

**Questions sent to the Mayor prior to meeting with Glen Gulliver (FOH) and Karen Wilson (HPI)**

*Summary of Mayor's responses in bold blue italics*

**Date of Meeting:** 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022

**Present:** Mayor - Tanya Taylor  
Community Life Manager - Michael Cashin,  
Festival and Events Team - Juliette Rosser  
Glen Gulliver (Friends of The Haven)  
Karen Wilson (Haven Promotions Inc.)

- What are the **current and future roles of WCC in managing/operating** the Haven Amphitheatre?

*WCC will continue to maintain The Haven space. Bookings from individuals/groups wanting to use this facility can be made via WCC website*

*<https://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Council/Venues/The-Haven-Amphitheatre>*

*WCC will not consider rebuilding a stage in the near term (3-5 years) and WCC has no funding for rebuilding a stage.*

- What is the **current and future status of the Haven Amphitheatre Committee (HAC)** which successfully staged productions at The Haven with little financial input required by Council for nearly 40 years?

*The HAC was disbanded at the end of the previous Council's term and will not be re-instated.*

*Four new Advisory Committees with Willoughby community representation will be established. Any issues involving The Haven would be considered by the Community, Cultural and Heritage Committee.*

- What is the **current role of the Castlecrag Progress Association (CPA)** with respect to The Haven Amphitheatre?

*WCC consults CPA and other interested community groups such as CPA, WBGS, WEPA and FOH regarding matters affecting The Haven.*

- Will **WCC continue to subsidise productions in the current space** or will financial support be required (eg. CPA has donated \$1000 to a recent production)?

*We note that HAC used evening cabaret events with seated dining on the stage which were always sold out to generate funds that subsidised other Haven productions.*

*It is difficult to imagine how a financially viable production can be staged in the current Haven setting without substantial subsidies.*

*Council currently subsidises productions at The Haven via a fee waiver for the use of the site. This is not expected to change in the immediate future.*

*WCC accepts grant applications from Not-For-Profit organisations or registered Charities via their online application website.*

- For current productions at The Haven, **who is responsible for**
  - **Insurance and Public Liability (for audience and for performers)**
  - **Provision of toilet facilities**
  - **Provision of electricity and associated safety standards**
  - **Provision of shuttle bus to/from The Haven**

*The hirer is responsible. (See Terms and Conditions on Hiring website link, p1)  
Electricity is available on the site.*

*Michael Cashin noted that he is contacting Community Services to enquire if they could provide minivan transport to/from The Haven at a reduced price.*

- **What validity does WCC attribute to its commissioned Micromax report that the majority (9/10) of Council invited community groups supported rebuilding the stage?**

*The previous Council commissioned this report. The Micromex report was considered as one part of many sources of information relating to The Haven. The stage was subsequently re-instated as a landscaped solution.*

- If WCC does not intend to rebuild a stage within the next 3 years, **what advice would you give FOH** whose main objective was to rebuild/replace the stage?

*The Mayor's advice is that The Haven should be used in its 'Landscape Solution'.*

*The reasoning for this:*

*The DA for the current stage lapses on 30 March 2023*

*The current DA is not agreeable to FOH and other stakeholders and would need to be resubmitted if alternative designs are sought*

*The project requires 50% external funding & there is no inclusion for this in the current budget*