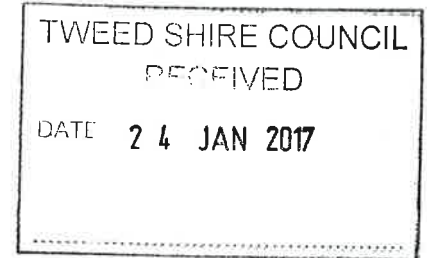


South Murwillumbah Business & Owners Group

22 Prospero St Murwillumbah NSW 2484
ph 02 6672 2641 fax 02 6672 3759

24th January, 2017



Mr Troy Green
General Manager
Tweed Shire Council
PO Box 816
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Dear Sir,

We wish to protest vehemently about the proposed closure of 2 car parks in River Street, South Murwillumbah with the idea of turning them into parks.

As business owners (there are approximately 23 businesses in Prospero Street and River Street with over 72 people employed) we park our cars here. We also direct our customers there for longer stays e.g the hairdresser or art classes with Kim Moore Designs.

We have never been consulted about these closures only discovering what was planned by reading the Tweed Link. A petition signed by over 350 customers was presented to the last Council by Councillor Warren Polglase protesting these closures.

Our questions to Council are:

- (1) Where are the business owners going to park their cars if these closures go ahead?
- (2) Where are Edwards Plumbing business with over 6 trucks going to park their vehicles?
- (3) Where are customers going to park their cars?
- (4) Where are the box holders of Australia Post going to park to access their parcels and mail boxes? This post office serves over 1500 people per week. At Christmas time the post office can serve over 400 people per day.
- (5) Where are the overflow of families attending Anzac Day parades, Banana Festival, Foodie Festivals, River Festival and all the people who attend Budd Park for the Annual School Graduation Photographs (at least 6 different Fridays) going to park?
- (6) Where will the elderly and disabled park when these car parks are closed with the possibility of business owners being forced to park in Prospero and River Streets?

These closures have not been thought out properly and will have a devastating effect on the economy of South Murwillumbah with people bypassing Prospero and River Streets and going straight to Tweed City (which is already happening in the Murwillumbah CBD) due to lack of parking.

We have been informed by Council that a meeting is to be arranged with the landscape architect. Why? It is obvious that this decision has already been made which to us flies in the face of "consultation". The wishes of the people most affected will not be listened to or once again South Murwillumbah is to be treated like the lost child and we don't exist as a business community which provides employment to local people.

We need to urgently discuss this matter and have the decision to "fund these parks in the 2017-2018 budget" reversed. We look forward to Council setting up such a meeting.

Yours faithfully



Katherine & Rod Butterworth
on behalf of South Murwillumbah Business & Owners Group

c.c Mayor K Milne, Councillors C Cherry, R Cooper, P Allsop, W Polglase, J Owen, R Byrnes