

# SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

Ordinary Council Meeting – 3 July 2007

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## **Subject        8.1 Killalea State Park (8749667)**

To my fellow Councillors

### **Mayoral Minute**

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#### **Summary**

Having now received a briefing from representatives of the development firm of Badcock and Brown and the Killalea Trust, on a proposal to lease a portion of the Killalea State Park for private development, I feel that it is appropriate that the matter be brought before a full meeting of Shellharbour City Council for consideration.

#### **Recommendation**

**That Council strongly oppose any move by the Killalea Trust or the Department of Lands to lease any part of the Killalea Park to private enterprise, and that Council's sole representative on the Trust be so instructed.**

**Further that Council advise the Trust and the Minister for Lands that it would see any move to by-pass Council and proceed with the matter by way of a development application being submitted to the Minister for Planning as unacceptable to the elected representatives of Shellharbour City Council and its citizens.**

#### **Background**

At the afore mentioned briefing I was shown preliminary plans of the area that were the subject of an agreement between the Trust (with the concurrence of the Department of Lands) subject to the granting of a development approval.

At the conclusion of the briefing, I requested that a copy of all documentation be made available to Shellharbour City Council only to be advised that this was not possible at the time since some fine tuning still had to be carried out.

Since having been briefed on the proposal, I have given the matter a considerable amount of thought as well as becoming aware that there is a clearly evidenced ground swell of public opposition to leasing any part of Killalea Park to private enterprise.

While I initially adopted a wait and see attitude to the proposal, I have now concluded that leasing of any part of the Killalea Park to private developers would not only be contrary to the public interest and the wishes of local citizens, but would also create a dangerous precedent in so far as future management of publicly owned passive open space areas is concerned.

More recently I have responded to an invitation to meet with representatives of the South Coast Labour Council who are acting on requests from affiliated unions and members of the public to oppose the lease of any part of the State Government owned Killalea Park to private enterprise. Labour Council representatives have asked to be kept advised of Shellharbour City Council's attitude to the proposed lease.

Approved for Council's consideration: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attachments**

1. Nil