

Local Impact Assessment Class 1 Application 7-11 Maitland Street, Narrabri NSW

Narrabri RSL Memorial & Citizens Club Ltd (240045)

April 2013





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. INTRODUCTION

1. This document is a Local Impact Assessment Class 1 to accompany a Threshold Increase Application made for approval of a 'low range' gaming machine threshold increase of 20 for Narrabri RSL Memorial & Citizens Club Ltd (the "Applicant") at premises situated at 7-11 Maitland Street, Narrabri NSW (the "Venue") located in the Band 2 Local Government Area (the "LGA") of Narrabri. The Applicant has operated at the Venue for nearly 60 years and provides hospitality based recreational pursuits and community based enterprises for its members and their guests. This LIA provides relevant gaming data, social data and issues of concern to the Local Community so that the Authority can determine whether additional gaming machines will positively contribute to the Local Community.

2. RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING MEASURES

II. Chapter 2 of this Report details the mandatory and additional responsible conduct of gambling measures put in place by the Applicant at the Venue. The Applicant operates its gaming machine operations in strict accordance with legislated and 'best-practice' interventions and initiatives modelled on its Responsible Service of Gambling House Policy (see Appendix 1). The Applicant has also implemented additional measures to ensure compliance with recent amendments to the *Gaming Machines Act 2001* and associated *Regulations*. The Applicant is a member of ClubSafe, and has adopted its best practice guidelines and policies.

3. LOCAL COMMUNITY

III. Chapter 3 of this Report details the communities potentially affected by the approval of the Application. The Narrabri LGA is the Local Government Area of the Venue and a map illustrating the extent of the LGA and the location of the Venue is included as Appendix 3. An area extending 5kms from the Venue has been identified as the Local Community for the purpose of assessment. Chapter 4 provides a demographic description of the LGA and Local Community.

4. POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Chapter 5 of this Report details the positive contribution resultant from approval of the Application to the Local Community. If the Application is granted, three separate beneficiaries will receive funds. Firstly, a donation of \$33,000 will be made to Narrabri Dirt Bike Club for the purpose of funding the upgrade of Newtown Park's existing dilapidated amenities. The planned upgrade will allow competitors and their families to camp comfortably during competition, and will enhance the experience of locals who wish to participate in dirt biking. The second beneficiary, the Narrabri chapter of Abbeyfield Australia, will be the recipient of \$41,000 in funding towards the furnishing of an Abbeyfield House in Narrabri, which will accommodate 10 disabled individuals and allow them to live independently yet in comfortable proximity to their families and friends. The third project to be funded, the refurbishment of Narrabri War Memorial, will see the Applicant provide \$33,000 towards the improvement and extension of Narrabri War Memorial, the completion of which is set to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the landing of the ANZACs on the beaches of Gallipoli – the dedication will take place on 25th April 2015. A total of \$107,000 will be donated, split between three distinct, locally significant projects.

5. CONCLUSION

v. Given the satisfaction of the requirements of the Act and Regulation through the conduct of gaming machine operation at the Venue in a responsible manner and the evidence of substantial positive contributions to the Local Community, it is the Applicant's belief that this LIA meets the requirements of the Legislation.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Report is a Local Impact Assessment ("LIA") Class 1 to accompany a Threshold Increase Application for a Band 2 Local Government Area venue of 'low range increase' of 20 gaming machines for Narrabri RSL Memorial & Citizens Club Ltd ("the Applicant"). The Applicant is located at 7-11 Maitland Street, Narrabri NSW ("the Venue") in the Narrabri Local Government Area ("the LGA").

1.2 Methodology

In respect of LIAs relating to threshold increase applications, the LIA Guidelines provide that the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority ("the Authority") can only approve an LIA where the LIA complies with the requirements of the [Gaming Machines] Act [2001] and the [Gaming Machines] Regulations [2008] ("the Legislation") and demonstrates that gambling activities will be conducted in a responsible manner. The Guidelines further state that an LIA Class 1 must demonstrate that the proposed increase in gaming machines for the venue will provide a positive contribution towards the Local Community in which the venue is situated.

1.4 Applicant Details and History

1.5 The Applicant, founded in 1956, began as a meeting place for returned servicemen in the area. The Venue was relocated twice during the 1960s, and has had a number of significant renovations since establishing at its current address in 1971. In 1992 the Applicant changed its name from Narrabri RSL Sub-Branch Club Limited to Narrabri RSL Memorial & Citizens Club Limited as a marker of its embracing of the Narrabri community at large. The Applicant has now grown to over 3,000 members and employs 20 staff on a full time, part time and casual basis.

1.6 **Current Applicant Services, Facilities and Donations**

1.7 The Venue includes the Legends Bar, which features booth and lounge-style seating and regularly hosts live entertainment, as well as the Sports Bar, which offers TAB services and big screen televisions. The Outback Shack provides guests with an Australiana-themed dining experience and is open daily. The Venue also offers a full suite of gaming and wagering facilities, as well as function and conference spaces. Free entertainment is provided on a weekly basis, and a courtesy bus is available to patrons on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The Applicant provides donations to a number of organisations throughout the local community including Northern Inland Academy of Sport, Narrabri & District Cancer Support Group, Narrabri Legacy Group, Narrabri Premier League and Narrabri & District Poultry Club, donating \$47,470 by way of the ClubGrants scheme in the year ending August 2012.

1.8 Financial performance of the Applicant

1.9 The Applicant had a total revenue in the year ending June 2012 of \$3.7 million and a pre-tax profit of \$770,550. Gaming machine revenue for the year ending June 2012 was \$2.9 million, representing approximately 78.4% of total revenue. The Applicant paid \$420,535 in gaming machine duty in 2012. The Applicant made donations of \$47,470 in 2012, and had a total employee benefits expense of \$594,672.

1.10 **Gaming machine indicators**

1.11 The Applicant operates 60 gaming machines currently. The Applicant had a profit per gaming machine (total turnover less payouts) of approximately \$47,715 for the 2012 year. The average net profit per gaming machine for Narrabri LGA in 2012 was \$35,616. The Applicant projects that each additional gaming machine will return a profit of approximately \$53,387 per annum. The additional machines will thus add an



estimated \$800,000 for the first year of operation to the gaming revenue of the Applicant.

1.12 **Proposal**

- 1.13 The Applicant has committed to donating a total of \$107,000 across three separate local projects. The first of these is the provision of a new amenities block at Newtown Park, the homeground of Narrabri Dirt Bike Club, which will allow competitors from elsewhere, and their families, to camp on-site, thereby bringing tourism to Narrabri and enhancing the experiences of local residents who choose to participate in the sport. The second is the fit-out and furnishing of an Abbeyfield house in Narrabri, which will house up to 10 disabled individuals and give them the opportunity to live independently yet safely, and in proximity to their families and carers. The third project is the refurbishment of Narrabri War Memorial, which would see Narrabri soldiers who served in more recent conflicts such as Iraq and East Timor recognised for their service and bravery.
- 1.14 Further detail in relation to the positive contributions is provided later in this Report.

2 RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING MEASURES

- 2.1 The Applicant's gaming machine operation is in strict accordance with legislated and optional responsible gambling measures and is considered best practice in this area. A copy of the Applicant's House Policy on the Responsible Conduct of Gambling is included at Appendix 1. The Applicant operates its responsible gambling house policy which is drafted in accordance with the legislative requirements stated in the Gambling Legislation Amendment (Responsible Gambling) Act 1999, the Registered Clubs Act 1976, the Gaming Machines Act 2001 and accompanying regulations. The Applicant's harm minimisation strategies are extensive. A full list is attached as Appendix 2.
- The Applicant is a member of ClubSafe, and has adopted the best practice guidelines and policies suggested by each of these organisations. As such, the Applicant goes beyond compliance with current legislation.
- 2.3 The Applicant is part of the Northwest and New England Zone of clubs, which is currently in talks with the Salvation Army to establish a funding program that would see counselling for problem gamblers be made readily accessible to the members of clubs located within the zone. This counselling would be provided on-site, as well as online and via telephone, and would be funded by way of a levy paid by all of the zone's clubs, at an annual rate of \$10 per gaming machine. Negotiations with Anglicare began in 2012, but the arrangement did not proceed due to Armidale's Anglican bishop ultimately expressing concern that the use of proceeds of gambling would create a conflict of interest for both the Anglican church and its charity, Anglicare. Negotiations with the Salvation Army are ongoing. This initiative would be a groundbreaking one within the NSW club industry. Further details (pertaining to the original arrangement, but relevant to the potential Salvation Army arrangement) are included as Appendix 9.

3 LOCAL COMMUNITY

3.1 **Definition of Local Community**

The Legislation provides that there must be a positive contribution from approval of the Threshold Increase Application. The methodology which the Applicant has used to define its Local Community has been developed through its analysis of its membership penetration in the surrounding area. Generally a registered club will have a membership penetration in urban and semi-urban areas of approximately 5kms. This assessment is linked heavily to legislative requirements pertaining to compulsory membership of any person residing within 5kms of the registered club in question. In the context of the information set out



above, the Local Community is defined as encompassing a 5km area surrounding the Venue, including in the most part the Narrabri Urban Centre Locality. The Local Community is defined as per the map attached as Appendix 4. It is submitted that this defined area meets the requirements of the Act, Regulation and Guidelines.

3.3 It is worth noting here that the LGA itself is geographically vast, with residents on its outskirts being located many kilometres from the Venue, suggesting that the statistics pertaining to the Local Community are arguably particularly meaningful in this instance.

4 DEMOGRAPHY

- 4.1 Narrabri LGA is located in north-western NSW, 521km north-west of Sydney and 575km south-west of Brisbane. It is situated at the junction of the Kamilaroi and Newell Highways. The LGA is bounded by the following LGAs Coonamble, Gunnedah, Gwydir, Moree Plains, Tamworth, Walgett and Warrumbungle. Covering an area of approximately 13,000km², the LGA is home to numerous agricultural industries, with cotton, cattle, sheep and wheat farms covering much of the area. Coal mining is another of the LGAs more significant industries, with a mining village only recently being established on the outskirts of the Narrabri township. Narrabri LGA currently comprises approximately 5,572 private dwellings and is a sub-region of the North Central Plain Statistical Subdivision. In August 2011, its population was estimated at 12.925. In 2011 73.8% of the population were aged 18 years and over. This compares to 76.9% for NSW at the same period. The median age of people residing in the LGA in 2011 was 39 years, slightly older than the state median of 38 years. 89.5% of the population is Australian-born.
- 4.2 In August 2011, the rate of unemployment in Narrabri LGA was estimated at 5.4%, which is lower than the NSW rate of 5.9%. Narrabri LGA has a SEIFA (2006 social-economic index of relative advantage-disadvantage) of 921, which is lower than the State average of 978.
- 4.3 Markers relating to age and disability are of particular relevance to this LIA. Although the LGA has a median age of 39, which is older than NSW's median of 38, it does have a relatively sizeable youth population. The proportion of the population aged less than 18 years is 26.2%, compared to the NSW figure of 23.1%. 4.8% of Narrabri LGA's population requires core assistance, which is on par with the NSW percentage.
- 4.4 Demographic markers pertaining to the Local Community position it as similar in character to the LGA. However, Narrabri Urban Centre/Locality has a median age of 37, which is younger than that of the LGA and the state, and is a marker of its relatively youthful population. The Local Community also has an overrepresentation of disabled individuals, with 5.4% of its population requiring assistance for core activities.

5 POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS

- 5.1 The granting of the Application will yield significant benefits for the Local Community and LGA in the form of:
 - 1. The upgrading of amenities at Narrabri Dirt Bike Club's Newtown Park venue;
 - 2. The construction of an Abbeyfield House to accommodate and support the independence of disabled individuals; and
 - 3. The expansion and enhancement of Narrabri War Memorial.



5.2 Given the diversity of projects to be funded by the proceeds of the gaming machine threshold increase sought, this LIA has the potential to positively contribute to a variety of disparate sectors of the Local Community. Details pertaining to these projects are provided below.

5.3 Narrabri Dirt Bike Club and Newtown Park

- Narrabri Dirt Bike Club ('NDBC') is a locally based and family oriented not-for-profit organisation. It was established just over ten years ago, and has approximately 100 members, ranging from young children to middle-aged men and women. Monthly motocross meetings are held between March and November. NDBC's aim is to provide a safe and controlled environment within which its members and competitors from surrounding localities can ride.
- 5.5 Newtown Park is NDBC's base, and the venue at which NDBC holds its monthly meets. It also functions as a training ground. Newtown Park offers a 1.1km motocross track with excellent spectator views, and canteen and toilet facilities. The toilet facilities, however, are currently in a state of disrepair, dating back to the 1970s.

5.6 The project

- The existing amenities are dilapidated and therefore act as a deterrent to those wishing to participate in motocross, whether as competitors or spectators. The amenities are not only unsightly but also unsafe and unhygienic, and in their current state, prevent NDBC from providing campsite accommodation onsite to its members and competitors. The equipment used in motocross is expensive and potentially subject to theft, and as such participants ideally prefer to camp onsite during meetings as something of a security measure. Coupled with the cost of the equipment, the distances that need to be travelled in order for individuals to participate in motocross competition in a rural locality such as Narrabri make participation in the sport quite costly overall. The option of camping onsite would significantly ease the financial burden, and would also ensure that enough accommodation is available to participants. Sourcing accommodation has become a challenge of late due to Narrabri's emerging coal mining industry and the many FIFO workers this industry attracts, most of whom use temporary forms of accommodation such as motels and hotels.
- The upgrade would involve the installation of two ablution buildings. The total cost of the upgrade has been quoted at \$33,873, which includes the purchase of the buildings themselves, the transportation of the buildings from Heatherbrae to Narrabri and the necessary plumbing, electrical and trenching work. Further information regarding the project and the costs involved is included as Appendix 6.

5.9 Funding

- 5.10 The Applicant has promised to entirely fund the amenities upgrade. It will donate a total of \$33,000.
- 5.11 <u>Evidence of a particular need within Narrabri LGA and the Local Community</u>
- The upkeep of Newtown Park responds to a number of demographic markers and Council objectives.

 Ultimately, the provision of a safe, well-appointed motocross venue will allow young people to participate in a somewhat alternative form of physical activity and is likely to attract visitors to Narrabri.

5.13 **Dirt biking**

- 5.14 Dirt biking provides a host of benefits to its participants. 'Trail Bike Riding Needs Analysis: Summary of Results', conducted by the University of Queensland, lists the following potential benefits:
 - freedom;
 - recreation;



- enjoying and appreciating the outdoors;
- a sense of adventure;
- the thrill and adrenalin rush of taking part in risky physical activity;
- exercise:
- learning about the mechanics of the equipment;
- improvement of coordination, reflexes and skill;
- facing and meeting challenges;
- camaraderie;
- stress relief;
- quality time with family and/or friends;
- belonging to a sub-culture; and
- learning to be responsible for one's equipment and one's safety.
- 5.15 Further findings from the report indicate that:

Trail bike riders appear to be a well-organised group who practice the sport in a safe environment with their family and friends and who spend a fair amount of income on their sport [...] Trail bike riding is a healthy activity which is beneficial to [participants'] personal well-being, physical and mental health and [interpersonal] relationships.

5.16 Whilst dirt/trail bike riding is a sport that caters to young and old, male and female, data from NDBC suggests that a significant proportion of its participants are children (as young as five years of age) and young adults (in their early twenties) who are predominantly male.

5.17 **Youth**

- Australian Bureau of Statistics data indicates that Narrabri LGA has a slight overrepresentation of minors. The Local Community's proportion of young people is even larger than that of both the LGA and NSW, at 26.2%. Given the remote location of Narrabri, the provision of safe, modern, well-appointed youth-friendly sporting and recreational facilities within Narrabri itself of utmost significance.
- 5.19 In contrast to Narrabri's higher than average proportion of minors, ABS data indicates that its proportion of young adults aged between 20 and 30 years is in fact lower than that of the state, demonstrating that Narrabri LGA, like many rural localities, sees a great deal of young adult migration away from Narrabri. A recreational facility that has the potential to engage both children and young adults, then, is one that would be of significant benefit to this particular Local Community.
- 5.20 Narrabri Shire Community Strategic Plan ...towards 2022 outlines a number of challenges that Narrabri is likely to face in the next ten years. Of relevance to youth is the question of how Narrabri can "encourage [its] young people to live and work in [Narrabri]" (p.10). Pertinent to both the child and young adult populations of Narrabri is the following vision:

Council creates real opportunities for the young people of Narrabri Shire. While the community continues to recognise the importance of sport to many, a broader range of options will appeal to more young people [...] Effective efforts are made to connect youth into arts, indigenous, sporting, cultural, environmental and vocational projects and events (p.18).

Data and council documents, when read together, suggest that Narrabri has a sizeable youth sector that requires adequate recreational facilities – including facilities that meet the needs of those uninterested in traditional sport – and that more of its young adult population may be inclined to stay in Narrabri if better, more diverse recreational and cultural facilities are locally available. NDBC provides a healthy, enjoyable and alternative pastime to Narrabri's younger residents. In a regional area such as Narrabri,



where rugby league and cricket tend to have something of a stronghold over the community, the provision of alternative sporting facilities is very important so as to capture the sporting and recreational needs of as many of the local youth as possible.

5.22 **Tourism**

- 5.23 Another noteworthy aspect of the Newtown Park upgrade is the potential it has to encourage more tourists to visit Narrabri. As explained previously, competitors and spectators travel from far and wide to participate in motocross meetings held at Newtown Park, and the dilapidated amenities have the potential to deter such visitors, as well as prevent them from being able to take advantage of the economical and convenient option of camping onsite.
- Narrabri Shire Community Strategic Plan includes the following vision statements which add weight to the need for Newtown Park's amenities upgrade, a project that will make Newtown Park a more viable tourist attraction:

A strong diverse economy that attracts and retains businesses, services and tourists

The people of Narrabri Shire are very proud of the region in which they work and live. The community has a strong desire to see its Shire prosper. They want the Shire to be attractive as a destination for people to live, run businesses and visit [...]

Our Shire is well looked after. It's a place that both residents and visitors enjoy [...] We value our past and look after older buildings, but we also put effort into maintaining all our public parks, buildings and sporting venues (p.13).

The benefits of upgrading the amenities at Newtown Park are evidently numerous, and its upkeep is in direct response to Narrabri Shire Council's prioritisation of the provision of youth-centred recreational facilities. ABS data supports the significance of Narrabri's young population.

5.26 Abbeyfield House

- 5.27 Abbeyfield Australia is a national not-for-profit community housing provider and the peak body representing 26 independent Abbeyfield societies in towns and suburbs across Australia. Abbeyfield Australia currently provides three types of affordable accommodation:
 - assisted independent living for adults with mild intellectual disabilities
 - 'low care' (Hostel) aged care accommodation
 - assisted independent living for those aged 55+



- 5.28 Abbeyfield Australia Narrabri originally Narrabri Parent Support Group for Accommodation aims to provide the opportunity for supported independent living to young disabled individuals living in Narrabri. This aim is based on the principal that people with disabilities should "have a choice of accommodation [,] be able to maintain contact with their families [,] be able to access and participate in the community and [...] have the opportunity to reach their full potential".
- 5.29 The Narrabri chapter of Abbeyfield Australia has received a one-off capital grant to build an Abbeyfield House in Narrabri which will accommodate 10 mildly/moderately intellectually disabled people from the Narrabri region. Whilst the grant will fund the construction of the House, additional funds are required for the furnishing of the House.

5.30 The project

- 5.31 The residents of Abbeyfield House Narrabri will come from the Narrabri LGA. They will live in their own studio apartments and share a common area. The residents will live independently but be supported by the Narrabri chapter of Abbeyfield Australia and a live-in Housekeeper, as well as their family and friends living in and around Narrabri.
- 5.32 Abbeyfield Australia Narrabri is required to raise funds to furnish the common areas within the House. This includes the provision of furniture, electrical goods, garden/outdoor items, kitchen equipment and curtains and blinds.

5.33 Funding

- 5.34 The Applicant has pledged \$41,000 towards the project, which should cover the total funds required for the furnishing of the house. More details are included as Appendix 7.
- 5.35 Evidence of a particular need within Narrabri LGA and the Local Community
- 5.36 5.4% of the Local Community's residents report requiring assistance with core activities. This is a more significant proportion of its population when compared to both the Narrabri LGA and NSW. This figure indicates an overrepresentation of disabled individuals, suggesting that accommodation facilities such as the type provided by Abbeyfield Australia are of particular relevance to the Applicant's Local Community.
- 5.37 The Local Community's remoteness only serves to add to the need for a facility such as Abbeyfield House. In the absence of such a service, young disabled adults would be required to continue to live with their families, which may be an unsatisfactory situation from the perspectives of either the individuals themselves or the families that have cared for them for so long, or would be forced to find accommodation in a less satisfactory setting, such as an institution or aged care home for example, if they were to remain living in Narrabri. The other alternative would be to move away from Narrabri, which would potentially isolate them from those that are familiar to them.
- 5.38 The National Disability Strategy Youth Roundtable Report, published in December 2008, notes that

Having the option to move out of the family home and live independently is an essential and exciting rite of passage for most young people growing up. However the current system in Australia does not enable young people with disabilities to have an independence or appropriate support for their needs, and therefore this is a significant area of concern for young Australians who have a disability that require a high-level of support. This is further complicated by the difficulty in finding affordable and accessible housing.



5.39 The need for appropriate and supported independent living accommodation for disabled individuals is both a general need, Australia-wide, and a particular need in Narrabri given its geographical remoteness and its higher than average proportion of persons with a disability.

5.40 Narrabri War Memorial

The Narrabri War Memorial Committee was formed in July 2011 in response to concerns surrounding the upkeep and currency of the Narrabri War Memorial as it currently stands. The memorial is situated at 7 Maitland Street Narrabri, and has six brass honour rolls attached to the masonry wall. The names listed on the honour roll are of those from the Narrabri region who served in World War Two, Korea, Malaya and Vietnam. The memorial therefore fails to acknowledge locals who served in more recent conflicts, and is also somewhat dated and damaged in terms of aesthetics.

5.42 The project

- 5.43 The Committee has decided that the refurbishment of the memorial should be completed by and dedicated on 25 April 2015, the 100th anniversary of the landing of the ANZACs on the beaches of Gallipoli.
- Additional brass honour rolls will be cast and added to the existing rolls, and will include the names of persons who served in World War One, Iraq, Afghanistan and East Timor. These rolls will be positioned on polished stone plinths which will be located along the grassed area parallel to Fitzroy Street. The existing memorial will be demolished a new cenotaph constructed. The new design will provide more space for memorial services to be held onsite, and will be wheelchair accessible.

5.45 Funding

- The Applicant has promised to donate \$33,000 towards the project. Quotes are still being obtained, with exact and estimated costs outlined in Appendix 8 of this LIA. Any leftover monies would be put towards the refurbishment and repositioning of the Narrabri West War Memorial from its current location to Reservoir Park.
- 5.47 Evidence of a particular need within Narrabri LGA and the Local Community
- 5.48 The project has been identified by a sizeable group of Narrabri residents as being significant to the Local Community. As it stands, the memorial fails to adequately commemorate the sacrifice and service enacted by Narrabri locals who were enrolled in the armed forces and took part in international conflicts throughout the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.
- The ANZAC spirit is integral to the Applicant's ethos, given its origins in the returned services. It has a responsibility to assist in educating youth about Australia's military involvement, and in honouring the memories of those who were brave enough to risk their own lives in the service of their country. Along with acknowledging all of Narrabri's servicemen and women, the updates to the memorial will enhance the appearance of the Narrabri township, and assist in Narrabri's efforts to attract visitors and demonstrate the Local Community's pride in its shire.

6 CONCLUSION

6.1 This LIA, pursuant to Section 37 of the *Gaming Machines Amendment Regulation* 2009, defines the Applicant's Local Community, details the positive contributions that the Applicant will provide to the Local Community if the Application is approved, and details the harm minimisation and responsible gambling measures that are in place at the Venue.



- 6.1 The Applicant is a community based registered club which provides needed community support through additional donations exceeding those required through ClubGrants contributions. The Venue provides a central meeting place for its Local Community, including numerous recreational and social facilities and opportunities existing for the benefit of members and guests.
- The Applicant operates gaming at the Venue in compliance with mandated legislative requirements and operates a best-practice style of interventions and procedures. The Applicant enforces this strict approach based on its House Policy on the Responsible Conduct of Gambling conducting regular in-house training for all of its gaming staff, each of whom holds qualifications in the Responsible Conduct of Gambling.
- 6.3 The positive contribution put forward in this LIA will not occur without the approval of the Application. The Applicant has pledged \$107,000 to be divided amongst multiple local projects, each of which is meaningful to Narrabri LGA and the Local Community. Demographic data and Council documents demonstrate that Narrabri's youth and tourism sectors will benefit from improvements to NDBC's Newtown Park venue, and that Narrabri has a significant disabled population, some of whom will be fortunate enough to reside at Abbeyfield House. The expansion and updating of Narrabri War Memorial will make it a more inclusive and appropriate testament to locals who served in international conflicts throughout the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.
- It is therefore provided that the test as set out in the Guidelines and Legislation is met and the Applicant submits that the Threshold Increase Application should be approved.