From: Lisa Townsend [lisat@y7mail.com] Sent: Wednesday, 6 May 2009 9:20:56 AM To: Corporate Email Subject: Draft Budget currently on exhibition - unable to see any provision for safety fences for childrens playgrounds - please clarify the situation urgently

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To : The General Manager Tweed Shire Council.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you with regard to the draft budget that is currently up for public comment.

As I was unable to attend the "community access workshops" (due to not being on the magic list of people eligible to attend) I am writing to you to ask you if there is any provision for safety fences for children's playgrounds in the Tweed Shire.

I have examined the document on exhibition fairly closely, and I am unable to see any such provision.

Could you or Mr Green please clarify the situation urgently, as I am sure a great many members of the public will wish to comment, if indeed there is no provision for this item in the budget.

Thank you for your help. Yours Sincerely,

Lisa Townsend 107 River St Murwillumbah 0412699921

22/05/2009

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2046400

From: Mike Rayner [MikeR@tweed.nsw.gov.au] Sent: Thursday, 7 May 2009 2:17:20 PM To: Kim Radnedge Subject: FW: PUBLIC CONSULTATION- Draft Management PLan

Kim - Please register if you haven't already and task to Troy Green.

Thanks Mike

From: Julie Boyd [mailto:info@julieboyd.com.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 May 2009 8:45 AM
To: Troy Green; Mike Rayner
Cc: Katie Milne; Dot Holdom; Barry Longland; Kevin Skinner; Joan van Lieshout
Subject: PUBLIC CONSULTATION- Draft Management PLan

PUBLIC CONSULTATION: TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL'S DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN//BUDGET 2009/10

Thank you for the opportunity for a face to face consultation. It is important for the Tweed Residents Community to know that there is an avenue for them to raise issues and suggestions in a non-confrontational environment. A dialogue rather than a formal presentation schedule is often conducive to mutually useful outcomes. We do note that one of the definitions of empowerment is the uptake of suggestions and proposals which are tabled by the community.

Hastings Point Progress Association:

1. Fully supports the call by Pottsville Residents Association for an increased budget for restoration, reclaimation and repurchase of riparian zones around Cudgera and Christie's Creeks. \$300,000 is insufficient. Tweed Waterways must be treated as precious assets.

2. Supports the continued immediate development of the Hastings Point DCP and Locality Plan.

3. Calls for council to take a proactive and preventative approach in concert with the **ESD Principles** and to adopt a further principle of considering **7 generations** hence in all decisions made in preference to enabling short term individual economic gain. A seven generation approach is proposed as at any one time there are a maximum of 4-5 generations of people in existence.

4. Notes that past Council **inaction and simple mistakes** have proven extremely costly to a community which is focussed on the greater good rather than individual profit. e.g. failure to implement Land and Environment findings on Lot 156, Creek St means that it is extremely difficult for the community and council to require restoration of the original estuarine flow path as part of the flood plain management in Hastings Point. Further, the issuing of a construction certificate in the claimed absence of knowledge of the concerns around this lot has now created possibly irrepairable damage, possibly endangering the entire north Hastings Point community

5. Damage to the estuaries and impact of overdevelopment has cost Hastings Point residents a very conservatively estimated \$500k in lost personal and business productivity, actual legal costs, personal lifestyle impact and stress-related medical bills (including 2 people no longer able to work because of the stress of living with the

impact of this- one of whom is still being pressured by a HP developer to sell out to him) in an attempt to counter overdevelopment enabled through past questionable decisions and actions. This is no small impost on a tiny community. And this is not over yet. These real, negative costs **must** to be factored into any claimed 'benefit' of large developments.

Both Council and community are suffering badly from the impact of past decisions. This can form the basis, or at least the beginnings of a Council climate change response rather than a 'selected management' approach. A blanket strategy of **100metre riparian zones** would account for most residential development issues and many impending climate threats around waterways.

6. We submit that there is a community base across the Tweed which fully supports Council's rhethoric of an integrated social, environmental, economic and governance strategy. We see that the most effective way for this to work will be through a Whole Of Council approach to resolving issues. Past planning approaches of considering only the plan at foot must be replaced by a broad, proper and real consideration of the cumulative impact of each development on social and environmental community impacts as well as the economic value for individuals. This could form the basis of that Council taking a proactive rather than reactive approach to leadership in the Shire. This would also increase Council's accountability to their own, and the local government, charters.

7. We fully support a **food and visual based tourism industry** in the shire and see that all arable land must be retained for food production into the future. Models to support the economic validity of such an industry need to be developed from world's best practice (including the Tasmanian cottage and eco-tourism industry model) and strategies to create economic benefit for the shire developed. We see that subgroups could be created immediately which include members from the broader community to develop creative proposals for the development of such an economic base.

8. While existing compliance staff do a good job and we thank them for the work they do out of work hours, productivity gains for compliance could be further achieved through:

a. requirement that all developments submit notice of major construction traffic movements. These would then be submitted by Council to police and RTA- enabling close monitoring, reducing staff time wastage across all three departments, slowing traffic as they know they are being monitored, and reducing major noise and other inconvenience such as public safety. Right now, construction traffic is a major source of noise and speed pollution in the community

b. Flexibility of rangers hours to accommodate holiday 'hotspot' times and weekends. Possible creation of a community watch system to support ranger activities.

9. Hastings Point supports the creation of Tourism Scenic Routes and have proposed in the past that the stretch of road between Cabarita Beach and Pottsville down to Wooyung be considered as such for a 'Villages Trail' and that the Terranora concept of wild gardens be integrated into a family friendly tourism strategy along this route.

10. HPPA asks whether resources are available to source and prepare, or assist preparation of grants for both Council and Community organizations

11. Attendees at the HPPA meeting of Tuesday 5 May ask that the Hastings Point residential community be placed on the endangered species list, and be accorded the same protections!

22/05/2009

Julie Boyd Secretary Hastings Point Progress Association PO Box 66 Hastings Point, NSW 2489

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RAY AND PAT TATE

BAMORA POINT & DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION Inc.



BANORA POINT COMMTY

BUDGET/MANAGEMENT PLAN

DOC: No

RECT: - 8 MAY 2009

ASSIGNAD TO RAYNER MI

President: John Sweeney 5524 5282 Secretary: Pat Tate 5524 2937 Treasurer: Warren Shardlow 5523 1357 Vice President: Rod Bates 5524 2761 Vice President: Bill Piokstone 5524 5217 Mobile: 0432 333 653 Correspondence: The Secretary, P.O. Box 936, Banora Point, NSW 2486 RATES LEVING

Friday, 8 May 2009

The General Manager, Tweed Shire Council, P.O. Box 816, MURWILLUMBAH, NSW 2484

Fax: (02) 6670 2429

Dear Mike,

RE: Draft Management Plan 2009/2012

We wish to make the following submission following the Community Group Consultation Session which I attended on behalf of the Association on the 5/5/2009.

This session was dominated by one group and this denied the other groups in attendance, the opportunity to ask all the questions they had in regard to the Draft Management Plan.

Unanswered questions our members have put forward are as follows:

- Page 30. Development of a regional car pooling program \$80,000. Can you inform us just what this entails, and what are the anticipated long term benefits of such a program.
- Page 42. <u>Governance Action Plan</u>. "Council must be responsible, accountable and transparent in all areas of business both to its local community and to other areas of government".

This Association would like to see Councillors and Council staff pay more attention to this Governance Action Plan.

- Page 53. It appears that new positions are being created; if this is correct, why are they not being sourced from the staff already employed by Council.
 - Recreational Boating Strategy implementation. What does this involve.
 - Building Compliance Officer
 - Health and Building Surveyor
 - Administrative Assistant for Building
 - Bushland Maintenance Officer
 - Landscape Planner



2. _ 1981553

Rate Increase - 9.5%:

Once again, (refer correspondence dated 6/2/2009) we wish to lodge our objection to the 9.5% base rate increase.

This increase, along with increases in statutory and ancillary charges, imposes further hardship to the already stretched budget of many families living in the Tweed Shire.

As suggested in our previous objection, surely there are other areas within the running costs of Council that could be made leaner rather than hitting the ratepayers every time. Is it not time for all areas of expenditure to be examined and asked to tighten their belts.

Draft Fees and Charges 2009-2010

Item 101 Hall Hire – Banora Point Community Centre, no mention is made of any charges for the permanent occupiers of rooms at this centre. Our members wish to know what they are being charged and if they are not being charged a fee, then why not.

We trust the answers to the above questions will be forthcoming shortly.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Jate

PAT TATE Secretary

c.c. Please copy this correspondence to all Councillors.

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TSC Draft Management Plan 2009-12 Submission: 5 May 2009 from Friends of Terranora c/- G J Burgis 8 Carrington Ct Terranora 2486

Congratulations on the highly readable presentation of the draft Management Plan. We endorse your desire to prepare locality plans with individual communities to 'plan and shape a built environment and public realm' for each community. [Page 31 of Draft].

[1] Designated Tourist/Scenic Drives and Lookouts

Summary: Visual Assessment must be a major consideration of all DA's along Scenic Routes. Encourage development of commercial potential of lookouts. Plan of Management should investigate a larger network of Tourist /scenic routes throughout the Shire. Emphasis on the journey as well as desirable destinations. Any proposal for development along scenic sections of scenic routes, including rezoning, clearing and buildings, should not be approved unless the visual impact is net positive. Low key uses such as roadside fruit stalls [locally grown produce only] and cafes/ tearooms, at/near lookouts, should be encouraged with minimal approval charges and no conditions which make them non-viable. Example: carspaces for a small casual operation might just be an existing grassed area, not formal sealed parking spaces.

Spec. Terranora Rd - full length of road used to be a scenic drive many years ago. I f no longer one then it should be designated one again. In any case it is used as one but has no practical lookout. In 2008 we asked for a lookout site to be designated east of Nicholls dam on sloping land opposite the entry of Sunnycrest Dr & Terranora Rd. Nothing happened. The lookouts at south end of Fraser Drive and opposite the reservoir at Bungalora should be decommissioned as they have no view.

We believe Council should, through allowed uses, encourage up to two lookouts to be created as part of small commercial enterprises [eg café/restaurant with or without dwelling] on the north side of Terranora Rd, east of Mahers Lane and west from Fraser Drive- surely one of the Shire's best views. There would be no cost to ratepayers to create the lookout but the public would have to use the business to take in the view. Of course, we'd prefer a public lookout but Council may baulk at acquisition costs. A high point in area 'E' Mahers Lane should also be dedicated as a public lookout as per our previous submission on Area'E'.

Note- there is presently an application before Council to rezone a group of 8 small lots opposite the north end of Nassau Av Terranora from Agricultural Protection to Urban Expansion thereby permitting 8 houses. Area 'E' zoning should not be extended to Terranora Road and should not include this land. The intention was always to maintain the openness of the scenic drive with no urban clutter along Terranora Road-8 houses would strongly detract from the scenic amenity of the route and should not be permitted. However, this site is ideal for the type of café/restaurant/residence envisaged along scenic routes. Why not promote this as a preferred use and give the Shire a new worthwhile destination with economic merit?

[2] Memorial Walk/Footpath connection to TerranoraVillage

Designate the walk through the row of Norfolk pines along Nassau Av Terranora as a Memorial walk to those Terranorians who served defending our country [including those who stayed in Australia to do so]. We have funds to place a name plaque on each tree. The trees should be protected as a Shire icon as requested by us in 2008. It appears the latest tree now dying may have been poisoned by a neighbour. Protection is essential. Most of the footpath along Terranora Rd was built by locals, not Council. We had to go on TV to get Council to build a safe walking path for school children. We need a safe/scenic loop walking route to the Memorial row of pines. Build a link footpath from Mahers Ln. to the park in Azure estate near the Telecom tower. Build a link from The Terranora Rd end of the row of pines west 100m along Terranora Rd to Sunnycrest Av. We have spoken to Council about this several times over the last 10 years. No success yet.

[3] Anti beautification Policy needs to be over turned. For 5 years Council would not pay half the cost of a 1 metre high bonded rock wall opposite Terranora General Store [soon to be a cafe]. Why? Because it was for beautification not for retaining! Our Shire is losing its appeal because Council does not protect/ enhance beauty adequately. Please build this wall in the heart of our Village.

[4] Council has benefited from our community's historic success in Country Energy agreeing to remove 2 lattice towers near the General Store and Pre-school plus undergrounding of several high voltage power lines. This will improve the Village's visual appeal. Council will be able to sell the old hall site free from powerline blight. Sale proceeds should fund buying a local lookout site.

[5]Arboreal Wild Garden with walking trails [minimum 10 ha].

Plan to have the land dedicated or purchased now.

Area 'E' has ideal soil/wet climate for an arboreal garden focussing on very large or rare and unusual trees from around the world and in Australia. Very large trees are endearing to many people as they span many generations. They rarely become pest species. In the long term such a park would become a must see destination. Terranora was famous for many gigantic fig trees only 20 years ago – most are now chopped down – the latest magnificent specimen was this year! Bring them back to life plus the banyans of such places in NSW as Lord Howe Island, the boabs & bottle trees of our north west& north, China's gingko [giant maiden hair tree] and the house size baobabs from Mozambique. We should allow special [usually rare] trees from other countries that do not go wild.

[6]Most Shire streetscapes have low visual appeal. Uniform street plantings are a failure with low survival rates on narrow streets. Need to plant spot copses of long living, larger trees. Make street scapes interesting by using surprise – signature tree or dense plantings. Plan now by identifying suitable locations where a road reserve may be wide in one place. We also support Council's education promotion to empower locals to take care of their street tree plantings.

[7]Roadside slashing and street rubbish/graffiti :

More regular mowing verges with frequency based on growing seasons. The Shire looks so unkempt most of the time- hardly appealing for visitors. Pass on vegetation & rubbish clean up costs on RTA medium strips/verges as these are prominent to tourists. Need strong education programme to reduce littering and increase local pride. Target groups are smokers and drinkers

Introduce daily fine [at one third cost of clean up] for owners who don't remove graffiti within 3 days. Profit after clean up to educate school kids on respect/caring for their environment/ positive use of their energy. GCCC have a graffiti hotline; so should Tweed Shire.

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FINGAL HEAD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC PO Box 29 Fingal Head NSW 2487

5TH May, 2009

TWEED	SHIRE JOG	COUNCI	L
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Tweed Shire Council - Consultation session - Council Chambers Murwillumbah.

Fingal Head Issues: --

Fingal Head attracts large numbers of day trippers and Campers who enjoy the Boating, the Beach and the Riverside park land.

The Village has a strong environmental theme with natural bushland along its Peninsular. This must be not only preserved but enhanced.

There is a two storey building limit in Fingal Head and this must remain in place.

The Park land and facilities there on the northern side of the Old Boat Harbour have fallen into disrepair and now attract vandalism such as Graffiti. The items of concern are: --

The picnic shelter has rotten main roof supports which are completely UN attached from the ground stirrups

The Barbecue side panels are rusted through

The Public Toilets are in need of renovation – Aboriginal art work to the outside. The park land needs natural barriers to prevent car hooning

Strategic placement of bollards to prevent launching of boats in the old boat harbour – as per the signage there.

Overnight camping in the Parkland whilst forbidden is common and not policed.

The old Quarry car park and entrance road – This area attracts use by unregistered motorcycles and can be dangerous to other users. The requirement is for an entrance and parking area with a strong emphasis on the local remnant rain forest environment.

The Beach area Park needs picnic table facilities increased and a viewing platform to be constructed overlooking the beach to the southern end of the car park.

Fingal Road: --

Completion of the last small section of road renovation/re construction of Fingal Road near Lagoon Road

Provision of traffic calming device in that area

40/50 Kph speed limit in the residential areas of Fingal Rd - because:--

It is quite difficult to drive at 60Kph and not cross the double lines

Many motorists speed and 'straight line' the curves

The Cycle way is extremely close to the edge of the road in several sections of the residential parts of Fingal Road. – Children on Bikes/Scooters and elderly People walking.

Other issues: --

Possible future boat launching facilities in Fingal Head: --We believe that the existing facilities are adequate and that any increase would put excessive pressure on the limited road access to the village. We believe that it does not make sense to haul boats up Fingal Rd and back again (total over 5Km) just to launch them. It would be a much better proposition environmentally and convenience wise to provide any extra facilities close to the existing main roads of the Tweed Shire.

Jack Evans Boat Harbour: -- This project is costly to Rate Payers and seems to be too 'hard edged'. Most of the comment received so far from both locals and visitors is that they think that it is quite amazing to have the natural existing asset as it is with the grass leading to the sandy beach at the edge. Not many CBD areas have such an existing asset, but others try to create similar things with the hard edges. Cycles probably need to be kept from the edge with a background path.

Yours faithfully,

Uttered

Evan Matthews President Fingal Head Community Association Inc.

Uki Village - District Residents Association

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RECTD - 8 MAY 2009

Access and Disability in the Tweed Shire

The Tweed Shire has one of the highest rates of disability in NSW (27% vs 20%) and yet ranks as one of the lowest in terms of dollars spent per capita on Community Services (which includes Access and Disability).¹

Community Services - \$ per capita (NSW Councils, 2006-2007)

NSW mean	
Tweed	

\$ 54 \$ 16.57

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Group	Mean expenditure (\$/capita)	MARÐ COPY
1	83	
2	55	
3	49	
4	63	
5	23 (Tweed: \$16.57)	
6	34	
7	56	
8	45	
9	134	
10	191	
11	76	
NSW	54	

NB Tweed Council occupies the lowest position in the lowest ranking group (Group 5).

NB Overall, Tweed comes in at 131/152 ie within the bottom 10% of the state.

People with significant disabilities living in Tweed Shire: 4000 Council allocation for Disability Action Plan: \$10, 000 per year for 3 years Expenditure per person = 4000/\$10000pa = 40 CENTS PER PERSON PER ANNUM

¹ http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/dlg/dlghome/documents/Comparatives/Comparatives 2006 07.pdf

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PARKS - STACK WARNS. RIVERS + SORTAMS. RIVERS + SORTAMS. TO The General Manager Tweed Shire Council 8th May, 2009. 24 Dorset Street Murwillumbah 2484 Murwillumbah 2484 PARKS - STACK - RONDABOATS SN: 1426, 196 WAREL HOWKS - CAMS - CUMPLE HALL - CREN PARKS - KHOX PK BUDGET MANAGEMENT PLAJ. TO THE General Manager TWEE STREET MURUPSEUL COLLECTION PLAJ. TO THE General Manager Tweed Shire Council BUDGET MANAGEMENT PLAJ. TO THE General Manager Tweed Shire Council BUDGET MANAGEMENT PLAJ. TWEE STREET MURUPSEUL COLLECTION PK BUDGET MANAGEMENT PLAJ. TO THE GENERAL MANAGEM

RE Management Plan

As there are no specifics in the Draft Management Plan it is difficult to gain much understanding. The presentation of your plan seems only to let people know what your restrictions and obligations are, with little detail of how you propose to accomplish it.

I would like to see things such as park maintenance and upgrading of:

- + The BMX Track and repairs in Murwillumbah
- + A fence around the children's play equipment at Knox Park.
- + The upgrading of the Clarie Hall Dam wall
- + The proposed roundabouts on Byangum Road at William and Woollumbin Streets
- + A guick and efficient outcome at Jack Evans Boat Harbour
- + River and Coastal monitoring to continue
- + A DCP for the residential areas of Murwillumbah
- + Ecologically sustainable developments to be approved
- + The enforcement and speedier inspections of developments, with penalties for breaches.

I look forward to seeing these issues resolved sooner than latter.

Sincerely,

Robyn Lemaire Resident of Murwillumbah

From: Lisa Townsend [lisat@y7mail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 May 2009 9:16:35 AM
To: Corporate Email
Subject: Fw: Draft Budget currently on exhibition re Children' safety fences.

2048940

As the time for submissions is so short, could you please reply as soon as possible.

Yours etc,

Lisa Townsend 107 River St Murwillumbah.

----- Forwarded Message ---- **From:** Lisa Townsend <lisat@y7mail.com> **To:** tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au **Sent:** Wednesday, 6 May, 2009 9:20:56 AM **Subject:** Draft Budget currently on exhibition re Children' safety fences.

[X]

To : The General Manager Tweed Shire Council.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you with regard to the draft budget that is currently up for public comment.

As I was unable to attend the "community access workshops" (due to not being on the magic list of people eligible to attend) I am writing to you to ask you if there is any provision for safety fences for children's playgrounds in the Tweed Shire.

I have examined the document on exhibition fairly closely, and I am unable to see any such provision.

Could you or Mr Green please clarify the situation urgently, as I am sure a great many members of the public will wish to comment, if indeed there is no provision for this item in the budget.

Thank you for your help. Yours Sincerely,

Lisa Townsend

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107 River St Murwillumbah 0412699921

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POTTSVILLE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC



PO BOX 56 POTTSVILLE BEACH 2489 (http://pottsvilleca.googlepages.com)



The General Manager Tweed Shire Council MURWILLUMBAH	TWEED STILLE COUNCIL
Attention also to :	1 2 MAY 2009
Troy Green Cr Barry Longland Cr Dot Holdom	BRACK, P

Re: Community Consultative Process of the Draft Management Plan 2009-2012

Our Association representatives wish to thank the top management team of Council for the opportunity to attend last Tuesday's consultation. It was cordial and open.

The ability to pre-examine a draft budget and how it may affect our local area forms part of the importance of a community participation into the planning process.

If perhaps this is the time to respectfully suggest that for any of these consultation formats for the future, we would have preferred a more appropriate small grouping of local Associations, perhaps in our case only Hastings Point, Pottsville, and Wooyung, that could attend a clean cut time slot of say 30 minutes, that would have been sufficient for us to put our case and leave our submissions with the chairman, and depart.

We trust Council received sufficient public input via the local Associations.

Yours faithfully

Mike Wells, President.

1K/UL

Page 1 of 1

2052071

From: Troy Green [TGreen@tweed.nsw.gov.au] Sent: Friday, 15 May 2009 1:52:07 PM To: Kerrie McConnell; Paula Telford; Peter Brack Subject: FW: Playground Fencing - Management Plan Inquiry

Kerrie - Please register and associate to incoming correspondence

From: Troy Green Sent: Friday, 15 May 2009 1:51 PM To: 'lisat@y7mail.com' Subject: Playground Fencing - Management Plan Inquiry

Council Ref: ECM 2045838 & 2048940

Dear Lisa,

In response to your email dated 6 May 2009, addressed to the general manager, concerning the draft budget which is currently on public exhibition I advise the following:

- Council at its meeting 16 December 2008 resolved to undertake an audit of the Shire's playgrounds.
- In response to Council's resolution of 16 December 2008 an audit process was commenced. At the
 announcement of a State Coroners enquiry into the death of Travis McCarron at a park in Russell Way,
 Banora Point, it was considered prudent to delay the audit until after the enquiry as the Coroners
 recommendations may have altered the framework or assumptions under which an audit would be conducted.
- The enquiry was not finalised in April as per the allocated timeframe. Another sitting has been scheduled for August 2009. With consideration to this delay it was decided to proceed with the playground audit without further delay and accordingly, a risk management company has been instructed to commence the audit.
- The 2009/2010 Draft Budget does not have an allocation for any provision of safety fences for children's
 playgrounds in the Tweed Shire. It is intended that Council would make a decision on the matter following
 consideration of the final audit report on the playgrounds.

I trust this information will assist you as you consider any submissions you may make to the draft management plan and budget.

Regards

Troy Green



From: Jenny Morgan (JMorgan@tweed.nsw.gov.au) Sent: Thursday, 14 May 2009 2:27:06 PM To: Kim Radnedge Subject: FW: Kim - Please register and task to Patrick Knight. Thanks Ms Jenny Morgan Executive Secretary Tweed Shire Council PO Box 816 Murwillumbah 2484 AUSTRALIA Phone: (02) 6670 2612 Fax: (02) 6670 2425 Email: jmorgan@tweed.naw.gov.au +++++Original Message-----From David Oxenham Sent: Thursday, 16 May 2009 2:23 PM To: Patrick Knight Co: Jenny Morgan Subject: FW: Pat can you please respond and co Cr Holdom. Jenny please register. DO -----Original Message-----From: Bot Heldom Sont: Thorsday, 14 May 2009 1:58 DM To: David Oxenham Subject: FW: Bello again David, Thought 1'd pop this one through as well. Do you want staff to respond? Can I be included in the response if staff are to respond? Thank you. Regards Dot H From: John meettens [mailto:john.meettens@optusnet.com.au] Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2009 Gl:53 PM AUS Eastern Standard Time To: Dot Holdom Subject: dear councilior.) am attempting to determine the progress of budgeted drainage works for elamera avenue, pottsville, the area was extensively floodod in 2005, and also raw sewage was pumped onto the street This year's budget allowed for \$750000 for drainage for the area and I am inquiring relits progress

I am writing to you because I cannot find the works committee details anywhere, perhaps because of health issues the health committee m.

regards

john moertens 55 elanora av pottsville

Doc No: 2052219

From: Lisa Townsend [lisat@y7mail.com] Sent: Monday, 18 May 2009 2:54:58 PM To: Corporate Email Subject: Budget submission re Fencing Children's Playgrounds

2053000

Dear Sir/Madam,

I understand from Troy Green that it has been difficult to formulate a policy for fencing children's playgrounds, in the current legal circumstances. However I am still concerned that when you are able to have a plan of action, there will be no money available to pay for it.

Surely provision could be made for carrying out the recommendations and safety audit results, immediately that they are available? I have spoken to hundreds of people about this issue, and everyone wants toddler proof fencing for playgrounds in the Shire. There is a clear community expectation that election promises will be kept and playgrounds provided with safety fences in the near future.

I would respectfully request that a sum of money (say \$100 000) is put aside for immediate possible action on this issue. Putting it off will have very adverse effects on the lives of young children and their families. I would not support the removal of any childrens current facilities.

Yours Faithfully,

Lisa Townsend 107 River St Murwillumbah

Knox Park Safety Fence Committee

Need a Holiday? Win a \$10,000 Holiday of your choice. Enter now...

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From: Lisa Townsend [lisat@y7mail.com]
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2009 2:26:16 PM
To: Corporate Email
Subject: Re: Budget Submission - Cemetery fees

205.3046

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you in regard to the cemetery fees that you are proposing to raise.

I would object to any raising of the fees for the burial of a child.

When I buried my baby daughter in 2004, I was in the fortunate circumstance of money not being a big issue for me, as I was older and more established than most families around here. However for a lot of families to find an extra \$200 at such a time, may mean weeks of overtime for a parent, at a time when the family does not need any extra stress. Many of these children would also have young brothers and sisters who would also suffer extra stress because of this. Most marriage's break down after the loss of a child, and putting an additional burden on grieving families, to save maybe one thousand dollars a year for the council, is hardly worth it.

Parents do not send their children away for burial to save money, so I don't think you will attract extra demand by not putting this fee up.

If you want to do anything about this section of the cemetery, could you please do something about the "vases" on offer. At the moment they are branded unpainted PVC pipe with a spike on them. For about \$20 for a couple of cans of gold/silver spray paint- and an hour of a staff members time, they could be much, much nicer. At the moment they are an insult to our loved ones. This action would be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

Lisa Townsend 107 River St Murwillumbah Phone 0412 699921

Need a Holiday? Win a \$10,000 Holiday of your choice. Enter now..

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From: Lisa Townsend [lisat@y7mail.com] Sent: Monday, 18 May 2009 3:17:07 PM To: Corporate Email Subject: Budget Submission - wish support Jenny Hayes & Team Koala - agree we should have a koala plan of management

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to support Jenny Hayes and Team Koala in their submission. I agree that we should have a Koala Plan of Management for the Tweed Shire. I would support any budgetary measures to facilitate this happening.

Helping the koalas is urgent and this issue has widespread community support. I once had to argue in a high school debate "that we should drill the Great Barrier Reef", and I have to say this koala issue is like finally being on the easy side of the debate. From 90 years old to nine year old, people want our Tweed Koalas to survive, especially with so much development expected. This can only happen with a strong Plan of Management in place.

Yours Faithfully,

Lisa Townsend 107 River St Murwillumbah 0412699921

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20/5/2009

The General Manager, Tweed Shire Council, Murwillumbah, NSW.,

Dear Sir.

Re 2009/12 Draft Management Plan.

When the Draft 7 Year Plan was first raised by the Administrators, Australia along with many other parts of the World were experiencing a period of growth and prosperity, we all know how this has unfortunately changed, and I therefore feel Serious consideration should be given to the method of charging for these special increases from year to year above the normal Government increases.

If Rates increases are required for these projects, to improve our Shire facilities, then this special cost should be borne by all Ratepayers on an equal basis, the current system of adding it to normal raisings and charging on the valuation basis, is now placing a very unreasonable burden on a great many of us aged people who have resided in the area and payed rates here for many years. Many in this area I feel can expect increases in Rates of perhaps 25% or more if projected increases are approved. We need to realise these increases carry over to the next year. So if we fund all this revenue on this current basis, we will be paying this years increase again next year and so on,I have yet to see increases taken off.

Perhaps there is some Government Regulation preventing this action, we all pay same Garbage, Sewerage and Water Rates, to share those costs why not when we have these Special Increases. I am certainly not against Rate increases for worthwhile Projects for the Shire, but feel we should wear them more evenly. With a reported 40% being on the minimum Rate bracket seems high when we are all basically living in a similar environment.

I respectively request that you inform Our Councillors of my views and I shall appreciate your advices in due course. My wife and I have been ratepayers of the shire for over 30 years.

Yours faithfully,

2 C. Warthy

N.C.Manthey. 10 Olga St, Kingscliff, NSW 2487

Noel Charles .

RATES - LEVYING BUDGET MANAGEMENT PLAN TWEED STURE COLINEAR PLAN DOC No. RECT: 2 1 MAY 2009 ASSIGNED TO BALOWININ

BRACK, P

Copy sent to Chery 1 Jackson.

DataWorks Document Number: 2055861

Submission to TSC Management Plan and Budget by Caldera Environment Centre

The question is asked: Can a government effectively act as both promoter and as the guardian of public interest issues such as protection of the environment, ensuring safety and shielding the taxpayer against unnecessary financial risk? ... The answer is negative There is a conflict of interest for the government here and as a result accountability suffers, the borderlines of public and private involvement [need to be redrawn], shifting risk from the public to the private sector and establishing a substantially clearer role for government by means of the arm's length principle and by shifting government involvement from project promotion to formulation and auditing public interest objectives to be met by megaprojects [or rallies].

Issues and Challenges

Issues placing the aquatic ecosystems under increased pressures are:

D Population growth is increasing the demand for water extraction,

□ Urbanisation is increasing the volumes of stormwater and wastewater discharged into waterways,

Nutrient runoff and soil erosion from rural lands and

 \square Historic patterns of land use in the shire that have created a general trend towards habitat loss in the

lowlands and coastal plains and contributed to weed infested regrowth in bushland areas.

Pressures on the Natural Environment

Waterway Health

Stormwater pollution:

Sewage effluent discharge,

□ Town water extraction and irrigation,

Stream bank erosion and vegetation

degradation and

Acid sulphate soil runoff.

- Population growth is identified as an, 'issue and challenge' in terms of managing the natural environment, especially aquatic ecosystems. When can we expect from council some idea of a maximum sustainable population figure for the Tweed?
- 2) Given that urbanization is increasing, and has been identified as a contributing factor to the degradation of the waterways, what concrete steps has council taken (other than statements of intent, plans or other documents eg. water sensitive urban design) to limit the impact of new urban areas,?
- 3) Why should existing residents pay thousands of dollars per ratepayer to compensate the costs of new developments? The services of many rural ratepayers are not as good today as they were thirty years ago (eg. Maintenance to end of rural roads).

Biodiversity

□ Habitat loss associated with:

-Clearing of native vegetation.

-Invasive environmental weeds,

□ Predation on native fauna by cats, dogs and foxes,

Competition from pest animals and

Altered fire patterns.

Submission to TSC Management Plan and Budget by Caldera Environment Centre

Coastal protection

Coastal flooding and inundation,

Coastal erosion and recession hazards,

□ Invasive coastal environmental weeds and

Urban expansion and encroachment.

Sustainability

 End-point greenhouse gas emissions associated with vehicle usage and electricity consumption and
 Embodied greenhouse gas emissions associated with the consumption of goods and services.

- 1) Biodiversity/Habitat loss, if TSC is concerned then why does it still promote coastal developments?
- 2) Coastal erosion and recession what about potential impacts of sea level rise from climate change, given that IPCC has predicted 1m sea level rise by the end of the century? NB: This is a *conservative* prediction, other studies predict a rise of up to 15m
- 3) How feasible is it to control pets or feral animals given that many are naturalised?
- 4) Invasive weeds? Council has a brochure, but that's about it. What proactive steps are being taken?
- 5) Urban expansion is listed as a threat to coastal habitats, why then does council not do more to resist development in coastal areas and inappropriate sensitive locations (eg. Red soil)? The words sound like council is concerned, but the actions tell a different story.
- 6) Sustainability These two items are relevant to climate change, sustainability is about more than carbon pollution. CO₂ emissions are an issue that people who are concerned about sustainability already take into account. How are these issues being brought to the attention of the wider community?
 - a. Given that mass consumption is a direct cause of Greenhouse gases (in terms of supply of raw materials, production and shipping of items), can TSC lead the way by creating a sustainability initiative NOT predicated on further consumption? Eg. "buy energy saving globes (which are full of mercury and need to be treated as hazardous waste), buy energy and water saving appliances, buy a compost bin, buy a worm farm, buy whatever else we tell you is needed."
- 7) Also, there ought to be more emphasis on the promotion of local food crops, it is noted above that agriculture is receding as a sector of the economy, given the concern about sustainability, there needs to more emphasis given to promoting local production.

Priority projects Targets 2009/10 Budget Upgrade of Ambrose Brown Park, Pottsville 2009 \$500,000 Upgrade of Jack Bayliss Park Kingscliff 2009 \$300,000 South Tweed Skate Park landscaping 2009 \$250,000 Jack Evans Boatharbour Infrastructure project 2012 \$5,000,000

A Total of \$6 million is to be spent on beautification of parks, etc. This dwarfs the money to be spent elsewhere, for example sustainable agriculture is to receive only \$20 000 in 2010. A sustainable planner will receive over \$74 000

All environmental work and sustainable initiatives will receive only \$2.4 million It is good that so much is being spent on the environment and sustainability but we believe that the priorities are skewed in favour of large monumental projects, where the real issue is environmental and social sustainability.

A further \$1.77 million is being spent on water improvement projects, the majority of that (\$839 000) will concern sewerage overflow abatement. Some of this money also includes revegetation around the water plants at Tyalgum

It can be said that approx. \$4.2 million is being spent on environment and water initiatives.

Annual reused effluent is 10% can we expect this to be raised? This should be a priority instead of raising dam heights.

Infrastructure Action Plan

To prepare sustainable social, environmental and financial strategic plans, policy and infrastructure specifications aligned to Council's Vision, Mission and Charter to ensure capacity availability and essential infrastructures can be provided prior to the approval of development whilst maintaining and improving existing levels of services. Infrastructure planning is a major component of growth management for both existing and future communities. Urban expansion creates a need for additional infrastructure and improvements to transport, water, and sewage infrastructures, drainage, flood controls along with community facilities. Council is also obligated to provide a range of public amenities and services in a timely manner. Council is implementing an Integrated Water Cycle Management strategy to secure a sustainable water supply for future demand needs and reuse options.

No mention of sustainability or environment, this seems to have no connection with the statements that are made in preceding sections about the threats posed by urbanization to the natural environment, particularly on the coast.

What does the TSC define as sustainable growth? The statement is made several times but there is little substance to it. Firstly, there is little money being put towards it and secondly there is no action happening on the ground, developments today are more unsustainable than ever.

p. 43 Council considers all social, economic and environmental aspects in the decisionmaking process. Council must balance competing interests openly, and fairly while upholding legislation and having regard to local community values.

These are **nice words**, but the Repco rally would contradict this statement, not to mention several other development proposals within the shire.

Conclusion

While we respect and admire the progress that the Tweed Shire Council has made in previous years we ask the council to be courageous and do more than what is the bare necessity to meet regulatory requirements. We fully acknowledge that TSC responsibilities are vast and we do not mean to criticise the work that is being done to maintain the current assets of the Shire. We contest the priorities assigned in the budget to park maintenance and beautification of coastal areas and the comparative neglect of rural areas. Natural assets are of equal, if not greater value than material assets, our natural assets will live into he future (if we choose to look after them now), while buildings and roads will have only a limited lifespan (check out Mt Warning Dam).

With the post-oil world on the horizon serious steps need to be taken by council to prepare for these inevitable energy shocks. This can be achieved through greater localisation of production and encouraging the nascent sustainable initiatives within the community, which up till now have been self funded and self motivated, due to a feeling of despair at the current inertia witnessed in our political systems. Sustainability can be enhanced, also, through greater public participation in decision making, for example by involving community in decision making rather than noting concerns and proceeding with the project anyways. This would lead to fewer developments that were contrary to the sentiments of the residents (which, typically are unsustainable).

The Council is our community leader; we want them to show us the way rather than us having to tell them what is necessary. A first major, courageous step towards greater sustainability would be announcing a forum to discuss the maximum population of the Tweed Shire, this could be done in partnership with other regional councils. A second step would be to foster a system of sustainable and ecologically sound community values (we do acknowledge that council already does do this through the catchment model, biodiversity and river grants and the newly established natural resource management unit). But we advocate, always, for more, this then is the growth of the future, this can be a reinvigoration of Council's motto – In pursuit of (environmental and sustainable) excellence!

Prepared on behalf of the Caldera Environment Centre by, Samuel K. Dawson BAS (Hons) May 2009



MURWILLUMBAH THEATRE COMPANY INC

ABN: 98 974 702 064

P.O. Box 1068 Murwillumbah N.S.W 2484

General Manager, Tweed Shire Council PO Box 816 Murwillumbah, NSW 2484

21 May 2009

Dear Sir,

FEES & CHARGES. BUDGET MANAGEMENT PLAN E-MIBAH-FILE NO. C.I HIRE RECT: 2 2 MAY 2009 ASSIGNED TO BALDWIN, N HARDCOPY ____INLAGE BRACK, P

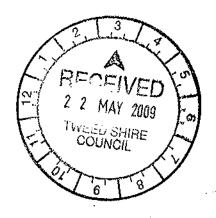
The Use of the Murwillumbah Auditorium by Murwillumbah Theatre Company- A Response to Proposed Amendments to the Fees and Charges.

Please find attached a submission prepared by the Murwillumbah Theatre Company in response to the proposed Fees and Charges for 2009-10. Should you require any further explanation or material in respect of this submission please do not hesitate to contact me on 6672 2842.

Yours Sincerely

R. Crossan.

Robyn Crossan President





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The Use of the Murwillumbah Auditorium by Murwillumbah Theatre Company- A Response to Proposed Amendments to the Fees and Charges.

Introduction

Murwillumbah Theatre Company (MTC) has enjoyed a special relationship with Council in respect of the use of the Auditorium. Council has provided MTC with

- a flat rate of \$10 for the use of the auditorium for rehearsals, bump in and out, and set construction (3 hours duration)
- a charge of 10% of door takings for the use of the auditorium for any performance
- the use of a room for storage of costumes, props and equipment adjoining the up-stairs dressing room

MTC does not have a permanent base of its own for its activities, although over many years countless endeavours have been made to achieve this. Therefore the relationship with Council, and Council staff (particularly the caretaker of the Auditorium) are greatly appreciated. As will be argued later these arrangements have been mutually advantageous.

However, in order to provide transparency, equity and administrative convenience in the hiring of the Auditorium, Council is proposing to amend the fees and charges for the use of the Auditorium, as follows:

- Performance \$221
- Rehearsals and other uses of the Auditorium \$27 an hour

MTC understands the reasons for this and that this is not a revenue raising exercise. No doubt other organisations see the current arrangements as preferential treatment and wish for similar arrangements. However, MTC consider that the current arrangements benefit Council and the Tweed community. MTC has concerns that the proposed fees and charges will inhibit the type of productions and use of the Auditorium by MTC and thereby restrict the opportunity for the local community to experience 'good' live theatre. This will be to the disadvantage of MTC, Council and the broader community.

Background information about MTC

It is doubtful if the community appreciates to work that goes into MTC's programme, and therefore set out below is a little background information on the Company.

• MTC is a 'not for profit' community theatre. It provides cultural opportunities for the Tweed community through live theatre and allied activities. The schools matinee of the annual pantomime provides the first experience for some children of live theatre. The current production, *Ruby Moon*, is a HSC text this year. This will provide local senior students an opportunity to study the play at first hand, an opportunity they do not usually have available

in this part of NSW. Students are anticipated to travel from macros Tweed Shire as well as Byron Shire.

- The majority of the funding for MTC activities is from door-takings. Wherever possible grants are sought to supplement these takings. This has included grants from the SALT fund from Council, and Work for the Dole. These grants are greatly appreciated and acknowledged.
- All productions are undertaken on a volunteer basis. Considerable time and effort is put into each production (both time and money) by members. Appendix 1 sets out a typical production schedule; and Appendix 2 budgets for recent productions
- MTC provides equitable access to all community members who participate in productions. All costume, props and scenery costs are borne by MTC. However, for insurance purposes participants are required to join MTC (\$15 a year).
- Many members have considerable skills and experience in theatre (acting, directing, costuming, writing etc). In addition to providing the basis for good theatre productions, this provides a considerable resource for training.
- MTC provides training for community members (including young people, disabled) in a wide range of skills. In addition to acting these include public speaking, lighting, sound, publicity, script writing, costuming, set construction to name a few.
- MTC programme includes 4/5 productions each year
 - o Over the last 12/18 months this has included (with numbers in the audience)
 - Money and Friends (606)
 - 'Allo 'Allo (934)
 - A Roomful of Magic (377)
 - Thank Goodness You Are Here (200 one night only)
 - Ruby Moon
 - This represents a more diverse range of works than other local companies (eg Neptune Theatre Co only stage musicals, Tugun Theatre Co 'who done it's', Tweed Theatre Co musicals.
 - This programme is being enjoyed by increasing numbers.
- MTC has established an extensive collection of wardrobe, props and theatre equipment which is available to other groups at little or no charge.
- The quality of productions by MTC requires a great deal of coordinated effort to achieve, as well as resources. By way of example set out below are the costs associated with MTC generally, and also in respect of recent productions:
 - o Insurance
 - o Royalties
 - o Publicity
 - o Hall hire
- MTC has assisted Council directly in staging costume walks and re-enactments for the centenary celebrations of local government in the Tweed.
- MTC is possibly the greatest user of the Auditorium.

Response to Audience Surveys

- Ages of audience members generally range from teenagers through to those over 60, with a large proportion in the age range over 50
- Pantomimes attract whole families and young children from 2 to 12
- Over the last 5 or so years audience numbers have increased considerably with numbers per performance averaging 50 to 133
- Audience members come from a very wide area, with predominance from the Tweed (in particular Murwillumbah and surrounding villages, the coastal areas and Tweed Heads) and the Gold Coast, including the northern areas such as Southport. Patrons also regularly travel from the Ballina and Lismore areas and coastal towns such as Ocean Shores and Evans Head
- Large number of regular audience members attend almost every performance. Also as numbers have increased over the last few years, surveys from each production show around 30-40% of first time audience members.
- Comments about performances are overwhelmingly very positive. The few negative comments
 have generally been about sound and MTC has taken this on board with the expensive hiring of
 personal microphones for our next production, *Ruby Moon* as well as overhead microphones for
 other productions
- Some quotes from audience members

"Well cast, great sets and costumes and excellent direction" (Money and Friends, May 2008)

"Pleasing to see so many members of the community so involved and enjoying themselves" ('Allo 'Allo, March 2009)

"Very impressed. Brought back some great memories. Keep up the good work" ('Allo 'Allo, March 2009)

" Very entertaining. Some great talent in the Tweed. Thank you for a great evening at an excellent price" (*Thank Goodness You Are Here, Feb 2009*)

Local performance space

Other than the Auditorium itself, there are no decent performance spaces in the local district. There are no longer stages at the clubs. Multi-purpose buildings are not suitable for theatre. MTC finds it very difficult to get alternative rehearsal and performance space that is affordable and comparable to the Auditorium. It is generally accepted that the professionalism of a production is due to rehearsing in the performance venue.

Indirect off-shoots from MTC productions

There are indirect but no less significant off-shoots from the activities of MTC

- Many patrons come from outside the town, often including a meal to provide income to the town
- Productions have attracted 'work for the dole' grants and provide the means of further training for local community members in set design, construction and painting etc

Council is not subsidising our activities but contributing towards the cultural development of the community

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Cultural Development in the Tweed

MTC is a major contributor to the cultural fabric of the Tweed valley. The importance of cultural development in the Shire has been recognised by Council over many years. This has been recognised in a number of activities: the development of the Regional Art Gallery, the appointment of a Cultural Development Officer, the City of the Arts, and, of course, Council's current support for MTC.

The draft Management Plan details Council's nominated responsibilities in respect of cultural development in the following terms, "The Social Plan establishes the strategic role of human services, networking and community capacity building. Council facilitates services and support of the culturally disadvantaged .. and general community. Council sponsors the development of culturally minded and heritage aware communities .. and is responsible for ..." To monitor the effective implementation of this policy the draft Management Plan identifies relevant key performance indicators, as follows:

- Development of partnerships
- Cultural Arts project development/participants/audience attendance.

The arrangements for the use of the auditorium by MTC and the resultant programme of productions goes considerably towards Council achieving those indicators

Implications of the proposed fees and charges

MTC is not just about a bunch of locals who want to but on amateur theatricals. No theatre group, professional or community, survives without external financial support. The support currently provided by Council, as described above, contributes considerably towards the success of MTC.

As already detailed MTC provides quality theatrical experiences for the Murwillumbah community, which go significantly towards Council meeting its obligations to cultural development in the Shire. One of the reasons for the success of MTC's programmes is the 'home' provided by the auditorium, and the arrangements for the use of that 'home'. To bring a production together requires a great deal of rehearsal and preparation, and the access to the Auditorium provided by Council for MTC present allows it to ensure each production is of the highest quality. It takes 10 weeks of rehearsals, and set and lighting preparation to get a production on the stage. This takes a great deal of commitment.

Any significant increase in the costs of the use of the Auditorium, as represented by the draft fees and charges, will

- Inhibit that preparation and consequently the quality of performance and consequently the reputation of MTC.
- Restrict the choice of productions to those that will guarantee 'putting bums on seats' to ensure that costs are covered. MTC acknowledges that any production must be economically realistic but this would discourage more 'adventurous' productions.

Murwillumbah people like light farces. With the benefit of current arrangements for the use of the Auditorium MTC has taken some risks in its programme, as follows:

- Money and Friends whilst this turned out to be a commercial success it was not the usual production and attracted a different patronage. Success also due to the ability to access the auditorium
- Thank goodness You Are Here small charge, one-off and as much about providing training as to providing live theatre
- o Ruby Moon HSC text and our students do not get access to theatre as do 'city' kids

This approach to the programme has been a success and broadened the cultural experience for the local community

Moreover, the Audirorium is currently being upgraded and MTC likes to think that it provides Council with the opportunity to showcase the benefits of the upgrades. By all means bring in commercial productions when available, but MTC has an on-going programme of 4-5 productions each year.

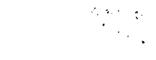
Recommendation

MTC would like to continue to work with Council to encouraging cultural development in the Shire. The most effective means of achieving this is by

- dealing with the use by MTC of the Auditorium on the basis of an entire production, rather than individual components charged hourly (set preparation, rehearsal, bump in, performance, bump out); and
- continuing to charge MTC a percentage of door takings.

These arrangements are put forward not on the basis of a 'special deal for MTC, but a reflection of the contribution MTC makes towards the cultural development of the tweed ; and how that contribution may best be delivered to the local community. They are based on the acknowledgement of the current track record of MTC. To ensure that standards are maintained it is further recommended that

- they be renewed every 3 or 5 years enabling both parties to review their effectiveness
- Council nominate an Officer to work with MTC on the annual programme.



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CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT - GENERAL SOCIAL RAN BUDGET MANAGEMENT RAN. TWHED SHIRE COUNCIL TWHED SHIRE COUNCIL THE NO. MUSEUM - GENERAL DOC. NO. 2056393. RICD 22 MAY 2009 NSIGNED TO BALDWININ MAD COPY INTAGE M BRACK 1 P

20th May 2009

The General Manager Tweed Shire Council PO Box 816 MURWILLUMBAH NSW 2484

SUBMISSION RE. 2009/2912 DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Dear Sir,

I submit the attached Comment on the 2009/2012 Draft Management Plan/Social Action Plan/Community and Cultural Services/C010/ Cultural Development Museum for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,

render

Martin S.H. Jansen in de Wal B.A. M.Ed 52/192 Piggabeen Road TWEED HEADS WEST NSW 2485

Phone: 07 5599 7193 Email: mjansen1@bigpond.com

This submission addresses the aim of the Social Plan as stated on p. 19: "Deliver quality community services that are responsive to the needs of the community and <u>assist each individual to realise their full potential</u>"

The specific matter addressed is the provision by Council of opportunities to individual citizens to offer their services as volunteers, i.e. of their own free will and without any expectation of financial reward.

Furthermore, the focus of this submission is on older citizens no longer in full-time employment who have a capacity and a desire to contribute to the Tweed River Regional Museum, as established by the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the three Historical Societies and the Council in July 2004.

The definition of "volunteering" used in this submission is that of Volunteering Australia in "A National Agenda on Volunteering":

"an activity which takes place through not-for-profit organisations or projects and is undertaken:

- to be of benefit to the community,
- of the volunteer's own free will and without coercion,
- for no financial payment, and

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in designated volunteer positions only"

The aim of this submission is to assist Council to strengthened the Draft Management Statement in those areas which relate to volunteer activity and a number of detailed suggestions are made to give effect to this aim.

This submission addresses the aim of the Social Action Plan as stated: "Deliver quality community services that are responsive to the needs of the community and <u>assist each individual to realise their full potential</u>"

The specific matter addressed in this submission is the provision by Council of opportunities to individual citizens to offer their services as volunteers, i.e. of their own free will and without any expectation of financial reward, to realise their full potential.

The focus of this submission is on older citizens no longer in full-time employment who have a capacity and a desire to contribute to the Tweed River Regional Museum, established by the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the three Historical Societies and the Council in 2004.

The definition of "volunteering" used in this submission is that of Volunteering Australia in "A National Agenda on Volunteering":

"an activity which takes place through not-for-profit organisations or projects and is undertaken:

- to be of benefit to the community,
- of the volunteer's own free will and without coercion,
- for no financial payment, and
- in designated volunteer positions only"

The aim of this submission is to assist Council to clarify and strengthen the Draft Management Statement in those parts of the Statement that relate to the Museum and more particularly those that relate to volunteer activity in the operations of the Museum.

A number of detailed suggestions are made to give effect to this aim. These suggestions have been text boxed as shown here.

Although, as mentioned, the Social Action Plan targets the delivery of "quality community services", the Draft Management Plan does not provide any indicators of quality except by inference from quantities. This submission necessarily confines itself to the numbers given but "more does not necessarily mean better" as we all know.

The following documents and statements have been consulted in preparing this submission:

A National Agenda on Volunteering published by Volunteering Australia

United Nations Universal Declaration on Volunteering

Tweed River Regional Museum Strategic Plan

Constitutions of Tweed Heads Historical Society Inc Friends of the Tweed River Regional Museum Inc

Tweed Shire Council Draft Management Plan 2009-2012

Tweed Shire Council Draft Budget 2009-2010

"Museum to preserve joint history" Article in the "Tweed Weekly", Jan 18-24, 2009 [Copy attached as Appendix]

The Draft Management Plan lists five Action Plans.

One of these is the Social Action Plan which has as one of its aims, "to promote a sense of ... community cohesiveness" through the delivery of "human services" to various groups and to "the general community".

The Plan classifies the Museum as a Cultural Development aimed at "the development of culturally minded and heritage aware communities". However the same could be said of the Libraries and Art Gallery.

The Plan classifies the Libraries and the Art Gallery as Community Developments contributing to "community cohesiveness". However the same could be said of the Museum

It would seem more appropriate to classify the Museum, along with the Art Gallery and the Libraries, as a Community Development, or alternatively to classify all three as Cultural Developments. There is nothing in the Plan to support the distinction between the Art Gallery and the Libraries as Community Developments and the Museum as a Cultural Development and the terms have not been defined.

Concept Analysis.

The Museum can be seen as -

- 1. A physical entity housing and displaying a collection of objects, artifacts and records of geological, historical, sociological, political, economic, etc interest.
- 2. An organisation of people employed, whether in a paid or unpaid capacity, to preserve and exhibit the collection.
- 3. A community of people dedicated to the establishment, maintenance and development of the Museum – donors, researchers, supporters, volunteers and visitors.

The Draft Management Plan identifies a Quadruple Bottom Line of objectives, indicators, measures and forecast targets for each of the various developments listed.

For the Cultural Development Museum, the objectives are (briefly) "promote equity and access", "invest in existing communities and plan for future growth" and "distribute available resources equally"

For the Museum the indicators include:

"400 Museum memberships and volunteers", "3120 visitors to the exhibition programs" and "training for 30 volunteers"

X.X.X.X.X

1. Membership.

It is unclear what is meant by "Museum membership".

One common meaning of the term "membership" is membership of a club or similar association. The Museum is not an "association" which people can apply to join by paying the appropriate subscription. It has not been registered as an association, nor has it (to date) advertised itself as one.

There is no suggestion in either the Strategic Plan or the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the three Historical Societies and the Council in 2004 that the Regional Museum would be set up as an <u>association</u>, over and above the three existing incorporated associations (the three Historical Societies), nor is there any indication that a member of those associations would be able or expected to join this association by paying a subscription in addition to the subscription he or she is already paying for membership of one of the existing associations.

The Strategic Plan seems to suggest that membership of one of the then (in 2004) three existing incorporated associations (the three Historical Societies) will automatically confer "membership" of the Museum but the Plan is less than clear about the meaning of the terms "member" and "volunteer" and the confusion between the two terms has its genesis in that document.

The setting up last year of the Friends of the Museum has further complicated the issue of "membership" of the Museum by adding another incorporated association associated with the Museum. Apart from an initial offer of automatic membership of the Friends for members of the Historical Societies for one year, in future anyone with a commitment to the Museum may have to pay for membership of both the Friends and one of the Historical Societies to demonstrate this commitment.

By law none of the four incorporated associations can claim to represent more than their own members and membership of these associations therefore does not and cannot constitute membership of the Museum. It seems clear that the Museum does not have any members in the sense normally associated with membership of associations.

It is suggested that the term "membership of the Museum" be defined to be separate and distinct from membership of one of the four incorporated and voluntary associations currently associated with the Museum or any other association, incorporated or otherwise, that may in future be, or wish to be, associated with the Museum.

The Museum is a Council-owned and operated facility, whilst the four incorporated associations currently associated with the Museum are separate and distinct voluntary bodies with their own constitutions and a membership not limited to residents of the Tweed Shire.

Any attempt to conflate membership of the Museum with membership of the four current or any other future associations is bound to cause confusion and could pose a threat to the legal and constitutional rights of members of the incorporated associations guaranteed by the NSW Associations Incorporation Act 1984

It is suggested that the phrase "Museum memberships and volunteers" be amended to read "Museum volunteers"

A common meaning of the term "membership" is with reference to membership of an institution physically located in an establishment of some sort, for instance a school, hospital or shire office. The Museum is physically located in three different locations in the Shire. Each represents an institution which was originally established as separate from the other two but is now part of the one institution, the Regional Museum, "operating", in the words of the Strategic Plan, "as a single entity" under the control of Council.

2. Employment of volunteers.

Membership of institutions usually comprises a number of <u>staff</u> providing services and a number of <u>clients/customers</u> using the services provided by the staff, for instance teachers and students, doctors/nurses and patients, shire officers and ratepayers. The Regional Museum currently has one paid Council employee, the Senior Curator, and a small staff of volunteer operators providing research services for students in three different locations as well as providing a tourist service for the general public.

In January this year, the Senior Curator was reported in the local press as stating that "there (are) about 450 volunteers serving shire museums". This contrasts markedly with the repeated assertion in the Strategic Plan's SWOT analysis of each of the three museums of the "threat" posed by "limited volunteer numbers". However these numbers may have increased dramatically since the appointment of the Senior Curator.

It is suggested that the Draft Management Plan identify the services currently provided by the Senior Curator and the team of volunteers under her direction, and make provision for an extension of those services by, for instance, extending the operating hours of the Museum.

It is suggested that there is no need to plan for more volunteers to serve the Museum than currently employed on the available data.

It is suggested that a realistic target figure for volunteer employment in the three existing branches of the Museum would be 400 volunteers.

3. Opportunities to volunteer.

All volunteers currently employed at the three branches of the Museum are members of the relevant Historical Society. However since the Museum is now owned and operated by Council, in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement, there is no longer any need for the societies to provide the volunteers and so membership of a society should not be a requirement for employment as a volunteer. However this does not preclude a member of one of the four associations from volunteering as an individual since the Universal Declaration on Volunteering gives him or her the <u>right</u> to volunteer.

Currently each of the societies has elected to insure its members, although no longer required by law to do so, chiefly to protect those of their members who volunteer their services to the Museum. Now that the volunteers are no longer employed by the societies, there is no need for the societies to insure them or their members generally and the moneys thus saved can be spent on the appropriate historical projects.

It is suggested that, within the guidelines laid down by Council, volunteering for the Museum be open to any member of the Tweed community who is able to offer his or her services and desires to do so.

It is suggested that volunteers employed at the Museum be covered by Council insurance in the same way as any paid or volunteer employed at any other Council facility would be.

3. The older volunteer.

One of the common "weaknesses" identified in the SWOT analysis of the three museums in the Strategic Plan was that of an "aging volunteer base" for two of the museums and "aging members" for the third one. Apart from the patently "ageist" implications of such a statement, it seems a particularly inappropriate reference for volunteers employed by a museum. Naturally people get older and die and other people have to take their place but there is no point in reminding people of this patent fact anymore than of the fact that people become too ill to volunteer.

It would be more to the point, at a time when a growing proportion of people in the Tweed community are over 65, to emphasise the <u>strengths</u> that flow from having more older, wiser and more experienced people in the community than ever before. The problem is surely one of finding suitable employment for these people. Volunteering for institutions such as the Museum is an obvious solution, providing this employment is carefully thought out, sensitively coordinated and properly rewarded.

Lack of sensitivity to the contribution that older people can make seems to be amply illustrated by the comment attributed to the Senior Curator, as reported in the local media, that "the current batch of volunteers (are) in the 'baby boomer' age bracket and younger people (are) not coming forward to help". Such "baby boomers" are now retiring and therefore at the <u>beginning</u> of their useful volunteer employment lives, not at the end of it. These are just the people we are looking for to replace the older generation of pre-boomer age. Many of these newly retired people can expect to live active lives for another twenty years or more thanks to modern medicine and good facilities. Many of them are enthusiastic and keen to volunteer their services. Most of them are in excellent health as can be witnessed on any golf course or at any aquatic centre in the Shire on any day of the week.

Moreover, it is unrealistic to expect people of pre-retirement age to provide daily weekday museum services. This provision will always depend on the employment by Council of paid Museum staff as well as unpaid volunteer staff who are no longer in the paid work force.

The Draft Management Plan does not set a separate target figure of volunteers to be employed but a figure of 400 has been suggested above. This figure is based on the reported assertion by the Senior Curator that there are already 450 volunteers currently employed and the expectation that 10% of these will vacate their position each year.

It is suggested that a concerted effort be made to target newly retired people as potential volunteers to replace current volunteers as these become too old or ill to continue their employment and that a realistic "turn-over" target figure would be 40 or 50 new volunteers a year.

4. Training of volunteers.

The Draft Management Plan sets a training target of 30 volunteers but this is clearly inadequate in relation to the 450 volunteers already employed in the three Museums, according to the Senior Curator (as reported in the local media), unless, as seems unlikely, all of these volunteers are already adequately trained.

If the current volunteers need training or re-training, the target figure of 30 trained volunteers means that it would take fifteen years to train even just the currently employed ones let alone any future ones.

Ideally only trained volunteers are employed in something like a museum but in a less than ideal world having one in three trained is probably more realistic, providing the untrained ones are properly supervised by a trained volunteer or paid member of staff.

The assertion that all citizens have a right to volunteer does not imply that an organisations does not have a right to select its volunteers any more than that the right to work prevents an employer from rejecting an applicant on grounds appropriate to that employment, including lack of training or skill for the kind of job applied for.

It is suggested that a target figure of at least 100 trained volunteers is realistic, allowing one trained volunteer for every three untrained volunteers currently employed, priority to be given to those volunteers already employed who have an expected "volunteer life expectancy" of three years or more.

No new volunteers should be employed until they have satisfactorily completed the required period of training and have satisfied the set objectives of the training course, endorsed by the Senior Curator.

To maintain quality Museum services, all volunteers should have access to refresher courses and other forms of in-service training as directed by the Senior Curator.

5. The Museum Community.

In as far as the Museum may be said to be a "culturally minded and heritage aware community" (in the words of the Social Action Plan), this community can be said to include the donors, whether of objects and records or of financial support (such as the Friends), the Councilappointed administrators, the volunteer and paid staff, the students and writers using the Museum for research and publications, the members of any voluntary association, including but not only the three historical societies, with an interest in any of the exhibitions mounted by the Museum, not just the historical ones, and the visitors, local, national and international, who provide the core clientele of the Museum.

The Draft Management Plan sets a target of 3,120 visitors to 10 Public Exhibition Programs, based presumably on records of current and past patronage of the three Museums averaged out over a period of time.

It is not clear whether repeat visitors have been separately counted in this figure or whether the figure refers to "visits" rather than visitors.

It is suggested that the Museum community be defined as all those who have shown an interest in the Museum and can therefore be said to be "culturally minded and heritage aware". Indicators of interest include but are not limited to membership of an association linked to the museum by objectives and operations, donations, employment, research and publication, and attendance at exhibitions and events conducted at or under the auspices of the Museum.

It is suggested that a figure of 5,000 members of the Museum community including 3,000 visitors would be a reasonable target.

Although the Draft Management Plan does not attempt to determine any qualities that cannot be quantified, nevertheless many of the targets set for the Museum, such as volunteering and training, have a qualitative dimension which is at least as important as any quantitative aspect.

It is to be hoped that the Council has sufficient means to hand to guarantee that the community services to be provided by the Museum as a community facility are adequate in quality as well as quantity.

6. Future Development of the Museum.

Although the Regional Museum had its genesis in the museums set up by the three historical societies, it would be a mistake to see the Museum as purely a historical museum.

The Mission Statement of the Tweed Heads Historical Society clearly envisages the expansion of the Society into one with much broader objectives than the current historical ones:

"to promote an awareness and understanding of the past, present and future of the Shire through research (and the) integrated presentation of appropriate material in the fields of maritime and local history, the environment and science, technology, industry, design and the arts"

Similarly the Objects of the Friends of the Tweed River Regional Museum "acknowledge the institution of the Museum and its contributory arms, the three historical societies that collectively provided (sic) the assets of the Museum" but clearly they leave the way open for future assets to be provided by other organisations, such assets obviously being of a nature other than historical.

It seems clear from the above that the people currently closest to the institution of the Museum have in mind that the Museum will host exhibition programs focused on the environment, both present and future, on scientific subjects (as in a museum of natural history), on current and projected technological innovations (as in a museum of technology), on current and projected industrial activities of local interest in such areas as sugar cane farming or banana growing (as in a museum of industrial arts) and on the design of every day objects (as in a museum of arts and crafts), the latter obviously overlapping with the objectives of the Tweed River Art Gallery.

The West Tweed Museum currently advertises itself as a Maritime Museum as well as a Historical Museum thus leaving the way open for hosting exhibitions on present and future occupations and developments related to the sea, not just historical ones.

SUMMARY

1. It would seem appropriate to classify the Museum, along with the Art Gallery and the Libraries, as a Community Development, or alternatively to classify all three as Cultural Developments or Community Cultural Developments.

2. It is suggested that the term "membership of the Museum" be defined to be separate and distinct from membership of one of the four incorporated and voluntary associations currently associated with the Museum or any other association, incorporated or otherwise, that may in future be, or wish to be, associated with the Museum.

3. It is suggested that the Museum is a Council-owned and operated community facility like the Tweed River Art Gallery.

4. It is suggested that the four associations currently associated with the Museum are voluntary not-for-profit bodies with their own constitutions and membership.

5. It is suggested that the phrase "Museum memberships and volunteers" in the Draft Plan be amended to read "Museum volunteers"

6. It is suggested that the Draft Management Plan identify the services currently provided by the Senior Curator and the team of volunteers under her direction, and make provision for an extension of those services by, for instance, extending the operating hours of the Museum.

7. It is suggested that a realistic target figure for volunteer employment in the three existing branches of the Museum would be 400.

8. It is suggested that, within the guidelines laid down by Council, volunteering for the Museum be open to any member of the Tweed community who is able to offer his or her services and desires to do so.

9. It is suggested that volunteers employed at the Museum be covered by Council insurance in the same way as any paid or volunteer employed at any other Council facility would be.

SUMMARY

10. It is suggested that a concerted effort be made to target newly retired people as potential volunteers to replace current volunteers as these become too old or ill to continue their employment and that a realistic target figure would be 40 or 50 new volunteers a year.

11. It is suggested that a target figure of 100 trained volunteers is realistic, allowing one trained volunteer for every three untrained volunteers currently employed, priority to be given to those volunteers already employed who have an expected "volunteer life expectancy" of three years or more.

12. It is suggested that no new volunteers should be employed until they have satisfactorily completed the required period of training and have satisfied the set objectives of the training course, endorsed by the Senior Curator.

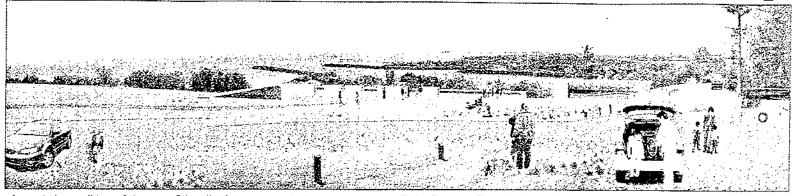
13. It is suggested that to maintain quality Museum services, all volunteers should have access to refresher courses and other forms of inservice training as directed by the Senior Curator.

14. It is suggested that the Museum community be defined as all those who have shown an interest in the Museum and can therefore be said to be "culturally minded and heritage aware". Indicators of interest include but are not limited to membership of an association linked to the museum by objectives and operations, donations, employment, research and publication, and attendance at exhibitions and events conducted at or under the auspices of the Museum.

15. It is suggested that a figure of 5,000 members of the Museum community including 3,000 visitors would be a reasonable target.

End of suggestions

Museum to preserve joint history



An artist's rendition of the new \$4m district museum to be constructed at Point Danger, Tweed Heads. The museum will result from collaboration between the communities of Uki, Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads, together with the Tweed Shire Council.

By John Pickford

NEWS

A NEW multi-million-dollar museum soon to be built into the hillside overlooking Point Danger in Tweed Heads will be a first for NSW.

Its uniqueness stems from the fact that three separate historical societies in the Tweed Shire the Museum of Sydney. - at Uki, Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads --- have signed a memorandum of understanding with council to jointly develop the regional facility.

Tweed Shire Council has committed \$4m towards building the new museum, which will complement rather than replace existing museums.

funding from the NSW Ministry for the Arts for the preparation of a combined strategic plan for the project.

It appointed a senior museum curator, Sally Watterson, who holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts (history) and has primarily worked for the Powerhouse Museum and

Sally said there were about 450 volunteers serving shire museums. They were cemented together by the launch of the Friends of Tweed River Museum group last May.

She said the museum project would be launched in three stages: the planning and construction of the new iconic building in Tweed Heads; the extension of the Murwillumbah

facility in Uki.

"All three societies jointly approached council to find a fundamental safe way to protect facility housed in an old local hall. the collections for the future and, said.

"The new museum and upgrades in Murwillumbah and Uki will be an outcome of that approach.

"The many items at the museums are valuable to the history of the Tweed and their maintenance and preservation is vital."

Sally also stressed that many more historical items were "out there" in the community but could not be called in because existing facilities were full.

The old council offices, which

In 2003, the council received Museum; and enhancement of the suffice as the museum in Murwillumbah, are packed to the ceilings. Uki, though sound, is small, as is the Tweed Heads West Volunteers running those centres basically, the new museum," she fear the less-than-ideal conditions eventually could affect many of the contents, such as papers and photographs.

> Sally said many of the current batch of volunteers were in the "baby boomer" age bracket and vounger people were not coming forward to help. The shire could not rely on the same quality of volunteers to continue into the future, she said.

"We have to grow with the Shire hence the new museum," she said. Continued page 29

COMMENT ON THE <u>CULTURAL</u> 2009/2012 (M Jansen in de Wal) DEVELOPMENT MUSEUM DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

Museum to preserve joint history

From page 6 Sally added: "We have an advisory committee and the first priority is to get the building up and then identify strategic areas for collections. Also, once the museum is built, travelling collections and exhibitions can be accommodated and shown professionally."

She said more and more local councils were coming on board with assistance for historical societies throughout NSW.

Themes on display in the three

existing museums in the shire include sugar, bananas, dairy and timber, as well as river life. None of them are actively collecting right now.

Sally said the museum would be run by council staff. However, she emphasised that the new museum idea came from the community.

"Those 450 volunteers out there, it's their dream," she said. "The fact they got council on board is unique. This is a whole new way of looking at a united view of the shire's history."

January 18 - January 24, 2009. ground Weekly 29.

TWEED BROADWATER VILLAGE

PO Box 8805 GOLD COAST MC QLD 9726 Suite 2C 91 Upton Street Bundall Old 4217 ABN 68 705 153 422 ACN 005 658 159

Phone [07] 5510 3120 Fax [07] 5510 3070

URGENT ATTENTION

Mr David Oxenham Acting General Manager Tweed Shire Council PO Box 816 MURWILLUMBAH NSW 2484

Via fax: 02 6670 2429

SEWERAGE MANAGEMENT - POLICY | PRICIN TWEED SHIRECOUNCIL HEN NO. BUDGET, MANAGEMENT PLAN. DOC. NO. 2056394 NECTO 22 MAY 2009 ASSIGNED TO BALDWIN, N HARD COPY MAKE MARKED BRACK (P

22 May 2009

Dear Mr Oxenham

Re: Objection to Proposed New Sewer Access Charge - Your Ref: 29393

We wish to lodge our objection to the proposed increase in our sewer access charge as advised in your letter dated 20 May 2009.

Firstly we would like to state that we have received no previous information regarding this charge and are extremely disappointed that we have received such short notice to make a submission – in fact we received your letter advising of the change today, 22 May 2009, the closing date for submissions!

For your information Tweed Broadwater Village is a residential home park for the over 50's consisting of 205 sites. Consequently our sewer usage is 'residential' and not 'business'.

If adopted this fee will be passed on to our residents, the majority of whom are elderly and on pensions.

Could you please acknowledge receipt of this letter today by return fax on 07 55103070.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

KEVIN LEE DIRECTOR



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BUDGET/MANAGEMENT	PLAN
SEWELAGE MANAGEMEN TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL FILE NO	
BRACK	

To David Oxenham

21/5/09 Ref: 3414

I received this notice on may 21st giving me 1 day only for comment (unacceptable) no previous notice was received.

The new sewer access charge looks to me to be a 23% increase.

Unacceptable at a time where all small business is hurting.

My building has only 1 water meter. It's water usuage is predominently residential with 1 shop only with water usuage. Other shop has only hand washing.

I object to this increase and wish to have my previous charges reviewed.

Gary Thorpe



Please Quote Council Ref: 3414

Your Ref No: For Enquiries Please Contact:

Telephone Direct (02) 6670 2400

SHIRE

20 May 2009

Mr Gary J Thorpe 25 Tweed Coast Road HASTINGS POINT NSW 2489

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed New Sewer Access Charge 16 Tweed Coast Road CABARITA BEACH NSW 2488

Councils 2009/10 Draft Revenue and Policy Statement, is currently on exhibition for public comment.

A change that you may be unaware of is the impact on your business with the proposed charging process for sewer access to comply with the Department of Water and Energy Sewerage best-practice pricing guidelines.

Based upon your businesses water flow capacity and water usage for 2008/09 the estimated charge for 2009/10 would be \$625.37 compared to \$509 for 2008/09.

Please note that this information is only indicative at this point in time. 23%

The principle of the Department of Water and Energy Sewerage best-practice pricing guidelines is that Council must adopt sewerage charges, which reflect efficient costs of service provision, including a return on infrastructure capital, and an appropriate two-part tariff for business customers. Appropriate charges are essential to signal the need for business customers to make informed decisions on their water use and their resulting sewerage discharges.

Sewerage Charging Policy

Council generally complies with Department of Water and Energy guidelines having access charges independent of land value. Residential assessments are levied a uniform cost-reflective access charge. Non-Residential assessments have to date been charged the residential access charge, which is not in accordance with Department of Water and Energy guidelines. The guidelines require the business access charge to be based on the ratio of meter size cross sectional area, as is the case with water access charge. Council will introduce this method for the determination of the business access charge in this 2009/10 financial year. The same consumption factor used for the water access charge calculation will be applied. Business assessments also incur a uniform sever usage charge per kL (refer to Sever Usage and Trade Waste Charges).



CIVIC AND CULTURAL CENTRE, MURWILLUMBAH PO BOX 816, MURWILLUMBAH NSW 2484 TELEPHONE: (02) 6670 2400 FAX: (02) 6670 2429

PUEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE GENERAL MANAGER ABN 90-178-732-406 www.tweed.nsw.gov.au

T00 🖗

Cabarita Beach/Bogangar Residents Association, Inc.

(President: Cath Lynch, Secretary: Kim Dixon, Treasurer: Mary Collie) 29 Watergum Place, Bogangar 2488, Tel. 6676 0752 email: president@cabaritabeach.org

21 May 2009

Mr Mike Rayner General Manager Tweed Shire Council Per Email

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TWEED SHIRE COU THE NO BUDGET /MAN DOC No. 2056407 RE(TD) 2 1 MAV MARINED TO BADWIN HARD COPY IMAGE BRACK, P

Re: Draft Budget and Revenue Policy Comment

Dear Mr Rayner

We acknowledge recipt of your letter of 23 April 2009 enclosing Tweed Council's Draft Budget and Revenue Policy for public comment, and we appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Our President, Cath Lynch, attended the meeting of 5 May 2009, and commented that the presentation was obscure in its wording and sparse in its detail about any matters specifically relevant to Cabarita Beach/Bogangar residents. The Association concurs with her statements.

After searching the documents thoroughly, we have found only the most cursory mentions of our community with round figures allocated to local issues, projects, and maintenance. It is most difficult to comment on generalities.

Your budget failed to specify where the funds are to be specifically spent in our area. We would like to know the relationship between the revenues raised by increased property rates in the Cabarita Beach/Bogangar area and planned expenditure to give our residents value for their taxpayer dollar.

ltems of expenditure are referred to by code numbers (e.g., D4052 Les Burger Field) but without the provision of a decoding chart, it is pointless, and even patronising, to expect local area associations to understand, let alone make valid or informed comment.

We hope this sort of obfuscation (whether intentional or not) might be avoided in such future exercises.

Sincerely

K. Díxon

Kim Dixon Secretary

* Scanned into as a Kafax Scan.

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Mike Rayner Director Tweed Shire Council We believe money should be put forward in the draft budget for a

Koala Plan of Management.

The koalas are on a serious decline on the Tweed Coast. It is vitally important that the Draft budget makes provision for a Koala Management Plan as the koalas are at grave risk on the Tweed Coast. We, as a community want to conserve our koala as the urbanisation of both South Tweed and Chinderah has meant local extinction there already.

The money in the budget should provide a Koala Habitat Study showing ongoing monitoring of Koala populations, keeping the community informed of koala management issues and recovery progress.

Koalas were once found in high densities along the Tweed Coast and we now have a responsibility and right to save the remaining koalas left in the Shire. Many koalas have succumbed to threatening processes such as habitat clearing, bushfire, road mortality, disease and predation by domestic and feral animals.

A Koala Plan of Management for the Shire has been anticipated for over a decade. Nothing has been acted upon. We, as a community, want action now before it is too late.

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

The protection of koalas is recognised at the State level under SEPP 44-Koala Habitat Protection and as a vulnerable species under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995.

We want to save our koalas for future generations to come.

We look forward to seeing our Tweed Shire Council help save our last remaining koalas.

Jo-Ann Mudence 245 Kirkwood Rol Tweed Heads South NSW a486

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We look forward to seeing our Tweed Shire Council help save our last remaining koalas.

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Signed James Balver 19/5/09

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We look forward to seeing our Tweed Shire Council help save our last remaining koalas.

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Balbara Wilson 9 Merauke Que Dahn Bead- 4221

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MR- N FANNAM ALIG WILLIAM SF-SFH. TWEED HEAD'S NSW 2486

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A. Ampson. Suzanne Simpson. 30 Parkes Drive Tweed Heads 2485

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Margaret Manilles MARGONET MERRILEES 171/2 Falcon Way TWEED Hoads, 248

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Dave Andrew

58 Pinnacle Lane

Dixons Creek

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Malah Ross 3 Rivulands Place Banara Point

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W. Jaurders. Wayne Saunders 35 llayd st. Tweed

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Richard Mulle 2 QUAYSIDE COURT

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Herdi Hardy 609 Audger Rd Audger

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Judgalanfuk 11 McCollums Rd Duranbah, NSW.

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& M anchar. 58 Pinnacle Lane Dixons Creek 3775.

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70 Bower St Bower L. Manly. N.S.W. 7295

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Tanya Fountain 7/13 Tanglewood Drive Tanglewood.

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Maree Uzelac 4 Dugun court ocean shores 2483

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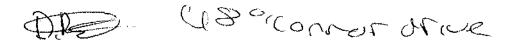
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Mike Rayner Director Tweed Shire Council

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Koalas were once found in high densities along the Tweed Coast and we now have a responsibility and right to save the remaining koalas left in the Shire. Many koalas have succumbed to threatening processes such as habitat clearing, bushfire, road mortality, disease and predation by domestic and feral animals.

A Koala Plan of Management for the Shire has been anticipated for over a decade. Nothing has been acted upon. We, as a community, want action now before it is too late.

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

The protection of koalas is recognised at the State level under SEPP 44-Koala Habitat Protection and as a vulnerable species under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995.

We want to save our koalas for future generations to come.

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d. Avolveus 36 Pacific Crescent Evans Head NSW.



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Ned Beard

127 Wollumbin Street , Murwillombal





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2/47 Greenway Drive Tweed Heads South NSW 2486 P.O.Box 243 Banora Point NSW 2486

Phone: (07) 5523 2629 Facsimile: (07) 5523 2722 Email: admin@coastlinecertification.com.au ABN 42 090 491 982

21 May 2009

The General Manager Tweed Shire Council PO Box 816 Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Dear Sir

Draft Fees and Charges 2009/2010

I write concerning the Draft Fees and Charges found in Council's Draft Management Plan which is to be considered by Council for adoption on the 28 May 2009.

I note an article in the Tweed Sun newspaper on the 23 April 2009 (copy attached) stating "Council will budget for a \$710,000 shortfall in the general fund next year, mainly due to fewer payments of developer and building fees, meaning cuts to jobs & programs.".

This submission will illustrate that the projected shortfall can be reduced by almost 50% by simply charging Construction Certification (approval) and building inspection fees equivalent to those charged by all other Councils on the North Coast of New South Wales. Construction Certification and inspection fees are those fees charged by Council to assess building plans for compliance with the Building Code and to carry out inspections of building works during the course of construction of new buildings. The fees are typically levied on the applicant who may be a builder, project builder, developer or home owner.

The proposed Council charge for it's Construction Certification and building inspection fees (*item 29 & 32 of the 2009/2010 Draft Fees and Charges Construction Certificate Fees (building)* is inadequate, especially when compared to the fees levied by other North Coast Councils for that same building approval and inspection service.

Council's proposed Construction Certification and building inspection fees for a typical \$260,000 home, in comparison to the same construction certificate service and building inspection fees for a \$260,000 home in other Council areas in the North Coast of New South Wales are as follows:

Comparison of Construction Certification & Total Building inspection Fees for a typical
\$260,000 home in various local Government Areas North Coast NSW

Byron Shire Council Ballina Shire Council Lismore Shire Council Clarence Valley Council Average Council Fee \$2060 Construction Certificate and inspection fee \$1360 Construction Certificate and inspection fee \$1289.10 Construction Certificate and inspection fee \$1606 construction certificate and inspection fee **\$1578**

Tweed Shire Council

\$895 proposed 2009/2010 Construction Certificate and inspection fee

Difference in \$ value Tweed Shire Council to other Council areas = minus \$683

.../2

Servicing the Tweed and Gold Coast

21 May 2009	
Tweed Shire Council	Page 2

If you were to take the average of the four adjacent North Coast Council Construction Certification and inspection rates (2008/2009) year, it can be seen Tweed Shire Council is well below current market rate. The average charge for the four Councils is \$1578. Tweed Council is effectively undercharging \$683 per job for an average house. If Council were to issue 500 such house approvals in one year, Council is forgoing approximately \$341,000 in a financial year.

I have also attached the recommended fee schedule prepared in 2004 by the Australian Institute of Building Surveyors in which they recommend a fee for a Construction Certificate and inspections for a dwelling be a minimum of \$2,000.00

Given that Council is budgeting for a \$710,000 shortfall in the general fund in the next financial year, Council can reduce this shortfall by almost 50% just by charging market rates similar to those charged by other Councils on the North Coast of NSW.

As Tweed Shire residents and ratepayers, we recognise the extraordinary growth and subsequent demands placed upon Council to provide infrastructure and services to meet the needs of it's residents. To this end, we understand the need for Council to seek a variation to the rate capping regime levied on Council by the NSW Government.

However, we are concerned Council is seeking these additional rate charges, for all ratepayers, while not charging standard market rates for its existing services.

By not charging the existing market rates for its current Construction Certification services, I estimate Council is foregoing approximately \$400,000 per year.

Should you wish to discuss my submission in more detail feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Yours faithfully

Mark Thomas Director

Md-.

Mark Stapleton Director

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Encl.





Australian Institute of Building Surveyors (NSW) Guidelines for Professional Services relating to the issue of Certificates

Fee Calculations for Domestic Projects effective as at September 2004

	ltem	Rate	No. of inspections	\$ Fee . GST appl	\$ Fee GST fre
Registered Builder		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
New Single Dwelling	(\$ value of Building Works = \$)	S value ÷ 100 (52,000 min)	5		
Addition / alteration	(\$ value of Building Works = \$)	\$ value + 75 (\$1,500 min)	5		
Multi Unit Development	(No. of units =) (\$ value of Bldg works = \$)	S value per bldg work + 100 (\$2,000 min. per unit) x No, of units	No. of units X 3		
Minor Domestic Works	Internal alterations (No. of inspections req'd =) Garage, Carport, Verandah etc (No. inspections req'd =) Swimming Pool (No. inspections req'd =)	\$350 + \$120 per required inspection \$500 + \$120 per required inspection \$750 + \$120 per required inspection	····		
Owner Builder	······				.I
New Single Dwelling (\$ value of Building Works = \$)		\$ value + 80 (\$2,500 minimum)	5		
Addition / alteration	(\$ value of Building Works = \$)	\$ value + 60 (\$1,875 minimum)	5		
Multi unit Development	(No. of units =) (\$ value of Bldg works = \$)	\$ value per bldg work + 80 (\$2,500 min per unit) x No. of units	No. of units X 3		-
Minor Domestic Works	Internal alterations (No. of inspections req'd =) Garage, Carport, Verandah etc (No. of inspections req'd =) Swimming Pool (No. of inspections req'd =)	\$350 + \$120 per required inspection \$500 + \$120 per required inspection \$750 + \$120 per required inspection			
Other Fees					
Statutory fees	(Lodgement fees, Insurance, etc.)	Cost recovery basis			}
Other Services (Number of hours =) (Travelling = km) Performance Based Assessment Issuing of Notices and Orders Checking of amendments / Variations to Construction Certificates Additional checking time req'd for sub standard documentation Preparation of reports Attendance at Client meetings Attendance at Appeal Hearings and the like		\$150 per hour (\$300 minimum) Travelling at \$1.20 per km			
Additional inspections/ re-in	spections (No. of inspections =)	\$120 per Inspection			
Remote area	(Number of hours =) (Travelling = km)	\$1.20/km + travel time of \$150 per hour			[
	:	······································	Sub Totais	0\$	3\$
			GST	@\$ ·	

Total Fees Payable

①+②+③=\$