

Minute of Meeting of Highland Licensing Forum held on Tuesday, 23rd November, 2021 via TEAMS.

Present: Ian Cox, Katy Duncan, Rachel Taylor and Garry Cameron.

Apologies: Gordon Clelland, Pat Hayden, Liz Smart and Ramsay McGhee.

NOTE OF BUSINESS.

There was no formal Agenda as this was the first Forum meeting in nearly a year.

It was widely recognised that the pandemic had been hugely difficult for the licensing industry, however there was now a return to Local Licensing Board authorised hours albeit Premises who sell alcohol after midnight and provide live or recorded music together with dance facilities will require to operate Covid Passport checks at the entrance to the Premises.

This has been operating in Highland since October with no reported issues Environmental Health have published local guidance for Operators which has been well received.

It was widely acknowledged that local Licensing Board Policy had stood up well over the Pandemic, particularly with the use of Occasional Licences to expand licensed area's for premises by temporarily licensing car parks and other available grounds to create extra capacity.

Membership was an issue requiring to be addressed; Garry Cameron would contact a Trainer in Dornoch and another Licence Holder in Caithness over potential membership. Katy Duncan would contact officers of HIFS again to get a Fire Service rep. Ian Cox would contact existing members not present at this meeting to see if they were willing to continue as forum members.

Ian Cox would contact the Clerk to HLB over a date for a joint Board/Forum Meeting.

Date of next meeting to be circulated.