Proposal to amend the Reserve Management Plan for Devonport Domain

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Hearings Panel

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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North Shore Cricket Club submission to Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

Thank you for allowing us to address the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board (Board) on the issue of licencing rules pending a review of the Devonport Domain Management Plan (Plan).

The North Shore Cricket Club (NSCC) was advised earlier this year that the Council had determined that the licencing regime outlined in the Plan had to take precedence over the position actually in place at the Domain for many years (and the respective liquor licences of each club in the Domain). The legal advice that underpins this position has not been released to the clubs.

The licencing regime set out at Appendix VII of the Plan was settled in 1993 – 25 years ago. It does not reflect current practice. As far as the NSCC is concerned, it is unduly restrictive and does not meet the needs of a modern sports club. It is understood that the Council wishes to embark on a process to update the Plan. But that process will take several years. In the meantime the NSCC (and the North Shore Rugby Football Club (NSRFC)) face a prolonged period of uncertainty.

The Council has suggested a temporary solution: allowing the Clubs on the Domain to apply for up to 4 special licences per year until the Plan has been updated. While this is appreciated, given that the review of the Plan could take several years, this issue is a very important one for the medium term future of the NSCC (and the NSRFC). It has major implications for the ability of the NSCC to continue to generate sufficient funds to operate sustainably.

It is hoped that our Board will help remove some of the uncertainty by allowing the NSCC (and the NSRFC) the ability to apply for an increased number of special licences as an interim and non binding measure.

It is also important to understand that timing is crucial. The major fundraising event for the NSCC is its annual marquee lunch. If it cannot go ahead in its usual form the NSCC will face a substantial operating loss this year. The lunch is set for 22 February 2019 – but it requires a huge amount of planning. The NSCC has already made commitments, tables have been sold and bookings for services have been entered into (the advertising flyer is attached). The NSCC cannot stress enough that any decision that the Board makes around special licences must not interfere with the ability of the NSCC to apply for a special licence for the lunch.

The NSCC asks that until the Plan has been updated, the Board allow the NSCC (and the NSRFC) to be able to apply for as many special licences as possible – while ensuring that this decision can be implemented immediately so that the NSCC can move forward from today with certainty.

In making its decision, the NSCC notes that key aspects for the Board to understand include:

1. With the closure of the Bowling Club the hours during which alcohol will be able to be served 'on the Domain' will substantially reduce; the hours of liquor licensing on the Domain have dropped by 100 hours/week. Even allowing the NSCC (and the NSRFC) to apply for up to 10 special licences a year would still result in a significant overall reduction of licence hours.

2. The NSCC has an immaculate record of compliance with the rules concerning the sale of alcohol. And any decision around special licences will only allow the NSCC to apply for licences – the decision will still need to be made independently applying the relevant criteria.
3  The NSCC (and the NSRFC) are heavily dependent upon the funds raised from events. These funds are then directly invested in cricket for all club members – children and adults.

4  The NSCC is facing ever increasing operating costs – increased compliance measures mean increased wages and overheads. To meet these challenges the club will need to look at new ways of raising funds. One revenue stream is the ability to hire the clubrooms out for corporate functions and events. Maximum flexibility around the number of possible special licences and licencing hours are important to allow this to happen – both now and looking to the future.
North Shore Cricket Annual Marquee Luncheon in association with

*Flippin' Heck!*

It's Flipper!

A South Australian, Wayne ‘Flipper’ Phillips was a rakishly built left handed batsman with a strange bat handle grip. He represented both state and country in Cricket over the course of a first class career that spanned the thirteen year period between the 1977-78 and 1990-91 seasons.

He is also one of the funniest men in Australian cricket.

North Shore Cricket
Annual Marquee Lunch
12pm, Friday, 22nd February 2019

Wayne ‘Flipper’ Phillips
Guest Speaker

*Please Note:*

Previous luncheons have sold out in a matter of days.
The marquee has a limited capacity.
To secure your table we need you to respond to the email address below.
Allocation will be done on a first in first served basis.
Table cost is $1350 includes GST

events@northshorecricket.co.nz