

IN THE MATTER of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act
2012

AND

IN THE MATTER of an application by **Wanganui
Function Centre Limited** for a
renewal of On Licence pursuant to
section 127 of the Supply of
Alcohol Act 2012.

BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

The application for renewal of On Licence (036/ON/004/2017) was publically advertised in the Rivercity Press on the 15th and 21st March 2018 along with a display notice attached to the premise in accordance with the Regulations, with no objections received.

As no matters of opposition were raised under section 102 and 103 reports; therefore the matter was considered by the Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner on the papers contained in the full file provided by the secretary.

Commissioner: Stuart Hylton

**RESERVED DECISION OF THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING
COMMITTEE**

1. Application

On the 8th March 2018, **Wanganui Function Centre Limited** on the prescribed form made application for renewal of an On-licence.

The application for renewal of On-Licence is in relation to the premises known as the '*Whanganui Function Centre*' situated at 19A Purnell Street, Whanganui.

The general nature of the business is that of a 'Function Centre'. The renewal application seeks to renew with the same existing conditions. The premise is undesignated and has not come to the notice of authorities in an adverse manner during the renewal period.

The premises has had a liquor licence for many years however a new entity (the applicant) took over the running of the premise and licence last year. This entity is functionally a subsidiary company of the Wanganui Jockey Club who own the facilities. The concept of this arrangement was for the Wanganui Jockey Club to have closer control over what happened during events on their premises.

The complete file included –

- The application
- Fire evacuation compliance statement
- Host Responsibility Plan
- Food/Drinks list
- Floor plan
- Copy of draft public notice and public display
- Existing Licence
- Letter from building owners
- Certificate of Incorporation
- Reports from Police, Medical Officer of Health and Inspector

2. Decision Making

In considering this application for On-Licence the licensing committee had regard to the criteria under section 131 and 105 of the Act. Section 105 assessments were made using the inspector's full report and own assessment. I accept the inspector's assessment and recommendations.

Key matters raised in complete file including the inspector's reports were –

- The applicant is a private company incorporated in 2017. The managing directors are on the executive of the Wanganui Jockey Club and therefore heavily involved in what goes on at the premises..
- The premises has not come to the notice of authorities in an adverse manner during the renewal period.
- The applicant provided a host responsibility plan that if followed should ensure the object of the act is met.
- Three certified manager's names were put forward for the licence which is considered to be acceptable for this type of licence. The applicant appears to have appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law.

- There were no reports questioning suitability and neither do I.
- The current hours wanting to be renewed have operated without incident i.e.

Monday to Sunday, between 8.00am to 2.00am the following day

- Site/Floor plan provided works well for the ranges of functions held on the premises. With these types of facilities, particular close surveillance of all areas on site, especially during race days, will be required by the licensee to ensure compliance.
- Current non designation across the entire premise to remain.
- The premises and operations historically have attracted noise issues with neighbouring residential land users. During the renewal period there were three noise complaints, only one requiring noise control intervention which was complied with by the applicant. It appears they are taking their responsibilities seriously in this regard which is a product of the change of applicant last year. There is no reason to believe the amenity and good order of the locality would likely to be increased, more than a minor extent, by the effects of a refusal to renew the licence.
- The applicant has appropriate systems for staff training and performance.

3 Reporting Agencies

The following reports were received under section 103 of the Act and taken into account during the decision.

3.1 Police – Report received on 12th March 2018, of no opposition.

3.2 Medical Officer of Health – Report received on 27th March 2018, of no opposition.

3.3 Licensing Inspector – Full report dated 5th April 2018. The inspector has no opposition to the application and assessed the application against s. 105 matters with no matters of opposition raised. The inspector concludes that the application is complete and appears to meet the criteria for renewal of the licence with existing conditions.

4 Conclusion

Based on the evidence provided to me within the complete file, my assessment above of section 105 matters and the past operation of the premise/licensee, I conclude that the application meets the statutory criteria to be granted a renewal of On-Licence under the Act for a period of three (3) years, from the expiry date of the previous licence.

The licence will be subject to the following conditions –

- (a) The licensee must have available for consumption on the premises, at all times when the premises are open for the sale of alcohol, at reasonable prices, a reasonable range of non-alcoholic drinks and low alcohol drinks.
- (b) The licensee must have free drinking water available for customers at each bar whilst open for business.
- (c) Alcohol may only be sold on such days and during such hours as the premises are being operated as a Function Centre but not other than on the following days and hours:

Monday to Sunday, between 8.00am to 2.00am the following day

EXCEPT THAT on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Christmas Day, or before 1pm on Anzac Day, no alcohol is to be sold or supplied on the premises unless the buyer is a person who is present on the premises to dine or a person residing or lodging on the premises.

- (d) Food must be available for consumption on the premises at all times when the premises are open for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the food list submitted with the application, or variations of that list of a similar range and standard.
- (e) The licensee must ensure that, at any time customers are lawfully on the premises,—
 - there is readily available to the customers, free, comprehensive, and accurate information about the forms of transport from the premises that are available at that time; and
 - there are on the premises, and readily accessible to the customers, staff able to give them comprehensive and accurate information about the forms of transport from the premises that are available at that time; and
 - those staff will on demand give any customer appropriate advice free.

- (f) The licensee must ensure that for each principal entrance to the premises there is displayed at all times a sign attached to the inside or outside of the premises, so as to be easily read by people immediately outside the entrance, stating the ordinary hours of business during which the premises are open for the sale of alcohol
- (g) The licensee must ensure that at all times a copy of the licence, together with a statement of all conditions subject to which it is issued, together with a copy of the floor plan: is displayed -
 - (a) attached to the inside of the premises concerned; and
 - (b) so as to be easily read by people entering each principal entrance.
- (h) The licensee must implement and maintain the steps proposed in the application for the licence aimed at promoting the responsible consumption of alcohol.
- (i) The licensee and managers on duty must ensure that the provisions of the Act relating to the sale and supply of alcohol to prohibited persons are observed and must display appropriate signs adjacent to every point of sale detailing the statutory restrictions on the supply of liquor to minors and the complete prohibition on sales to intoxicated persons.
- (j) The whole of the licensed premises is to be **undesignated**.

5 Decision

Accordingly the application is **Approved** for issue immediately.

Dated at Whanganui District this 20th day of April 2018.

Signed



Stuart Hylton
Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner