Club Lennox - Planning matters

Club Lennox is a not-for-profit sports club located at 10 Stewart Street, Lenox Head on community land owned by Council. The Club's leasing arrangements are due for renewal in 2024.

To ensure the ongoing financially viability of the Club with the wider community, during 2018 it introduced two incentives: "Sundays on the Green" and "Craft Beer and Food Truck Festival".

"Sundays on the Green" provides the opportunity for the local community to gather together outdoors during daylight savings hours on Sunday afternoons from 4-7pm. There is one food truck, live music which comprises of 1-2 musicians with amplified acoustic guitars and members are encouraged to play barefoot bowls. The activity is held on two rinks of the bowling greens with seating provided. The seating of the Club has not been increased for the activity but has been relocated from inside the venue. The Club plans to lodge a development application for the "Sundays on the Green" activity as well as permanent seating on two rinks of the bowling green. However, the Club recognises that the development application process will take time, and in the interim, wishes to seek approval for the temporary use of the land in accordance with Council's Events on Public Land Policy for the "Sundays on the Green". The intent would be to hold these on the first, third and fifth Sundays of the month commencing 6 October 2019 for the limited hours of 4-7pm during daylight savings. The temporary events undertaken during the processing of the DA will also enable Council and the community to observe their operation and management. This will assist Council in establishing appropriate parameters to apply should support for their continuation on a more permanent basis be determined to be appropriate. In effect, they can run as a 'trial'. In making a decision, the Club reiterates that this incentive is imperative to the Club's ongoing financial viability.

The "Craft Beer and Food Truck Festival" is a bi-annual event held on a Saturday during the hours of 2-8pm. The festival is aimed at families with a variety of food trucks, microbreweries and jumping castles present on the premises. The festivals are an occasional event that do not require development consent in accordance with Ballina LEP 2012 as it is an activity on land vested in, controlled or managed by the Council (including public roads and reserves) that can be considered under Council's Events on Public Land P-policy and associated approval process. It is intended to submit an application to Council to hold a festival on Saturday 23 November 2019 during the limited hours of 2-8pm. The Club will promptly be lodging an Events on Public Land Application Form with a Noise Management Plan and note that the application for Council's consideration.

The Club has recently constructed a DA approved children's playground on the premises. The construction of the playground is currently incomplete and still requires the construction of a screen and structure, which will assist in reducing potential impacts of the use of this area on surrounding neighbours. The use of the playground is restricted by a 9pm curfew and management of the facility is subject to further monitoring.

Recently a small number of vocal complainants have raised their concerns about the operation on the Club in regards to its impact on neighbouring residents. The Club is actively undertaking management strategies to mitigate these concerns. We note that the overall benefit of the Club on community may outweigh the concerns.