

LAKE MACQUARIE LIQUOR ACCORD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
at 9.00AM ON TUESDAY 16 APRIL 2024
at BELMONT 16s

CHAIRMAN: Scott Williams

PRESENT:

ALDI Cardiff	Gateshead Tavern
ALDI Charlestown	Great Northern Hotel
ALDI Edgeworth	Lake Macquarie Hotel Motel
ALDI Mount Hutton	Morisset
ALDI Warners Bay	Lake Macquarie Tavern
ALDI Toronto	Lake Macquarie Yacht Club
ALH Group	Marks Point Sports Club
Bay Hotel Motel	Orana Hotel
Belmont 16s	Pelican RSL
Belmont Golf & Bowling Club	Swansea Hotel
Belmont Hotel	Swansea RSL
Bread & Brewery	Teralba Bottleshop
Cardiff RSL	Toronto Hotel
Central Leagues Club	Toronto Workers Club
Club Charlestown	Valentine Bowling Club
Club Macquarie	Wangi District Workers Club
Cheers Cellars Woodrising	Warners Bay Hotel
Dan Murphy's Charlestown	Warners Bay Sports Club
Fennel Bay Cellars	Wests Cardiff

POLICE IN ATTENDANCE: Sergeant Daniel Bishop (Licensing)

LMCC Tony Ellitt

TRANSPORT for NSW Tracey Marks

APOLOGIES:

Cardiff Bowling Club	Kraken Boat Hire
Pippi's at The Point	Kahibah Sports Club
Windale Gateshead Bowling Club	Iron Horse Inn Cardiff
Mattara Hotel	Warners at the Bay
Jewells Tavern	

WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed the Lake Macquarie Police, Lake Macquarie City Council, Transport for NSW, and Liquor Accord Members to the April 2024 Lake Macquarie Liquor Accord Meeting.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the meeting of the *Lake Macquarie Liquor Accord AGM* held on Wednesday 17 October 2023 were confirmed as correct and carried with no matters arising.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received were presented as follows:

- Responsible Gaming Officer training providers.
 - Reminder that venues with poker machines need to have their staff trained in the advanced responsible conduct of gaming by July.
- Circulars from Liquor and Gaming.
- Invitation to the Liquor Accord Forum which is being held on 28 May in Newcastle.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- **Senior School Education Program**
 - At the last meeting of the Liquor Accord, we discussed potentially contributing towards a School Education Program for senior students following a recent request from a teacher at Swansea High School who is looking at introducing a development program for senior school students. The Liquor Accord Committee met on the 5 March 2024 to discuss the program and the consensus was that it was a good thing to become involved in some capacity. Upper Hunter Liquor Accord was contacted who are currently running a program for year 11 students at Muswellbrook High School which includes the following resources:
 - An audio-visual display, with attendance from NSW Ambulance, Fire and Rescue who discuss statistics (similar to the Traffic Offenders Program)
 - A presentation from local Police on drink driving and compliance obligations in licensed premises.
 - Other presenters included a previous high school student involved in a car accident and a person in rehab for drug and alcohol.
 - They also set up a simulated car crash in the school grounds and did some role-play with the emergency services in attendance.

The Police and Swansea High School (Dept of Education) will be working together to work out what the program should look like and will provide the education with the Liquor Accord offering financial support, taking note that the students will be our customers in the near future.

There were no objections to the Committee recommendations with authority delegated to the Chairman to determine the level of financial support provided.

- **Bottle Shop Signage**

There are changes in regulation in signage for unaccompanied minors. The '3L' poster must be displayed from 1 July and states that *Minors must remain in the area with a responsible adult*. Having the signage displayed beforehand shows you are taking reasonable precautionary steps in regard to compliance.

- **Anzac Day**
 - Anzac Day will be next Thursday, is a high-risk trading day and Sgt Bishop will touch further on this. The Chairman reminded everyone that many years ago our Accord introduced a term that 2-up is not played after 5pm on Anzac Day and a policy that no take-away alcohol is permitted from Pubs and Clubs (excluding Bottle shops) after 9pm. Further, that these terms and policy have been in place for a while and have worked well for both venues and Police in Lake Macquarie.
 - A reminder for venues trading on Anzac Day and holding 2-up to complete a form and hand it to the Police today.
- **Liquor and Gaming Industry Alert**
 - Liquor and Gaming Inspectors will be conducting compliance checks on Anzac Day in relationship to the enforcement of liquor requirements (Act or Regulations) and obligations under your licence conditions.

TREASURERS REPORT

- The financial report was distributed and is a true and fair view of the association's performance.
 - The Chairman stated that we currently have a balance of \$26,792.42 in the bank.
 - Expenses incurred were \$462 for the website company related to the Courtesy Bus App.
 - The Chairman confirmed the numbers and offered thanks to the members who had made their financial contribution and were in attendance today.

POLICE REPORT

Sgt Bishop offered his thanks for attending the meeting today.

- Dept of Education
 - Swansea High School and Sgt Bishop had met and were looking at a template similar to that at Muswellbrook High and will look at how the Liquor Accord funding may be utilised. They will submit the program to the Chairman as the LMLA representative before using any of the funding offered so it is transparent and above board. The main outcome is educating the students year, those obtaining their P plates, trying to reduce road trauma, and educating them on drinking habits. Sgt Bishop stated that they both appreciated the financial support from the Accord and mentioned that it would be beneficial to be held in the school program and not at a licensed venue.
- Anzac Day
 - Sgt Bishop thanked those venues which will be holding 2-up for sending through the details required. He conducted a role call of those who had responded, and the forum did not have any outstanding venues to reply.
 - Sgt Bishop discussed the expectations of the new Commander on Anzac Day who has a firm view that she will not tolerate any anti-social behaviour or assault. It is a day of respect and anyone behaving badly will be dealt with accordingly. He reminded the forum to educate the security with your expectations on the day and address any issues of intoxication and stay on top of anything that looks like it may get out of hand.

- **Fail to Quit**
 - Sgt Bishop apologised for an issue that was reported previously and discussed the issues surrounding a 'fail to quit' at one of the Lake Macquarie venues. Sgt Bishop reiterated the importance of contacting the Police when required.
- **Bottle Shops**
 - Sgt Bishop mentioned that bottle shops are currently our biggest crime in relation to theft. He reiterated that the police are continually doing their best with exercising enforcement but most of the offenders are juvenile, and this can sometimes prove challenging when working with the judicial system. Youth crime is Australia wide, and the police appreciate the work that bottle shop owners are doing the best they can to assist them with maximising controls.
 - Police are currently conducting diversionary programs by identifying offenders in assisting in trying to distract them from crime. Sgt Bishop further mentioned that you may wish to contact your local member, questioning what is currently being done in relation to the judiciary system, and having to continually deal with offenders may be of further assistance.
 - Sgt Bishop opened the floor for questions and any further ideas. Discussions centred around:
 - Privacy issues and working with the limitations on bail conditions for a minor.
 - Current statistics in relation to juvenile theft.
 - Controls for customers entering bottle shops and the threats that may occur to staff by challenging the offenders.
 - Urgent matters to call 000 and provide full details of the offender, direction etc. The call will be sent by radio and any police cars that are passing through the area will hear the details and may be of assistance at that time.
 - The benefits of sharing information between bottle shops and how this may assist in identifying possible offenders.
- **CCTV:**
 - Sgt Bishop reiterated the importance of having reputable CCTV footage in relation to crime and having this as evidence for the use in securing a conviction if required.
- **Drug Use**
 - Sgt Bishop mentioned that some venues are still experiencing drug use in their toilets and that there is information on deterrents on social media that can be accessed.
- **Pubs**
 - There was discussion in reference to customers being cut-off in a pub and the perception of being at a pub allows you to drink excessively.
- **Offenders in Premises in Violent Altercations**
 - Sgt Bishop discussed that if there are offenders on your premises in violent altercations, should be referred to your Board / Licensee and potentially be barred for life from your venue. Following notification to the offender, the notice can be referred to the police for recording on their system.

Police details are as follows:

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ▫ Sergeant Daniel Bishop | 02 4922 8858 |
| ▫ Senior Constable Trevor Willemsen | 02 4922 8821 |
| ▫ Senior Constable Mark Edwards | 02 4922 8824 |
| ▫ Licensing Mobile Telephone | 0448 882 184 |
| ▫ Belmont Police Station | 02 4922 8899 |
| ▫ Lake Macquarie Licensing Police | lmlicensing@police.nsw.gov.au |

GENERAL BUSINESS

- The Chairman called for any items of general business. No matters were raised.

The next meeting for the Lake Macquarie Liquor Accord details are as follows:

- **Date** : Tuesday 15 October 2024 incorporating the 2024 AGM
- **Time** : 8:45am for 9.00am
- **Venue** : Belmont 16s

MEETING CLOSURE

Chairman Scott Williams mentioned that the upcoming Liquor Accord Forum will be interesting and a good place to hear what strategies are in place in relationship to youth theft in bottle shops.

He encouraged the members to see Tracey Marks on the way out for their giveaways and not to leave empty handed.

He also reminded everyone about Anzac Day being a high-risk day and to respond accordingly to the alerts received.

He thanked Sergeant Daniel Bishop, Tracey Marks, and the attendees for their participation and wished everyone well for the Anzac Day trading.

The meeting was declared closed at 10.00 am.

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S WILLIAMS CHAIRMAN

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