



Speech by

**JOHN GOSS**

**MEMBER FOR ASPLEY**

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Hansard 8 December 1999

**BRIDGEMAN DOWNS SPORTING COMPLEX**

**Mr GOSS** (Aspley—LP) (10.13 a.m.): I raise a matter of great importance to the residents of Bridgeman Downs. The Brisbane City Council has proposed a sporting complex for Darien Street. The playing fields are for cricket and football, and there will be a clubhouse. None of the residents object to the playing fields being located in their area, because many of them are great supporters of team sport.

We have to wonder why these fields are going into the area, where there are few young families who would use them. There are more families with mature age children. We also wonder why the Brisbane City Council would establish facilities that can be found only a few kilometres away in the Pine Rivers Shire. But what is concerning to the residents of Bridgeman Downs is the category A classification which has been approved for the clubhouse.

Sports fields generally do not rate much more than a small canteen where the club can sell some soft drinks and pies. However, these fields are classified category A, which means a liquor licence and poker machines. It means extended trading hours into the night and probably entertainment. It does not matter that there are already 17 clubs, two hotels and a new tavern in the area. It does not matter to the council that it is close to the crematorium chapel and it does not matter to the council that there are already about 30,000 poker machines in this State.

Local residents have overwhelmingly rejected this council proposal. They do not want it in their neighbourhood. At a meeting last Saturday morning called by the local councillor, Carol Cashman, Councillor Hinchliffe showed up and took over and politicised the public meeting. As he said, the local residents will get a category A clubhouse, they will get poker machines and they will get a licence. I just wonder how a BCC councillor can promise—

Time expired.

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