

EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

PUBLIC FORUM

All members of the community who have registered have been advised that they have a **maximum of five minutes** to put their case.

Ordinary Meeting of Council on 22 September 2015

Name	Subject/Comments
Agenda Items – 10.00am	
Owen Quinn – Operational Manager, Club Catalina	FBD15/070 Road Closure - Miller Street, Batemans Bay

SUBMISSION TO COUNCIL

RE: PROPOSED CLOSING OF MILLER STREET BATEMANS BAY

Good morning Mr Mayor and Councillors

My name is Owen Quinn and I am the Operations Manager of the Catalina Country Club. Our CEO Daryl Wilson is unable to attend as he is ill.

I have been instructed by the Club Board to lodge an objection on behalf of the club to the proposed closure of Miller Street. This area is an important access point to the golf course and in particular to the management of Holes 1 to 9 when major work is required on that part of the course. This access point provided much needed access to the front nine recently during the extreme weather which we experienced.

Currently the access is used by earthmoving equipment, tree felling equipment and other machinery at various times.

Additionally, the Club is aware of water mains and sewer lines located on the golf course, with access for Council equipment to service or replace this infrastructure via the Miller Street entrance.

Of greater concern to the Club Board with any closing of that street are the longer term needs of the Club for access to that area. These are the strategic considerations. Catalina Country Club acknowledges that its facilities are located in an envious position being one of very few golf courses located in the inner town areas of a growing town. More particularly it is a golf course with 27 holes located inside a township. This is great for our business and our survival. This will no doubt however create pressures of its own with costs and in particular rates into the future. It is not inconceivable that the club might be forced in the future to rationalise its business by maybe selling off this area of holes 1 to 9 for a housing estate. The only reasonable access to it would be via Miller Street. I acknowledge that the club has not considered this possibility as yet but it is a likely option as cost pressures grow on the club.

The club does not own any other property fronting Golf Links Drive apart from its carpark area.

If Council was mindful to approve the application to close Miller Street then the Club would expect that it would be given the chance to purchase the land either by negotiated private treaty with Council or at a Public Auction which we submit Council is obligated to hold. This is public land after all and all interested parties should be given the opportunity to acquire it—not just one party.

In closing we ask Councillors to be mindful that Catalina Country Club strongly objects to any proposed closing of Miller Street and requests that this access be kept open for the benefit of the largest land owner in that area of Batemans Bay.