

The Highland Licensing Board

Meeting – 9 June 2017

Agenda Item	12.12
Report No	HLB/070/17

Application for a major variation of premises licence under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005

St Peter's Masonic Lodge Club, Orlig Street, Thurso

Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board

Summary

This Report relates to an application for a major variation of premises licence by St Peter's Masonic Lodge Club.

1.0 Description of premises

1.1 The premises were granted a premises licence, on transition, on 1 September 2009. The premises operate as a Category 1 members club.

2.0 Current operating hours

2.1 The premises currently enjoys the following operating hours:

On sales:

Monday to Thursday:	1900 hrs to 2400 hrs
Friday:	1900 hrs to 0045 hrs
Saturday:	1200 hrs to 2345 hrs

3.0 Summary of variation application

3.1 Variation sought

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

1. Increase on sales hours on Monday to Saturday to terminate at 0100 hrs the following day.

4.0 Background

4.1 On 21 March 2017 the Licensing Board received an application for a major variation of a premises licence from St Peter's Masonic Lodge Club.

4.2 The application was publicised during the period from 21 April to 12 May 2017 and confirmation that the site notice was displayed has been received.

- 4.3 In accordance with standard procedure, Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and the Council's Community Services (Environmental Health) and Planning and Building Standards were consulted on the application.
- 4.4 Notification of the application was also sent to NHS Highland and the local Community Council.
- 4.5 Further to this publication and consultation process, no timeous objections or representations have been received.
- 4.6 The applicant must nevertheless be given the opportunity to be heard before the Board determines the application and has accordingly been invited to the meeting. The applicant has been advised of the hearings procedure which may also be viewed via the following link:

http://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/download/428/liquor_licence_objections_appeals_notices_of_determination

5.0 Legislation

- 5.1 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, 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 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 overprovision of licensed premises or licensed premises of that description in the locality.
- 5.2 The Board only has power either to grant the application and make a variation of the conditions to which the licence is subject or to refuse the application.
- 5.3 If the Board refuses the application, the Board must specify the ground for refusal and if the ground for refusal relates to a licensing objective, the Board must specify the objective in question.

6.0 Licensing Standards Officer

6.1 The LSO has provided the following comments:-

6.2 The hours applied for are within Board policy, are reasonable and appropriate for the premises and should not cause conflict with any licensing objective.

6.3 I have no grounds to object to the grant of the variation.

7.0 HLB local policies

7.1 The following policies are relevant to the application:-

- (1) Highland Licensing Board Policy Statement 2013-18
- (2) Highland Licensing Board Equality Strategy
- (3) Highland Licensing Board Policy Hours

8.0 Conditions

8.1 Mandatory conditions

If the application is approved the mandatory conditions set out in Schedule 3 of the Act will apply.

8.2 Local conditions

No change to existing local conditions.

Recommendation

The Board is invited to determine the above application and if minded to grant the application.

If the Board is 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.

Reference: HC/CSR/1433

Date: 23 May 2017

Author: G Sutherland

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