Mapua Wharf Public Area Encroachment

From a resident to TDC:

I am informed by the receptionist on duty this morning that there is a compliance centre which handles comments about the way in which a plan is being executed.

I was appalled when I went to catch the Mapua ferry this morning (27 December) that a large part of the public space between the Golden Bear and the ferry had been fenced off, a band gazebo erected, tables and chairs distributed and a Golden Bear advertising sign in the middle of it all.

When coming off the ferry the gate into the newly enclosed space is open as if to entice ferry patrons into the Golden Bear space. Many residents consider the wharf area and ferry to be a family friendly space, that would seem to be a thing of the past and not in the spirit of the Mapua Wharf Area Masterplan.

Your comments would be appreciated,

Email to Marion:

Thank you for your response to my complaint to the TDC about the wharf issue. I realise that MDCA AND the MWWG have been doing a ton of work but I have become so annoyed with the Golden Bear's take over of the wharf area each summer that I actually got around to taking the issue to the TDC who seem to consider the wharf their own commercial enterprise. I would say the Bear has taken even more space this year, maybe not content with their enlarged building? You will see from the photo (see below) that the rubbish bins are now enclosed by the fencing so it is one way traffics past the fence to the ferry. I was told on the phone that my email will not be dealt with until the 6 Jan at the earliest as that is when the staff are back at work which means of course that any misuse of consents can continue for some days without any checks.

Email from Marion:

Thank you for copying MDCA into your email to TDC's compliance centre.

The extension to the Golden Bear's licenced area was a hotly contested subject at the December Mapua Waterfront Working Group (MWWG) meeting for the very issues your have raised.

Up until now the TDC Commercial department have seen the wharf area as a visitor area and for many years have allowed the Golden Bear to extend their licensed space much further than is being used this year. At least this year MWWG have managed to restrict the space being used, though I have to say it does appear from your photograph, this maybe larger than TDC Commercial Manager Mark Johannsen had indicated to MWWG.

I have forwarded your email onto David Martin, Chair of MWWG for his information.

MWWG are working hard in the background to ensure once the development has been completed at the Ngaio Tree Reserve, that TDC will no longer allow the Golden Bear to

extend out into this space.

It appears some departments within TDC seem to view the Wharf Area as a visitor destination only and seem to forget the long term significance this area has had to many different types of local activities over many years. And it is because of this, I am not 100% confident that pressure from MWWG alone will be enough, so I am grateful to you for raising your concerns personally with TDC.

It is a topic that will be needed to be addressed by MDCA as a stand alone item as well as being part of the reveiw of all the Parks and Reserves within our local area that is currently up for discussion with suggestions/recommendations to be made to TDC by the end of March 2020.

Once again, thank you for raising your concerns. Please enjoy the remainder of 2019 and I wish you and your family a safe entry into 2020.

