

**MINUTES of MEETING of PLANNING, PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND LICENSING  
COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD  
on WEDNESDAY, 20 AUGUST 2014**

**Present:** Councillor David Kinniburgh (Chair)

Councillor Robin Currie	Councillor Alex McNaughton
Councillor Robert G MacIntyre	Councillor James McQueen
Councillor Donald MacMillan	Councillor Sandy Taylor
Councillor Roderick McCuish	Councillor Richard Trail

**Attending:** Charles Reppke, Head of Governance and Law  
Sheila MacFadyen, Senior Solicitor  
Kate Connelly, Trainee Solicitor  
Mrs Cameron, Applicant

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were intimated from Councillors Gordon Blair, Rory Colville, Mary-Jean Devon, George Freeman and Alistair MacDougall.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982: APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF STREET TRADER'S LICENCE (A CAMERON, BUNESSAN, ISLE OF MULL)**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. He then outlined the procedure that would be followed and invited the Applicant to speak in support of her application.

**Applicant**

Mrs Cameron advised that she had worked closely with Officers to gain planning permission and set the scene for obtaining her Street Trader's Licence. She referred to Fionnphort being an active fishing community and stated that it was highly unusual for visitors to access the fish that was caught on a daily basis. She explained that fishermen sold their catch to wholesalers with the majority of the catch leaving the island. She advised that tourists found it frustrating that they could not enjoy what was landing in front of them under the present set up in Fionnphort. She advised that the opportunity to sell this produce was being missed. She stated that she intended to sell fresh, seasonal fish and seafood such as crab, mussels, lobster, mackerel and prawns and as a subsidiary to this sandwiches if required. She advised that this new seafood bar would help strengthen the local economy and confirmed that other nearby businesses did not sell local seafood. She added that introduction of the seafood bar would mean more trade for the two existing local outlets. She advised that the seafood bar would be situated in the car park next to the

Fionnphort slipway and would be available to tourists waiting for the ferry to Iona. She stated that the lion's share of seafood was currently going abroad. She asked the Committee to support her efforts to diversify and improve the local economy.

### **Members' Questions**

Councillor Kinniburgh sought and received clarification that burgers were not included in the list of foods that would be sold from the seafood bar.

### **Summing Up**

Mrs Cameron advised that she had nothing further to say and confirmed, when asked, that she had received a fair hearing.

### **Debate**

Councillor McCuish confirmed that he fully supported this application and that Councillor Devon, who had been unable to be in attendance at the Hearing today, had also expressed her support. He stated that this had been a long journey over two years for Mrs Cameron and that her venture was also fully supported by the Council's Head of Economic Development and the Environmental Health Officer. He referred to the 100 metre rule in relation to Condition 12 of the Council's Schedule of Conditions for a Street Trader Licence and read out the following statement from Councillor Devon: -

"The Fish Bar will be offering a very precious commodity to our visitors – fresh shellfish and seafood to purchase. The nearest comparable operations are the fish company in Tobermory – 50 miles away (1.75 hours by road) and the seafood bar on the pier in Oban (1.5 hours by road and a 50 minute ferry crossing). Visitors to Mull constantly ask where they could buy some fresh seafood and until now the answer was always in the negative. What a treat to be able to taste this precious commodity in this iconic part of the world. There are 2 other businesses in close proximity to the proposed Fish Bar, one directly across the road and they sell sandwiches, bacon rolls, burgers etc but no fresh seafood. The other is the General Store in Fionnphort, around 35 metres away, which does not sell any fresh seafood or shellfish".

He asked Members to grant this application with the exclusion of the 100 metre rule.

Councillor Kinniburgh endorsed everything Councillor McCuish said and confirmed that he was not aware of any similar foods being sold locally.

### **Decision**

Agreed to grant a Street Trader's Licence, excluding the 100 metre rule, to Mrs Cameron and noted that she would be advised of the Committee's decision in writing within the next 7 days.

(Reference: Report by Head of Governance and Law, submitted)