was displayed has been received.

3.3 In accordance with standard procedure, Police Scotland, Highlands & Islands Fire & Rescue Service, the Council's TEC Services (Environmental Health), Planning, Building Standards were consulted on the application.

Notification of the application was also sent to NHS Highland and the local Community Council.

3.4 No objections or representations have been received in respect of the application.

4.0 Legislation

4.1 The Licensing Board must in considering and determining the application, consider whether any grounds of refusal apply and if none of them applies, the Board must grant the application.

Relevant grounds of refusal may be: -

1. the grant of the application will be inconsistent with one or more of the licensing objectives;
2. having regard to; (i) the nature of the activities carried on or proposed to be carried on in the subject premises, (ii) the location character and condition of the premises, and (iii) the persons likely to frequent the premises, if the Board considers the premises are unsuitable for use for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the proposed variation;
3. having regard to the number and capacity of (i) licensed premises of the same or similar description as the subject premises (taking account of the proposed variation), in the locality in which the subject premises are situated, the Board considers that, if the application were to be granted, there would, as a result, be over provision of licensed premises or licensed premises of that description in the locality.

4.2 The Board has only power to either grant the application and make a variation of the conditions to which the licence is subject or, refuse the application.

If the Board refuses the application, the Board must specify the ground for refusal and if the ground for refusal is in relation to a licensing objective, the Board must specify the objective in question.

5.0 Licensing Standards Officer

The LSO has provided the following comments:-

- the off-sale hours applied for are within the policy hours of the Highland Licensing Board;
- the increase in core hours applied for is within the policy hours of the Highland Licensing Board;
- the premises are considered suitable for use for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the proposed variation;
- there would not appear to be any matter contained within the application that is inconsistent with the licensing objectives;
- the premises have been visited and found to be compliant in observing the requirements of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

6.0 HLB Local Policies

The following policies are relevant to the application:-

- (i) Highland Licensing Board Policy Hours
- (ii) Highland Licensing Board Policy Statement 2013-16
- (iii) Highland Licensing Board Equality Strategy

7.0 Conditions

7.1 Mandatory Conditions

If the application is approved the Mandatory Conditions set out in Schedule 3 of the Act will apply.

7.2 Local Conditions

It is not considered necessary to attach any additional Local Conditions.

Recommendation

The Board is invited to determine the above application.

If the Board are minded to refuse the application, the Board must specify the ground for refusal and if the ground for refusal is in relation to a licensing objective, the Board must specify the objective in question.

Designation: Clerk to the Licensing Board

Reference: HC/RSL/1461

Date: 9 January 2014

Author: AHM/JT

Background Papers: The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005/Application Form.