

The Highland Licensing Board

Meeting – 25 February 2025

Agenda Item	9.2
Report No	HLB/12/25

Application for the provisional grant of a premises licence under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005

Bught Park Sports Pavilion, Bught Park Road, Inverness, IV3 5SP

Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board

Summary

This report relates to an application for the grant of a provisional premises licence in respect of Bught Park Sports Pavilion, Bught Park Road, Inverness, IV3 5SP

1.0 Description of premises

1.1 The Bught Park Sports Pavilion is located within the Bught Park which is situated on the west bank of the River Ness, Inverness. The Bught Park Sports Pavilion managed by Highlife Highland is a new build versatile mixed use two storey facility designed to cater for both sporting and community needs.

2.0 Operating hours

2.1 The applicant seeks the following **on-sale** hours:

On sales:

Monday to Sunday: 1100 hours to 0100 hours

The applicant seeks the following **off-sale** hours:

Off sales:

Monday to Sunday: 1000 hours to 2200 hours

3.0 Background

3.1 On 18 December 2024 the Licensing Board received an application for the provisional grant of a premises licence from High Life Highland.

3.2 The application was accompanied by the necessary section 50 certification in terms of Planning, together with a Disabled Access Statement.

3.3 The application was publicised during the period 23 December 2024 until 13 January 2025 and confirmation that the site notice was displayed has been

received.

- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 Notification of the application was also sent to NHS Highland and the local Community Council.
- 3.6 Further to this publication and consultation process, no timeous objections or representations have been received.
- 3.7 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:

[Highland Licensing Board - Hearings](#)

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 are: -

1. that the premises are excluded premises;
 2. that the Board considers, having regard to the licensing objectives, that the applicant is not a fit and proper person to be the holder of a premises licence;
 3. that the grant of the application would be inconsistent with one or more of the licensing objectives;
 4. that having regard to;
 - (i) the nature of the activities 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, or
 5. that 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 the same or similar description as the subject premises, in the locality.
- 4.2 For the purposes of the Act, the licensing objectives are-

- (a) preventing crime and disorder,
- (b) securing public safety,
- (c) preventing public nuisance,
- (d) protecting and improving public health, and
- (e) protecting children and young persons from harm.

4.3 If the Board would refuse the application as made, but a modification is proposed by them and accepted by the applicant, the application can be granted as so modified.

5.0 Licensing Standards Officer

5.1 The LSO has provided the following comments:-

(i) Application has been made for a grant of a provisional premises licence to permit the sale of alcohol as follows: -

On sales - Monday to Sunday: 1100 hours to 0100 hours

Off sales - Monday to Sunday: 1000 hours to 2200 hours

The Bught Park Sports Pavilion is set over two floors:

Ground Floor: the main feature will be a dedicated Shinty Experience operated by the Camanachd Association, showcasing the history and culture of the sport.

First Floor: a flexible space suitable for various activities both sporting and broader community events offering conferencing, receptions such as weddings, funerals, birthdays, retirements etc., live performances and dance facilities among a range of other activities. The facilities will be made available for bookings with or without alcohol, dependant on the type of event to be hosted, but the operators seek to have the flexibility to sell alcohol if appropriate to do so and requested by those groups.

ii) The LSO has liaised with representatives of Highlife Highland and provided advice and guidance in the compilation of the application. The application and operating plan are compliant with HLB policy.

(iii) A Section 50 planning certificate has accompanied the application together with the required Disabled Access statement.

(iv) The LSO is satisfied that should the HLB wish to grant this application then there will be no threat to the Licensing Objectives.

(v) Following the public consultation phase of this application no Objections or Representations have been made to HLB.

6.0 HLB local policies

6.1 The following policies are relevant to the application:-

- (1) Highland Licensing Board Policy Statement 2023-28
- (2) 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

No local conditions are considered necessary.

7.3 Special conditions

No special conditions are considered necessary.

Recommendation

The Board is invited to determine the above 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/INBS/708
Date: 12 February 2025
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