

**MINUTES OF A RECONVENED HEARING OF THE PLANNING AND REGULATORY
COMMITTEE HELD AT WAITAKERE CENTRAL, 6 HENDERSON VALLEY
ROAD, HENDERSON, WAITAKERE, ON TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2009,
COMMENCING AT 9.36 AM**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>PAGE NO.</u>
3	GAMBLING VENUE POLICY	1

**MINUTES OF A RECONVENED HEARING OF THE PLANNING AND REGULATORY
COMMITTEE HELD AT WAITAKERE CENTRAL, 6 HENDERSON VALLEY
ROAD, HENDERSON, WAITAKERE, ON TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2009,
COMMENCING AT 9.36 AM**

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillors	VS	Neeson, JP (Chairman)
		BA	Brady, JP
		JM	Clews, QSO, JP
		MFP	Chan, JP
		MM	Jolley
		JP	Lawley, JP
		PG	Mitchell
	Deputy Mayor PA		Hulse (ex officio)
<u>OBSERVER:</u>		WW	Flaunty, QSM, JP (Deputy Chairman)
<u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u>	Director Community Wellbeing Group Manager: Cultural and Social Strategy Team Leader: Legal Regulatory Wellbeing Collaboration Project Manager Strategic Partnerships Advisor: Ethnic Communities Section Administrator: J Green Project Administrator: K Schuster Committee Secretary: D Tukutama C Fernandes		

3 GAMBLING VENUE POLICY

9.37 am The meeting reconvened and the hearing continued.

9.38 am **Peter McKechnie (Submission - 249)**
(Te Atatu Memorial RSA Inc)

- The Te Atatu Memorial RSA Inc supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- They requested that the current policy be amended to allow for venues like itself that already have a license for 18 machines from the Department of Internal Affairs, to apply for up to 18 machines when machines become available for redistribution;
- They also noted that the telephone survey which was conducted did not provide sufficient background.

9.49 am **Simon Wickham (Submission - 297)**
(Waitakere City Stadium Trust)

- The Waitakere City Stadium Trust supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- Also spoke of the successful contribution the Waitakere City Stadium Trust has been to the community as their services are subsidised by The Trusts for the community events hosted at the stadium;

- They also believe that adopting the Sinking Lid policy option would reduce the proceeds sourced from gaming machines, therefore affecting their ability to provide their current services to the community.
- 9.57 am **Kay McIntyre (also on behalf of Lynette Brady) (Submission - 342 and 299)**
(Auckland Netball and Netball Auckland Waitakere)
- Auckland Netball and Netball Auckland Waitakere supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Also provided was a history of the netball infrastructure, prior to The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc grants which was poor, however, now with gaming funding, their netball infrastructure has developed considerably;
 - An overview was provided of these benefits and they believe that adopting a Sinking Lid policy would reduce any future benefits;
 - Also sought an amendment to the policy to relocate gaming machines from one venue to another licensed venue as this allows for the changing circumstances of a venue.
- 10.16 am **Rex Davy (Submission - 25)**
(Waitakere City Rugby and Athletic Trust)
- The Waitakere City Rugby and Athletic Trust supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Concerned that the sporting bodies would suffer without the support of funding from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc;
 - Believes that WC Rugby and Athletic Trust provide good opportunities for the youth of the city and the current achievements have proven the success of the combined two sporting codes, including other codes which currently utilise the The Trust Stadium venue.
- 10.25 am **Avan Polo (Submission - 339)**
(Surf Life Saving Northern Region)
- The Surf Life Saving Northern Region supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Provided the Committee with a DVD highlighting the importance of surf life saving within the community and emphasised that without their current funding from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc they would not be able to provide a dependable service to keep the beaches safe;
 - Charity Gaming organisations are key providers of funds for the replacement of rescue equipment, overheads, and administration costs to Surf Life Saving Northern Region and the 17 clubs in the district.
- 10.37 am **Rob Wakelin (Submission - 308)**
(Piha Surf Life Saving Club Inc)
- The Piha Surf Life Saving Club Inc supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - The Piha Surf Life Saving Club Inc saves approximately 200 lives a year and their current services, which also include first aid courses and search groups, is supported by funding from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc;
 - Their services to the community could become compromised as also noted they were not supported and funded by the central Government.

10.48 am **Noel Kay (Submission - 32)**
(United North Piha Lifeguard Service Inc)

- The United North Piha Lifeguard Service Inc supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc provide essential funding to upgrade all surf life saving equipment, radios, first aid training, refresher lifeguard training all vital to providing lifeguard services to the community;
- They believe if the funding from the Charity Organisations is reduced this would place the lifeguards and general public safety at risk to the harsh West Coast conditions, despite their best efforts to look after equipment.

10.51 am **Shalema Wanden-Hannay (Submission - 337)**
(Karekare Surf Lifesaving Patrol Inc)

- The Karekare Surf Lifesaving Patrol Inc supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- She also spoke of the importance of The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc funding which is utilised by the patrol to repair/maintenance and upgrade rescue boats, quad bikes, rescue tubes, flags, danger signs, radios, rescue boat trailers, first aid equipment, CPR training mannequins and lifejackets;
- Shared a recent personal experience with the Committee, a rescue situation which was put at risk by the poor condition of the equipment, also putting at risk her own life as a surf life saver.

ADJOURNMENT

1280/2009

MOVED by Cr Neeson, seconded Cr Jolley:

That the meeting and hearing stand adjourned until 11.05 am.

CARRIED

11.00 am The meeting and hearing adjourned.

11.08 am The meeting reconvened and the hearing continued.

11.09 am **Don Scandrett (Submission - 338)**
(Coastguard Northern Region Incorporated)

- The Coastguard Northern Region Incorporated supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- As a volunteer run, member supported, community funded, and sponsored non-profit association, they are concerned that if a Sinking Lid policy is adopted, this would compromise their ability to save lives if their current funding from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc are reduced or ceased;
- They requested that Council take into consideration the significant benefits that charitable gaming organisations provide by way of funding to the community.

- 11.13 am **Mike Percy (Submission - 344)**
(Western Underwater Research Team)
- The Western Underwater Research Team supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - They spoke to their submission supported by a powerpoint presentation, are indebted to The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc as their funding enabled the non-profit volunteer team to contribute positively to marine biosecurity/biodiversity research and local clean up support for the marine environment;
 - The funding also enables the team to launch community events, such as the Pacific Island Clean-up project which aimed at raising awareness of the poor state of the Pacific Ocean.
- 11.18 am **Paul Shirley (Submission - 241)**
(Waitakere Badminton Association Inc)
- The Waitakere Badminton Association Inc supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - The association spoke to their submission highlighting the importance of the current funding received from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc to support and maintain their facility, providing opportunities to the community in the badminton sporting arena;
 - Also noted they do not receive funding from central Government or Waitakere City Council which is why the funding received from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc is vital.
- 11.26 am **Wayne Hart (Submission - 33)**
(Huapai Golf Club Inc)
- The Huapai Golf Club Inc supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - He noted the Huapai Golf Club Inc is supported by The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc funding which has assisted their club immensely, as are other community groups in the area are well supported;
 - Also noted that community problem gambling is a wider social issue, which would not be solved by adopting the Sinking Lid policy option.
- 11.30 am **Ronald Pennell, QSM (Submission - 294)**
(Henderson Volunteer Fire Brigade)
- The Henderson Volunteer Fire Brigade supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - The brigade has greatly benefited from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc funding which assists with projects such as Fire Salvage, Fire Safety and Fire Education;
 - Also noted The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc have also provided support to the West Auckland brigades and community by providing defibrillators, fire extinguishers and smoke alarms.

- 11.37 am **Lesley Smith (Submission - 22)**
(Lopdell House Gallery)
- The Lopdell House Gallery supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Also noted that the gallery has been receiving funding over the past 8 years from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc which also includes funding the salary for their education officer and the publication of the works of reputable ceramic artist, Len Castle;
 - Last year alone, they received \$100,000 to host the New Zealand national ceramic awards, not possible without The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc.
- 11.39 am **Donal McLean (Submission - 367)**
(Principal, Fruitvale Primary School)
- The Fruitvale Primary School supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Fruitvale Primary School are recipients of extensive funding over the years from The Trusts Charitable Foundation, and the school has prospered from this funding;
 - Their positive contribution to education in the community would not be possible without support from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc.
- 11.45 am **Margaret Campbell (Submission - 305)**
(Waitakere City Improving Attendance Program Trust)
- The Waitakere City Improving Attendance Program Trust supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Also noted that funding received from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc is critical to their own Trust providing a service which aims to achieve zero-tolerance for truancy in the community;
 - Over the past 10 years they have received \$312,000 in funding and firmly believe that support has been enormously beneficial for the wellbeing of Waitakere.
- 11.49 am **Heather Beare (Submission - 165)**
(Parent Aid Waitakere Inc)
- The Parent Aid Waitakere Inc supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - The non-profit organisation who is supported by funding from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc, believes problem gambling in the community would not be solved by adopting the Sinking Lid policy option;
 - They also noted it is the responsibility of the Council to assist problem gambling in the community in other ways by providing programmes addressing this issue.

- 11.59 am **Amanda Wheeler (Submission – 113)**
(Foundation of Youth Development)
- The Foundation of Youth Development supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Also noted that half of their funding is received from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc and is certain that the Foundation of Youth Development would not operate without this funding;
 - The success of the Foundation is attributed to the funding they currently receive and also believe that Waitakere already have a responsible gambling policy which works well.
- 12.03 pm **Jeffrey Percival (Submission - 250)**
(Motu Moana Green Bay Scout Group)
- The Motu Moana Green Bay Scout Group supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - The funding they receive from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc has enabled this scout group to become one of the largest of its kind in New Zealand;
 - Their success is attributed to the vital funding received from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc.
- 12.06 pm **Elizabeth Chalmers (Submission - 291)**
(Ranui Community House)
- The Ranui Community House supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - The Ranui Community House is heavily dependant on funding from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc in order to operate and function for the community;
 - They feel strongly that prohibition or reduction of gaming machines would not reduce the level of problem gambling in the community as they would instead travel outside of Waitakere, taking the funding elsewhere.
- 12.10 pm **Mike Chunn (Submission - 4)**
(CEO, Play It Strange Trust)
- The Play It Strange Trust supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Also noted that approximately 85% of funding is received by the Play it Strange Trust from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc , enabling the trust to implement music programmes in schools across New Zealand.
 - The programme which includes a National Secondary Schools Songwriting Competition, the Band of Strangers concerts and Ukelele Orchestra in primary and secondary schools, are not possible without the funding as 85% of their funding is sourced from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc.

12.20 pm **Carol Sinkinson (Submission - 238)**
(Senior Net West Auckland)

- The Senior Net West Spoke supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- They depend on the funding they receive from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc which is utilised by their group to provide a good service for the senior members of the community and noted without this funding they would not survive;
- They also strongly believe that gambling in the community is a choice.

12.25 pm **Beverley Harris, QSM, JP (Submission - 239)**
(Go Walk Trust)

- The Go Walk Trust supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- The Trust noted that the funding they receive from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc have enabled them to provide additional counselling venues, among many other services for the community;
- The Trust, who also work with at risk youth, are dependent on the funding, and is finding it difficult in this economic climate to access resources to enable them to carry out their services in West Auckland.

ADJOURNMENT

1281/2009

MOVED by Cr Neeson, seconded Cr Hulse:

That the meeting and hearing stand adjourned until 12.45 pm.

CARRIED

12. 33 pm The meeting and hearing adjourned.

12.46 pm The meeting reconvened and the hearing continued.

12.47 pm **Ronald Archer and Ken Young (Submission - 102)**
(The Trusts Waitakere Brass)

- The Trusts Waitakere Brass supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- The Trusts Waitakere Brass is reliant on the current level of funding received from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc and could not operate without this funding;
- Also noted, there is a gap within the community for musical appreciation, to which The Trusts Waitakere Brass endeavours to address and that their function would be adversely affected, if the Sinking Lid policy was adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

1282/2009

MOVED by Cr Neeson, seconded Cr Clews:

That the meeting and hearing stand adjourned until 2.00 pm.

CARRIED

1.01 pm The meeting and hearing adjourned.

2.03 pm The meeting reconvened and the hearing continued.

2.04 pm **Ted Buckwell (Submission - 325)**
(Waitakere City Lions Luncheon Club)

- The Waitakere City Lions Luncheon Club supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc ongoing funding support to the Club and other community groups has been beneficial to the wellbeing of the community;
- The Waitakere Lions run the biggest public event in Waitakere, the annual Waitakere Fireworks Display and this could not be possible without the financial support of the Council and The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc.

2.05 pm **Teina Akavi (Submission - 31)**
(Nor Western Cook Island Taokotai Inc)

- The Nor Western Cook Island Tokotai Inc supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- They believe they would not be able to deliver the services they provide to the community without the funding provided from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc;
- Also believes that you can't stop a person gambling if a Sinking Lid policy was adopted, as they would instead travel to other areas outside Waitakere where gaming machines are located.

2.13 pm **Manoj Tahal (Submission - 335)**
(Waitakere Indian Association)

- The Waitakere Indian Association supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
- The Waitakere Indian Association is a non-profitable organisation and acknowledges the support of The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc for funding they receive and believe the benefits outweigh the negative impacts of gaming funding;
- The association promotes diversity and hosts various community events, such as The Festival of Colours and the Race Relations Day;
- They also believe the current existing policy responsibly regulates the gaming machines adequately in Waitakere.

- 2.21 pm **Graeme Smith (Submission - 169)**
(Resident)
- As a resident of Waitakere, he supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Also believes this option would enable continued funding support for the community sector and requested to maintain the existing levels of venues/machines in Te Atatu Peninsula;
 - The funding from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc has had a positive impact on the community.
- 2.28 pm **Raema Inglis (Submission - 253)**
(Resident)
- As a resident of Waitakere she supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - As an active member of various community groups in the community, she supports this option as they are all recipients of funding from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc;
 - She does not feel the adoption of a Sinking Lid policy option would change the problem gambling issues in the community.
- 2.38 pm **Linda Mellor (Submission - 286)**
(Bay Olympic Soccer and Sports Association)
- The Bay Olympic Soccer and Sports Association supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - The Bay Olympic & Soccer Association have received funding from The Trusts which has enabled them to provide a much needed community sports service to the community, one which covers all abilities;
 - Also noted that on attending an Appreciation function hosted by The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc, also highlighted to what extent the funding has achieved.
- 2.32 pm **Sibohan Hollings and Denise Snoud (on behalf of Maxine Donnell)**
(Submission - 24)
(Healing Thru Arts Trust)
- The Healing Thru Arts Trust supports maintaining the status quo of the current cap on venue and machine numbers as stated in the existing policy;
 - Healing Thru Arts Trust, currently supported by funding from The Trusts Charitable Foundation Inc, also gave a presentation displaying their costumes for their school shows, which aims to raise awareness, on issues such as anti-bullying, making good choices and self esteem.
 - The Trust is dependent on these funds to run their programmes which reach and help thousands and thousands of children.

2.54 pm **June Kee Woo (Submission - 3070)**
(Korean Community)

- The Korean Community supports the Sinking Lid option for the Waitakere Gambling Venue Policy;
- They acknowledge gaming funding does provide support to the community, however, he believes that much of this funding is sourced from the poorer community, resulting in problem gambling cases creating family violence/breakdown, poor parenting, crime, suicide, poverty and business failure;
- About 10,000 people committed illegal activities in the last year because of gambling, and they believe that by adopting the Sinking Lid policy option, this would have a positive impact on the Korean community.

ADJOURNMENT

1283/2009

MOVED by Cr Neeson, seconded Cr Jolley:

That the meeting and hearing stand adjourned until 9.30 am on Wednesday, 22 July 2009.

CARRIED

3.16 pm The meeting and hearing adjourned.