

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

“Protecting the quality of living on Tamborine Mountain”

NEWSLETTER - May (2) 2015

Gillion Pty. Ltd. (Power Parade) – commercial water extraction

At the Council Planning Sub-Committee meeting on Tuesday, 19th May, it took only minutes for the Director’s recommendation to refuse Gillion’s new Development Application to be passed by all Councillors. The report stated that no additional information had been added and that need was not established. There are many other businesses supplying this product.

After the long tortuous and highly expensive saga to residents as well as Council, this battle is hopefully over. The chances of success should an appeal emerge are very slim indeed.

The remaining commercial water extractors are still operating pending Council’s long winded efforts to establish if operators are adhering to any permitted conditions.

The Minister for Natural Resources’ reply to TMPA’s letter of concern about groundwater extraction here is attached.

Guanaba sports D A on T M’s eastern escarpment

This Council meeting (19th May) was attended by many mountain residents interested in the Guanaba application as well as the Gillion case.

Here, the Planning Sub-Committee’s deliberations took considerably longer. The senior planner read the lengthy report recommending approval which included the reasons in the planning scheme why this development application should be refused. Next, the planner outlined how the impact of this development can be mitigated by conditions. There were twelve of these.... close to a tourist area, restoration of the site, not out of character, lower scale of activities, 20 year management plan to restore property to natural state, may contribute to local economy, upgrade of Kaiser Rd, etc.

Councillor questions and input followed. --

Rick Stanfield (Div 5 Boonah) – asked most questions. Queries included the 6 weeks allowed for camping., trail standards, toilet, water. However he did move the report be accepted referring to bike riding in national parks world wide. He failed to distinguish this activity with extreme sports down hill on a recognized environmentally sensitive mountain escarpment.

Jennifer Sanders (D.3, Beaudesert, Chairperson). Observed that the land could be cleared to grow beetroot and carrots. (*land purchase price, \$1.6m*)

Virginia West (D.3, Canungra) acknowledged there were some environmental issues but with strong conditions was satisfied the DA should be approved.

Nigel Waistell (D.1 TM) Nigel’s report is attached.

Loud applause from the spectators followed.

Mayor John Brent spoke at length in a caring manner. He referred to the obvious angst in the community. He stated that they (Councillors) are not town planners and that the report was professionally compiled which clearly obliged Councillors to approve it. The report presented clearly (*again*) showed they are able to approve this development. He acknowledged there would be noise impacts around the rim of the escarpment & that he understood people living close to the area would be affected.

Nadia O’Carroll (D 2 T M) presented her report. This covered at length environmental impacts and supported the report given by Nigel.

Loud applause from the spectators followed.

The vote was 4 in favour, 2 against. (Cr. from Div 6 was absent).

It is expected that the Council General Meeting on Tuesday, 26th May will rubber stamp this outcome.

Outcomes of conditions as applied by SRRC

With the passage of time and change of personnel, Council applied conditions which seek to mitigate adverse impacts of development proposals disintegrate and often just vanish.

The conditions attached to building blocks on the mountain's Goat Track approved against the planning scheme have been forgotten. Due to the "horrendous" fire report, these conditions included installation of sprinklers on house roofs. Building approvals there now apparently are being just ticked off – conditions appear to have been forgotten.

However, to take the cake is the approved expansion (against the planning scheme) of a small quarry just south of Beaudesert.

The nineteen conditions which allowed the Council to approve the D A included a requirement for the developer to build the southern Beaudesert bypass. The developer was also obliged to upgrade a road and build a roundabout on the Mt. Lindsay Highway. (*note: Guanaba – developer to upgrade Kaiser Rd. in Council's conditions*)

Over a period of six months, all these nineteen conditions attaching to the mine approval were liquidated following the developer's demands.

Finally, Council agreed to remove, at ratepayer's expense, the mine's rubbish rocks, etc.

The front page of the Tamborine Times about a month ago featured a photo of the Mayor and CEO happily announcing a grant from the State Government with which the building of the northern section of the Beaudesert bypass can now proceed.

The good news.....

In six day's time, on 29th May, the Tamborine Mountain Progress Association will be **One Hundred Years Old !!!**

To celebrate this, the Association will be holding a "drop in" afternoon at the Zamia Theatre on Sunday 14th June.

Afternoon tea is to be provided and various attractions are being planned, including a number of music brackets from sections of our mountain orchestra. Hillary Furlong is organizing activities. Hillary asks for donations of any items which can be used in a lucky dip -----crockery, ornaments, or anything you may have hanging around which is spare.

More next newsletter – but keep the date free.....

Jeanette