

# **TOMAKIN BEACH ACCESS SURVEY RESULTS APRIL 2023**

## **Presentation to the Eurobodalla Shire Council**

**By**

**Tomakin Community Association Inc.**

Mayor Hatcher, Councillors,

My name is Megan Kelly and I am the President of the Tomakin Community Association and my associate with me is Anne Kenney, a member of the TCA Committee, and author of the Tomakin Beach Access Survey Results document. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to this document.

We are here to present the results and subsequent actions arising from this survey as deemed most significant. All councillors were provided with a copy of this report on Wednesday 16th August at the ESC "Time to chat – Tomakin"

The TCA has spent considerable time and effort in compiling and developing this document by way of extensive community consultation through general meetings, an online and written survey and face to face consultation with the community. In finalising this document we have participated in the ESC's Draft Coastal Management Programme, consulted the ESC's Draft Disability Plan and reviewed the NSW State Dept of Environmental Planning Coastal Management Policy. All these plans and policies actively encourage the maintenance and improvement of public access and amenity and use of beaches, providing a healthy and resilient open coast for Eurobodalla in ways that benefit **all** locals, visitors and traditional owners of the land, and not just in the three major towns of the shire.

The Beach Access survey was developed to gain a better understanding of the needs of the Tomakin Community and their expectations for the beaches of Tomakin and allowed us to provide considered input into the ESC's Draft Coastal Management Programme. It is worth noting that TCA delayed publishing the results of the survey to allow our participation in the Draft CMP.

Tomakin has grown substantially over the past seven years and with the new development at West Rosedale and future planned developments, our beaches and river will continue to be popular with swimmers, dog walkers, surfers, kayakers, paddle boarders, fishermen and families.

Tomakin's amenities such as toilet facilities, picnic tables and seats, the Rivermouth General store and Café, Jack Buckley Park and the Club as well as the boat ramp will draw more visitors and locals from the extended area. There is some parking available, although insufficient at present. The calmness of Tomakin Cove beach is well known and attracts many young families, the elderly, disabled and those undergoing rehabilitation as a preferred swimming spot. The economic and social value of these assets should be considered to be significant.

With an ageing population, more children in the suburb, more visitors and more traffic, the issues raised in this document need to be addressed and remedial actions planned for and carried out as a matter of urgency within the proposed 5 year time frame.

The seven proposed actions are, in no particular order:

- 1) Better access via a ramp to at least one beach access point.
- 2) Vegetation to be kept trimmed around all the pathways.
- 3) Improved car parking.
- 4) Kerbing and guttering in Kingston Parade, Kingston Place and Reid Streets.
- 5) A toilet and wash off facility at the Melville Point end of Tomakin Cove.
- 6) Upgrading or replacing the tap in Reid Street.
- 7) Better defined access points across the spit.

These proposed actions have been arrived at from the results achieved in the online and written survey, the results of which are in the document.

To Summarise:

TCA received 151 responses to the survey – 141 on Survey Monkey and 10 paper based. 97 people took the time to make comments. We have included the comments in Attachment B of the document. The comments have been collated verbatim into the following categories:-

Do Nothing, Beach Access, Toilets, and Parking. In addition a few unsolicited comments regarding dogs, Melville Point and pathways were received.

The results and comments are all in the document for you to peruse at your leisure.

The photos on pages 8-15 clearly show the state of the various access points which may or may not look like that as they change constantly. The photos on pages 21-23 show potential solutions for the beach access ramp and designated pathways over the spit. The photos on pages 24-28 show the haphazard and dangerous parking that takes place around the suburb.

We invite you to visit Tomakin during the summer period and see for yourself how this beautiful village is transformed.

Make no mistake, TCA clearly understands that funds and capabilities are limited but council MUST also realise that by doing nothing the dunes will continue to be eroded by those who choose to make their own pathways, traffic accidents will occur due to the increased volume of traffic as well as the haphazard parking due the lack of designated parking spaces. The potential for accident or injury is heightened by the uneven and often overgrown tracks to the beaches which also harbour snakes and ticks as well as the need to walk on the roads in competition with the traffic.

The TCA does not take lightly the actions proposed in this submission nor does the TCA expect the improvements overnight. However, we request that the Council seriously consider our document and start the consultation and planning processes to implement these recommendations as quickly as possible. The TCA also makes the offer to partner with the ESC in whatever way we can to make these recommendations a reality within the 5 year timeline.





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## SNAPSHOT – Just to refresh your memory

**Tomakin** is a seaside village on the south coast of New South Wales between the major towns of Batemans Bay and Moruya in the Eurobodalla Shire. At the 2021 census, the town had a population of 1,233 – an increase of 232 since the 2016 census.

- 30% are couples with children and 13.5% one parent families
- There are 184 children under the age of 15, **this is an increase of 56 children**
- There are **515 people over the age of 60**
- Our most common long term health condition is Arthritis, with nearly 17% of residents noting this affliction
- Nearly 10% identified as having a mental health condition, including depression or anxiety. This makes it extra important for us to keep engaged as a community.
- We have a total of 759 dwellings in Tomakin, 513 were occupied and 246 were unoccupied on census night.

The town is located at the mouth of the Tomaga River. We have three unique beaches and river frontage. It has a boat ramp which provides access to the Tasman Sea. Tomakin has three caravan parks with on-site vans and cabins available. There are other accommodation options including bed and breakfast establishments, time share units and holiday cottages for rent.

Activities in the area include surfing, swimming, wind and kite surfing, jet skiing, fishing (beach, river, rock, estuary, ocean), kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, walks and bicycling, 9 hole golf course and mini golf. A general store/café, service station, supermarket and restaurant service the suburb and surrounds.

The village population swells during the holiday periods and many people visit to take advantage of the above activities, particularly the beaches.

The projected population growth in the Eurobodalla from 40,593 to 45,402 by 2041 and an increase of those over 65 from 22% to 28% of the population. Adding in the expected growth in population in Canberra and the Greater Sydney area, from where many of our visitors hail, planning for improved beach access, parking, toilet and water facilities and protection of the dune environment MUST start now.

The Tomakin Community Association engages with the local community through quarterly general meetings, regular committee meetings, newsletters, a Facebook page, website and emails, as well as surveys. It is our role to represent the people of Tomakin across all levels of government and to ensure the views of the residents, regular visitors and beachgoers are heard.

We have drawn on the policies stated in the ESC Draft Disability Plan, the ESC Draft Coastal Management Programme and the Coastal Management—State Environmental Planning Policy, as well as our own survey results, to present to Council, the outcomes requested in this document.



## 2022 TOMAKIN BEACH ACCESS SURVEY OVERVIEW

The Tomakin Community Association, in 2022 conducted a Beach Access survey using “Survey Monkey” as well as a paper based survey. The results (see Attachment A) overwhelmingly advocate for better beach access, particularly for people with disabilities. A summary of the results is as follows:

TCA received 151 responses to the survey – 141 on Survey Monkey and 10 paper based. 97 people took the time to make comments. See Attachment B. The comments have been collated into the following categories:-

Do Nothing – 11  
Beach Access - 43  
Toilets -39  
Parking -15

In addition, the following were added as there were quite a few unsolicited comments about these important issues:-

Dogs -11  
Melville Point -2  
Pathways -6  
Other – 5

## THE SURVEY QUESTIONS AND RESULTS

QUESTION 1 – How satisfied are you with the Tomakin Beach access at Melville Point/Red Hill Parade?

Response - 46.81% were dissatisfied, 19.15% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied & 34.75% were satisfied.

Question 2 – How satisfied are you with the cove beach access at Sunpatch Parade?

Response – 30.22% were dissatisfied, 18.71% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied & 51.8% were satisfied.

Question 3 – How satisfied are you with the Tomakin Beach access at Reid Street?

Response - 41.72% were dissatisfied, 12.23% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied & 46.04% were satisfied.

Question 4 – How satisfied are you with the Tomakin Beach access behind the toilet block?

Response - 50.35% were dissatisfied, 14.18% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied & 36.17% were satisfied.

Question 5 – How satisfied with the parking in Reid Street?

Response - 39.01% were dissatisfied, 31.91% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied & 29.08% were satisfied.

(Continued...)

## THE SURVEY QUESTIONS AND RESULTS (cont)

Question 6 – How satisfied are you with the parking in Kingston Place near the boat ramp?

Response - 29.08% were dissatisfied, 20.57% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied & 50.35% were satisfied.

Question 7 – How satisfied are you with the toilet facilities in Tomakin?

Response – 39.71% were dissatisfied, 22.7% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied & 39.01% were satisfied.

Question 8 – Are you a?

Local Resident – 96 responses = 64%

One time visitor – 0 responses

Regular Visitor – 23 responses =15%

Local holiday homeowner – 32 responses = 21%

Question 9 – How satisfied are you with the beach access to Barlings Beach?

Response - 22.86% were dissatisfied, 27.86% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied & 49.29% were satisfied.

**Please note that these results were not weighted.**

**See attached full survey results and comments (Attachment A & Attachment B)**

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## 2022 TOMAKIN BEACH ACCESS SURVEY SUMMARY

The outcome of the survey was the vast majority of respondents are looking for better accessibility to Tomakin beaches.

### Tomakin Cove

Tomakin Cove is a very safe, dog free beach. It is the main beach used by people with mobility issues and is regularly used by people with prams and small children. The access to the Cove from Red Hill Parade/ Melville Point could be classified as a goat track and is overgrown and difficult to use for those with prams, small children, wheelchairs, carts or walking aides.

Whilst the majority of people were happy with The Tomakin Cove access off Sunpatch Parade, the railings are often missing or rough sawn making them difficult or impossible to reach or hold onto. Tomakin Cove has a beautiful viewing chair but is extremely difficult for people with mobility issues to access this wonderful facility due to the sloping entry from the road and the unevenness of the ground.

(Continued...)



## 2022 TOMAKIN BEACH ACCESS SURVEY SUMMARY (cont)

### Reid Street

The majority of people are happy with the beach access at Reid Street. However, whenever there is a significant weather/tide event, the sand washes away leaving a very steep access track making it impossible for many people to use. The access here is **not** ideal for those with prams, wheelchairs or mobility issues.

The parking at the beach access in Reid Street is also an issue as the road has been taken over by the sand dunes and vegetation and needs regular maintenance to ensure people can park without causing issues to the residents and other road users. As you can see in the photos attached, parking is quite chaotic and downright dangerous in places, often with no regard to residents' access to their properties. This also causes people heading to and from the beach and river to walk on the road in competition with cars creating further chaos.

### Kingston Place

The loss of the stairs in 2020 at the Kingston Place entry, requiring people to access the main beach via a very overgrown entry behind the toilet block is a great concern. The area is rife with ticks, snakes and vermin and many people now have to use this entry to access the main beach to walk dogs.

Whilst the majority of respondents were happy with the parking in Kingston Place, it could be improved by making the boat trailer parking bays time limited from say 5am to 11am, after which time cars could use these spaces. Many families/groups double up their cars in the trailer parking spaces. Road marking of car spaces could also improve where people could park so they don't impede local residents trying to access their properties. Ultimately kerbing and guttering and a pathway would improve pedestrian safety.

### Barlings Beach

The overwhelming majority of respondents were very happy with the access to Barlings Beach.

### Amenities

The main concern was the lack of public toilet facilities and access to fresh water in the Melville Point/Barlings Beach car park area.

The upkeep of the Tomakin Beach toilet facilities in Kingston Place, which seem to undergo an unacceptable amount of vandalism, is also an issue. TCA has worked hard with a group of locals to beautify the outside of the toilet block with stunning mosaic murals. However, the inside of the toilet facilities is in very poor condition and not a good reflection on community standards. It is a very long way to go to the current toilet block when you are at the Tomakin Cove Beach or Barlings Beach, especially with young children.

The following pictures clearly demonstrate that each of the six beach access points in Tomakin make it extremely difficult and quite hazardous for those with mobility issues, prams & strollers and hand carts or kayaks. Going to one of the three beaches with disability access is not possible and most of us want to use our local beaches with our families and friends.

TCA notes that surf scientist Professor Rob Brander from UNSW's Beach Safety Research Group, says that the reasons people chose to swim at beaches with no flags were varied. But two reasons that stood out were that **the beach was the closest beach to holiday accommodation or people wanted to find a beach away from the crowds.**

# Tomakin & Barlings Beach Access Photos Taken February & March 2023

Barlings Beach Entrance February 23



Tomakin Cove Red Hill Pde (Melville Point) Entrance February 23



Cove Red Hill Pde (Melville Point) Entrance February 23 (cont)

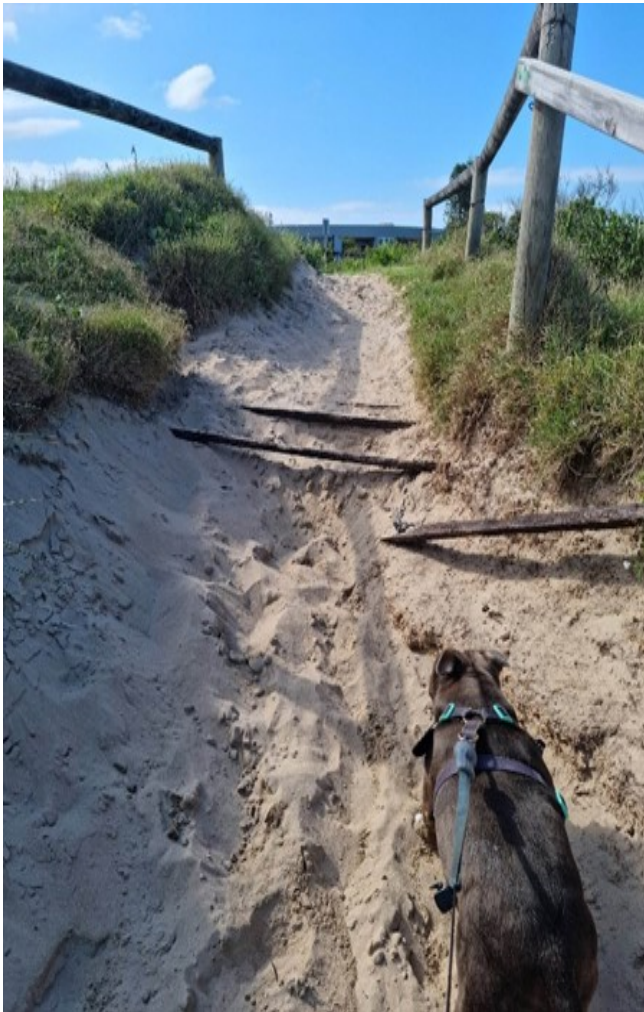


Tomakin Cove Sunpatch Pde Entrance February 23



Tomakin Cove Sunpatch Pde Entrance February 23 (cont)





Kingston Place Entrance February 23 – Where the stairs were removed after storm



Kingston Place Entrance February 23 – Where the stairs were removed after storm damage.





Kingston Place Entrance (Behind toilet block) Feb 23 – This is the “main entrance” to Tomakin Beach.



# ESC DRAFT DISABILITY PLAN

Whilst the Eurobodalla has a long history of advocating and planning for improved outcomes, services and choice for people with disability, the Council achievements have been made in pathways and recreation spaces, accessible business practices, work ready outcomes and as an advocate for people with disability and their carers by and large **ONLY** in the three major towns (Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma). Whilst in Eurobodalla, 12.3% or 2,500 of all income support recipients receive a disability pension, more than double the proportion for NSW, this does not take into account the hundreds of people with a disability (such as arthritis) who **DO NOT** receive any financial support and are **NOT** included in these statistics.

The TCA notes that 17% of Tomakin's population have arthritis (2021 Census). The ESC recognises that the ageing process is one risk factor for developing a disability and this is a significant issue for Eurobodalla. Given that Tomakin has an ageing population with a median age of 50 compared to 38 for NSW, the need for improved access to our local beaches – not just the ones in the major towns, is vital.

## **Executive Summary – Draft Disability Plan**

This plan focuses ONLY on the following:

- *that each of the shire's **three major towns has at least one accessible beach***
- *that every **patrolled beach has access to a functional beach wheelchair***
- *that each of the shire's **three major towns has accessible marine facilities and related public amenities.***

## **A high priority of the Draft Disability Plan is**

- *A schedule of **access modifications** to existing public assets to be developed and implemented.*

## TCA's Response to the ESC Draft Disability Plan

The Plan does not acknowledge that beaches such as Tomakin and Barlings have experienced enormous growth in usage in the past few years - with the addition of the Refections development there are now over 759 dwellings in Tomakin. These beaches will be further impacted by the current development taking place in West Rosedale and future developments still in planning phases.

Tomakin Cove Beach is particularly popular with families as it is a very sheltered beach for young children and also for those with disabilities and limited mobility. Barlings and Tomakin main beach as well as the Tomaga River are popular for those walking with dogs and for exercise – not to mention surfing, paddle boarding, wind surfing, kayaking, fishing, swimming etc.

Parking and toilet facilities are already stretched and the dune areas will continue to be eroded by those people trying to make the most convenient access to the beaches and river.

The TCA considers that Tomakin's beaches are **significant public assets** of great value to residents in nearby settlements as well as holiday travellers. In part, this is because of the natural water access provided through a sheltered beach, river activities, safe swimming, boating and surfing. However, the beaches are also a very important dog walking asset to the community, and so the economic and social value should be considered to be significant.

The ESC Draft Disability plan **DOES NOT** address the accessibility needs of the people of Tomakin and surrounds.

# ESC DRAFT COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

The TCA has been working with the team from ESC in compiling the Draft Coastal Management Programme. We note that the ESC appreciates that there are many stakeholders in this process but council takes pride in being “inclusive”. However, ESC is only inclusive for those people willing or able to use the beaches in the three major towns in the shire.

*“The CMP allows us to access valuable financial support from the NSW Government to protect and enhance our coast,”* said Mr Whiting.

## **Purpose, Vision, Objectives and Strategic Direction of the Draft CMP**

The purpose of the CMP, as defined in the CM Act, is to set the long-term strategy for the coordinated management of land within the coastal zone with a focus on achieving the objectives of the CM Act.

The CMP provides a strategic and collaborative approach for relevant land managers to implement a range of credible, evidence-based actions to address current and future risks, not only from coastal hazards, but for a broad range of community, stakeholder, economic, climate change, catchment processes and environmental issues and values. Certification of the CMP will allow Council to access State Government funding to implement coastal management actions on a priorities basis for the coastline, estuaries and catchments of the study area.

The vision established for coastal management of the Eurobodalla open coast is:

*A healthy and resilient open coast for Eurobodalla, managed in flexible, adaptive and innovative ways to the benefit of all locals, visitors, and traditional owners of the land, now and into the future. The significant Aboriginal cultural, economic, recreational and natural values of the Eurobodalla open coast are recognized and considered in a holistic approach to managing existing and emerging coastal threats.*

## TCA’s Response to the Draft Coastal Management Programme

**The Draft CMP does not address the need for better access to Tomakin’s beaches for people with disabilities – to maintain or improve recreational amenity and resilience as outlined in the Executive Summary.**

The Draft CMP **DOES NOT** address in the Business Plan any actions to protect the identified at-risk areas of Tomakin Cove and Barlings beach from coastal erosion or inundation in the foreseeable future – that is the next 10 years.

The TCA does not feel that the above **highlighted** objectives have been met in the Draft CMP in relation to Tomakin and Barlings beaches. Perhaps more could be done to access the valuable financial support available from the NSW government to protect and enhance the Tomakin coastline and provide better accessibility and facilities for the locals and visitors. The TCA does NOT believe it is reasonable to wait another 10 years for the CMP to be reviewed.

# COASTAL MANAGEMENT – STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING POLICY (Fact Sheet 2. Coastal management areas)

*December 2018 studies by the Dept of Planning & Environment, University of NSW, NSW Office of Environment & Heritage and NSW Department of Primary Industries.*

Highlighted in red are the objectives and actions of this policy that directly relate to Tomakin beaches and need to be focused on in the immediate future.

## Coastal vulnerability area

The coastal vulnerability area is defined in the Act as land which is subject to coastal hazards. The Act provides for the management of seven coastal hazards:

- \* beach erosion
- \* shoreline recession
- \* coastal lake or watercourse entrance instability
- \* coastal inundation
- \* tidal inundation
- \* coastal cliff or slope instability
- \* erosion and inundation of foreshores caused by tidal water and waves, including the interaction of those waters with catchment floodwaters.

The management objectives for this area are to:

- ensure public safety and prevent risk to human life
- mitigate current and future risks from coastal hazards, taking into account the effects of coastal processes and climate change
- maintain the presence of beaches, dunes and the natural features of foreshores, taking into account the beach system operating at the relevant place
- maintain public access, amenity and use of beaches and foreshores
- encourage land use that reduces exposure to risks from coastal hazards, including through siting, design, construction and operational decisions
- adopt coastal management strategies that reduce exposure to coastal hazards, in the first instance by restoring and enhancing natural defences such as coastal dunes, vegetation and wetlands; and, if that is not sufficient, by taking other action to:
  - \* avoid significant degradation of biological diversity and ecosystem integrity
  - \* avoid significant degradation or disruption of ecological, biophysical, geological and geomorphological coastal processes
  - \* avoid significant degradation of or disruption to beach and foreshore amenity and social and cultural values
  - \* avoid adverse impacts on adjoining land, resources or assets
  - \* provide for the restoration of the beach or adjacent land if any increased erosion is caused by actions to reduce exposure to coastal hazards

(Continued...)

## COASTAL MANAGEMENT – STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING POLICY (Fact Sheet 2. Coastal management areas) (cont.)

- prioritise actions that support the continued functionality of essential infrastructure during and immediately after a coastal hazard emergency
- improve the resilience of coastal development and communities by improving adaptive capacity and reducing reliance on emergency responses.

### Managing development in the coastal vulnerability area

Development is permitted in this area but will need to satisfy requirements set out in the Coastal Management SEPP. Consent authorities must be satisfied that:

- any coastal development is engineered to withstand current and future coastal hazards for the design life of any building or structure. This will avoid creating new or more severe risks for future generations to manage
- development is not likely to alter coastal processes to the detriment of the natural environment
- development is not likely to reduce public amenity, access to and use of any adjacent beach, foreshore, rock platform or headland
- appropriate measures to manage risk to life and public safety from coastal hazards are incorporated into the development
- appropriate measures and responses are in place to manage risk to life and public safety from coastal processes and current and future coastal hazards.

### Coastal environment area

The coastal environment area identifies the environmental features of the coastal zone, such as state waters, estuaries, coastal lakes and coastal lagoons. It also includes land adjoining those features including beaches, dunes, coastal headlands and rock platforms. The objectives for this area under the Act are:

- to protect and enhance the coastal environmental values and natural processes of coastal waters, estuaries, coastal lakes and coastal lagoons
- enhance natural character, scenic value, biological diversity and ecosystem integrity
- to reduce threats to, and improve the resilience of, coastal waters, estuaries, coastal lakes and coastal lagoons, including in response to climate change
- to maintain and improve water quality and estuary health
- to support the social and cultural values of coastal waters, estuaries, coastal lakes and coastal lagoons
- to maintain the presence of beaches, dunes and the natural features of foreshores, taking into account the beach system
- to maintain and, where practicable, improve public access, amenity and use of beaches, foreshores, headlands and rock platforms.

## TCA PROPOSED ACTIONS

An **accessible beach** should provide easier access to the beach for people with disabilities so that anyone can enjoy the beach. There are an increasing number of beaches in Australia that are becoming accessible for people with disabilities (and we acknowledge that includes some of the patrolled beaches in the Eurobodalla Shire). However, with the recent addition of the Reflections Estate and the new estate being developed at West Rosedale, Tomakin beaches WILL experience far greater usage and therefore need to be more accessible.

There are some **key features** that make beaches more **accessible** and **encourage people with disabilities** to go to them. These features include disabled beach access, amenities, transport and infrastructure. One in six people in Australia are living with disability. Apart from people with disabilities being in a position to enjoy the beach access, they should be able to access the beach and water with ease in order to participate in family and community activities. Additionally, beaches should be easily accessible for families with prams and young children or those using hand carts, as well as other users such as kayakers and surfers.

The TCA would like ESC to plan and budget for the following to be implemented **within the next 5 years**:

1. Better access via a ramp either where the old steps were in Kingston Place to Tomakin Beach or the Sunpatch Parade entrance to Tomakin Cove. Kingston Place would be the sensible option due to the availability of parking and toilet facilities. Improved access benefits the whole community including those using wheelchairs, prams or hand carts, people with limited mobility and carers. There is also less thick and overgrown vegetation in these locations. Ramps should be able to withstand the forces of nature in this harsh coastal environment of changing sands and tides, so obviously, geo-technical investigations will need to be done to inform the final design. (See attached example pictures).
2. At the very least, vegetation must be kept trimmed at the Red Hill Parade entrance to Tomakin Cove and the entrance to Tomakin Beach behind the toilet block and the pathways to be made wider and more accessible with sturdy, reachable, handrails. If the pathways were better defined it would discourage people from making their own tracks through the vulnerable dunes.
3. Parking in the Kingston Place carpark to be improved by way of placing a time limit – say from 5am to 11am on boat trailer parking and then allowing cars to “double park” in these spaces. This should ensure that sufficient parking is available for the “boaties” and then allow cars to use the spaces. While we have not researched this, local observations are that the morning is the common time for boating and fishing because of prevailing wind patterns. We think that the hours we are proposing would still allow recreational water users to enjoy the benefits of the Tomakin boat ramp while increasing access for the land based beach users?
4. Kerbing and guttering and marked car spaces on the road could also be considered along Kingston Place and Reid Street to discourage drivers from blocking driveways or parking in front yards or on nature strips. Additionally, footpaths in Kingston Place, Reid Street and Sunpatch Parade will allow strong and safe walking and cycling pathways “*creating 15-minute neighbourhoods where people can easily walk or cycle through the town village or neighbourhood*” as stated in the Executive Summary of the Draft South East and Tablelands Transport Programme (2022).
5. A toilet facility at the Melville Point end of Tomakin Beach in the vicinity of the Barlings Beach car park will allow users from both Tomakin and Barlings Beaches ready access. A fresh water tap allowing for drinking water for humans, dogs and a wash off facility for sandy feet is also needed.
6. The current tap in Reid street should be upgraded or completely replaced to allow for drinking water and a wash off facility.

(Continued...)

**TCA PROPOSED ACTIONS (cont).**

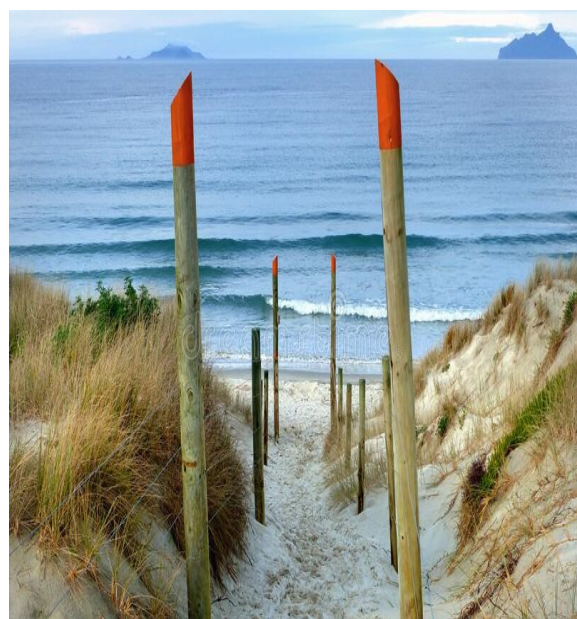
7. It is inevitable that “the spit” between the Tomaga River and Tomakin Beach will break through. As people walk along the sandy bank of the Tomaga River they can be caught by an incoming tide and be forced to cross over the spit, or simply take a short cut to the beach, damaging vegetation and eroding the dune. Rather than preventing access altogether, the area could be fenced off with one or two access paths by way of a stile or pathway, directing people to cross over at that point.

**Types of Beach Access for Consideration**





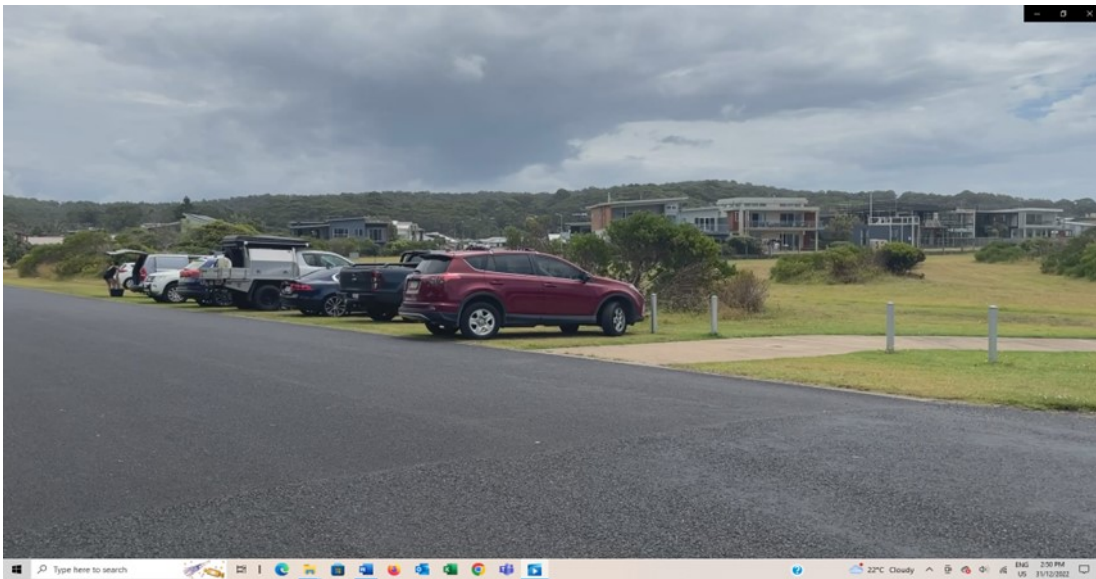




Download from  
Dreamstime.com  
ID: 156233107 © Mofrabotheair

# Parking Photos Taken December 31, 2022 between 11am and 12 noon.

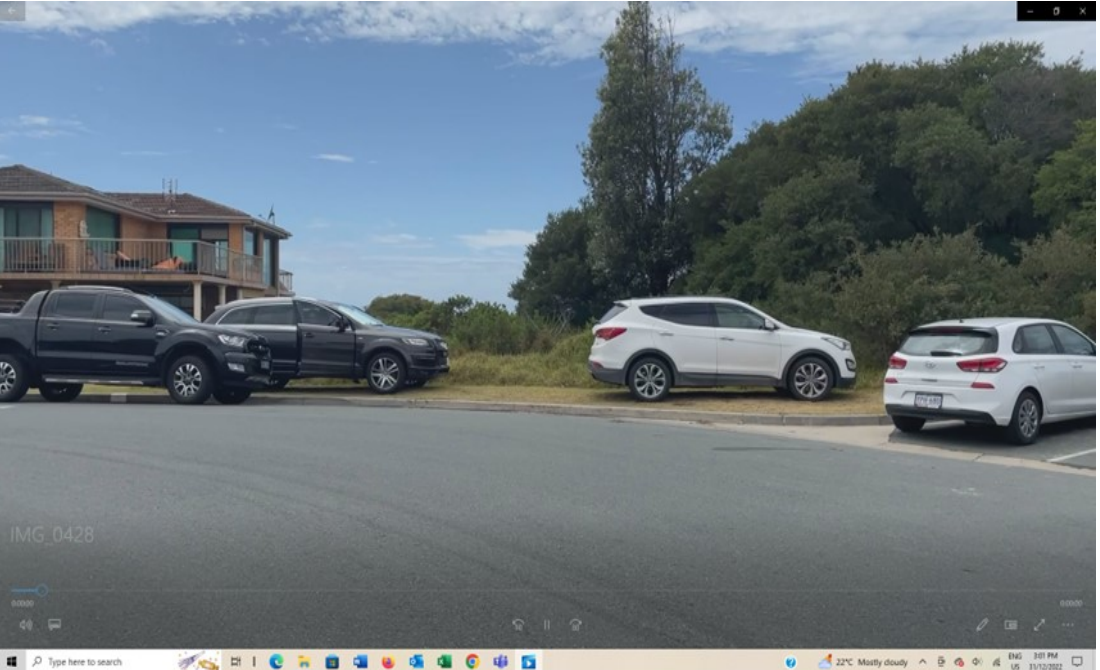
Red Hill Parade and Barlings Beach Car Park



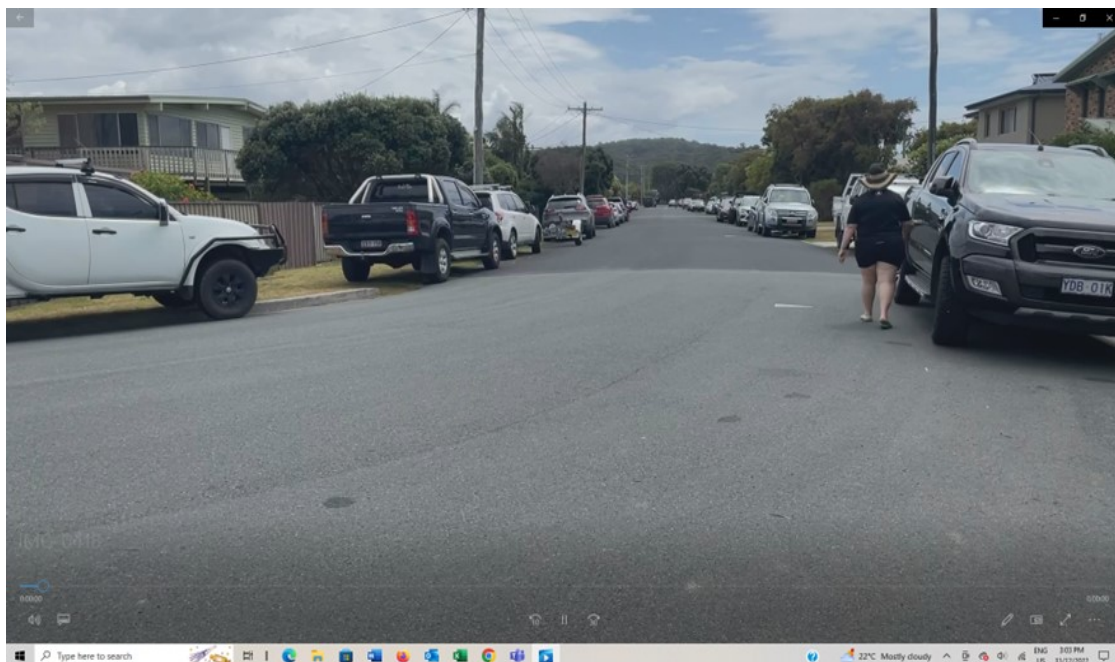
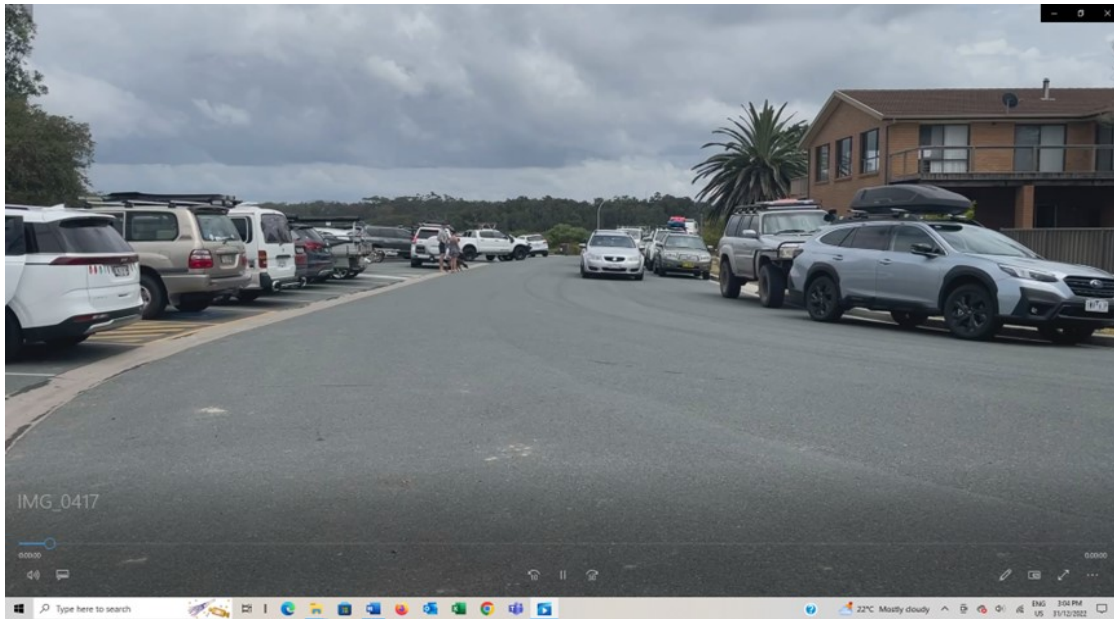
Barlings Beach Car Park and Red Hill Parade – (This photo taken 28/12/22 at 10.48am)



Kingston Parade/Kingston Place



Looking toward the boat ramp – some cars parked 3 deep in boat trailer parking bays.



Reid Street Intersection





Intersection of Kingston Pde and Reid Street



Sunpatch Parade from #93 to Rivermouth General Store and Cafe



## CONCLUSION

The people of Tomakin clearly understand that the natural ebb and flow of tides as well as storm activity have a major impact on our beaches. We would like to ensure that all ability access to these beaches is in place, for example, by way of well designed, well-engineered and well-constructed ramps. This would also mean that Council did not have to attend these beaches after each storm event to make the beaches safely accessible. TCA believes that this would prove to be cost effective in the long term and be inline with ESC's and the State Government's policies:

ESC's Draft Disability Plan—*"A schedule of access modifications to existing public assets to be developed and implemented."*

ESC's Draft Coastal Management Programme— *"A CMP is a plan of action for Council, public authorities and land managers responsible for coastal zone to:*

- *Address coastal hazards & risks*
- *Preserve habitats and cultural uses*
- *Encourage sustainable agriculture, economic and built development in the coastal zone*
- *Maintain or improve recreational amenity and resilience*
- *Adapt to emerging issues such as population growth and climate change."*

Coastal Management—State Environmental Planning:

- *"Ensure public safety and prevent risk to human life*
- *Maintain public access, amenity and use of beaches and foreshores*
- *Maintain and, where practicable, improve public access, amenity and use of beaches, foreshores, headlands and rock platforms."*

Further, by encouraging access to the beaches through designated zones/pathways, vegetation growth and dune stabilization would be encouraged and the likelihood of people making their own tracks lessened, particularly over the spit. This should be done in consultation with the community.

As a committee member of TCA, I have compiled this document from a position of understanding, as I too have a disability and walk with a walking stick. I use my motorised scooter to ride to the beaches and have difficulty with each access point. I love to swim at The Cove which is important to maintain my mobility and to join my family on trips to the beach. A major factor in purchasing the family home in Tomakin was the proximity to the beaches and the river. Although only a permanent resident in Tomakin for 7 years, I have been coming to Tomakin since 1971 when my parents bought a holiday cottage at Mossy Point and I brought my children to swim at Sunpatch. My Mother swam almost daily at Tomakin Cove from her retirement in the 1980's (when she and my Father had the house moved from Mossy Point to Tomakin), until she was in her 90's.

Interestingly, in a new survey currently being undertaken by TCA for their 25th Birthday Celebrations, 100% of respondents, at this stage, have listed "walking on the beach" as one of their favourite activities. With an ageing population, more children in the suburb, more traffic and future nearby developments the issues raised in this document need to be addressed and remedial actions planned for and carried out as a matter of some urgency.

Clearly, both residents and visitors alike want to swim at the closest beach to their accommodation and away from the crowds, despite the fact that the beach may be unpatrolled.

## CONCLUSION (cont.)

The TCA acknowledges the work done by the ESC with limited funds and resources, but as the shire grows and solicits visitors, it is vital that we present our assets well and preserve them for the future by carefully considered planning and wise investment. All ability beach access to Tomakin Beach, improved pathways at all the other access points, toilet and water facilities in the vicinity of the Barlings Beach car park and improved and safer parking **urgently** require attention.

The TCA further notes that the spit, located at the south end of Tomakin Beach, will have another study done – possibly in 2023 and we would welcome the opportunity to be involved and work with the ESC in discussions and planning for any future works to be undertaken in this area.

In conclusion, the TCA would welcome any opportunity to partner with the ESC to strengthen community engagement. This community has a wealth of knowledge, the ability to assist with fundraising and seeking grants and to provide manpower as well as to engage in dialogue with council about solutions to these local issues.

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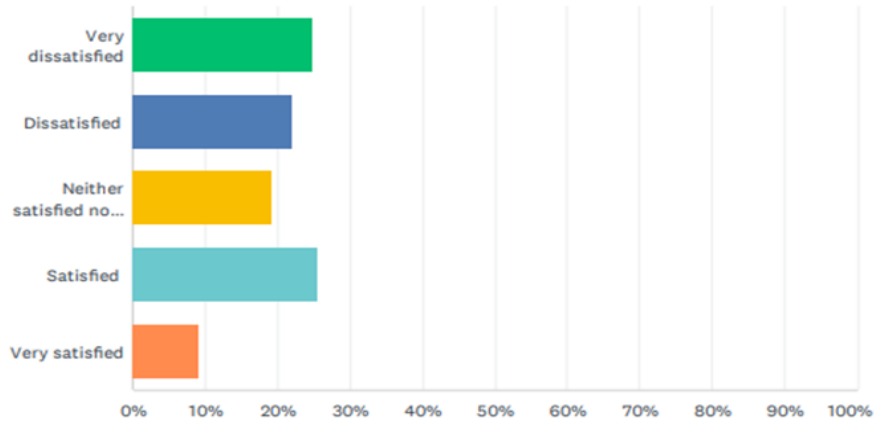
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# ATTACHMENT A – ACTUAL SURVEY RESULTS

## Q1 How satisfied are you with the Tomakin Cove beach access at Melville Pt/Red Hill Pde?

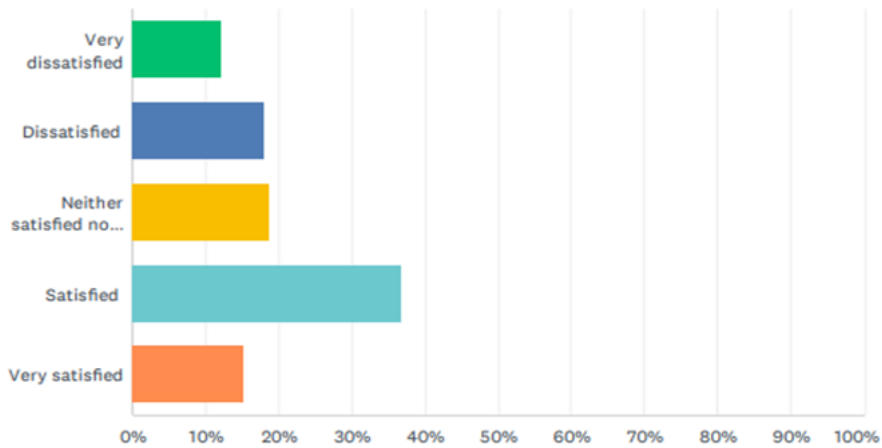
Answered: 141 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very dissatisfied	24.82%	35
Dissatisfied	21.99%	31
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	19.15%	27
Satisfied	25.53%	36
Very satisfied	9.22%	13
Total Respondents: 141		

## Q2 How satisfied are you with the cove beach access at Sunpatch Pde?

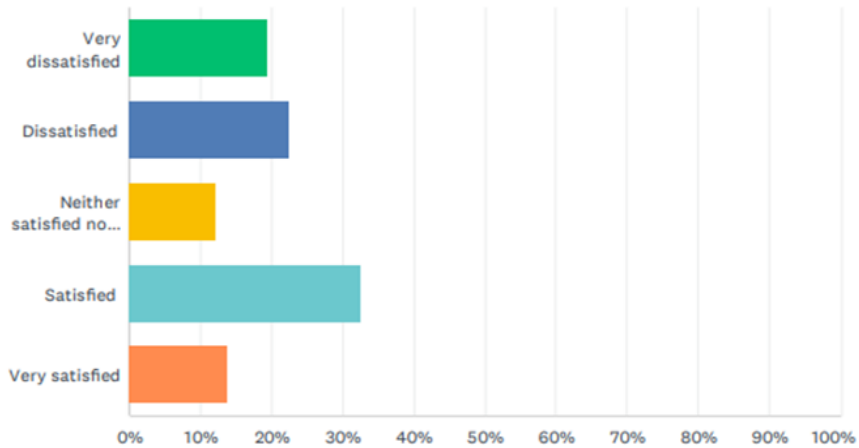
Answered: 139 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very dissatisfied	12.23%	17
Dissatisfied	17.99%	25
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	18.71%	26
Satisfied	36.69%	51
Very satisfied	15.11%	21
Total Respondents: 139		

### Q3 How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access at Reid St?

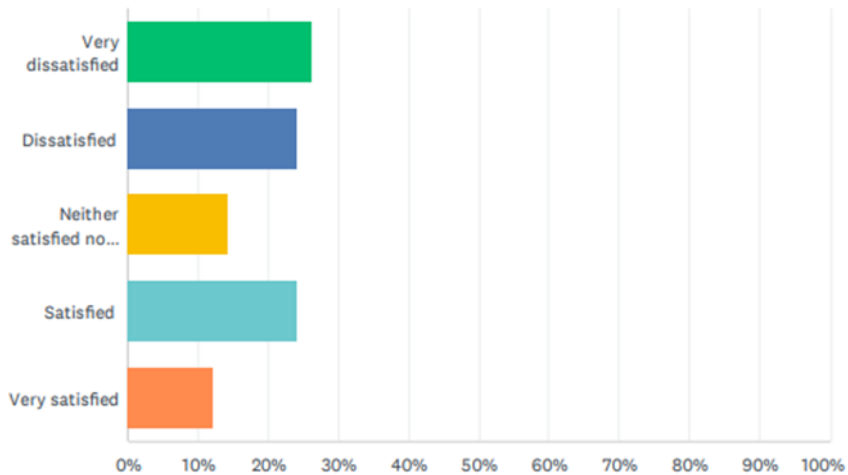
Answered: 139 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very dissatisfied	19.42%	27
Dissatisfied	22.30%	31
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	12.23%	17
Satisfied	32.37%	45
Very satisfied	13.67%	19
Total Respondents: 139		

### Q4 How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access behind toilet block?

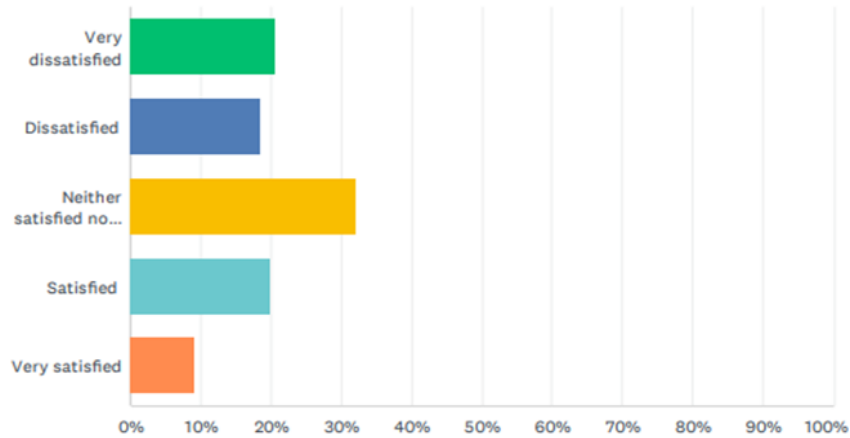
Answered: 141 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very dissatisfied	26.24%	37
Dissatisfied	24.11%	34
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	14.18%	20
Satisfied	24.11%	34
Very satisfied	12.06%	17
Total Respondents: 141		

## Q5 How satisfied are you with the parking in Reid St?

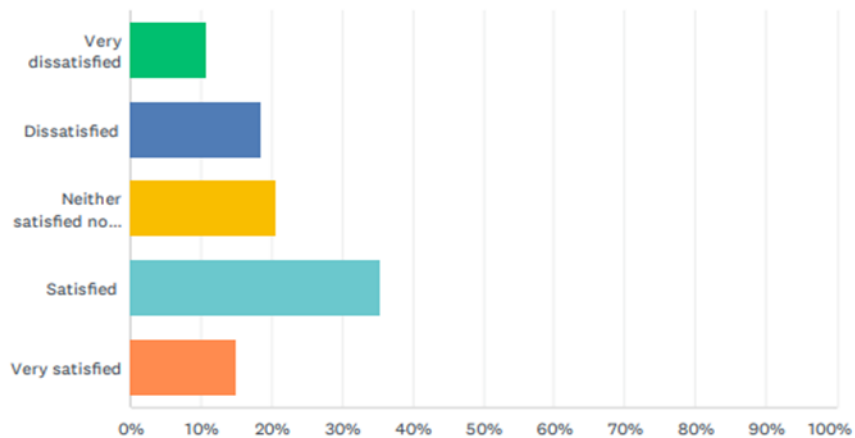
Answered: 141 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very dissatisfied	20.57%	29
Dissatisfied	18.44%	26
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	31.91%	45
Satisfied	19.86%	28
Very satisfied	9.22%	13
Total Respondents: 141		

## Q6 How satisfied are you with the parking in Kingston Place - near boat ramp?

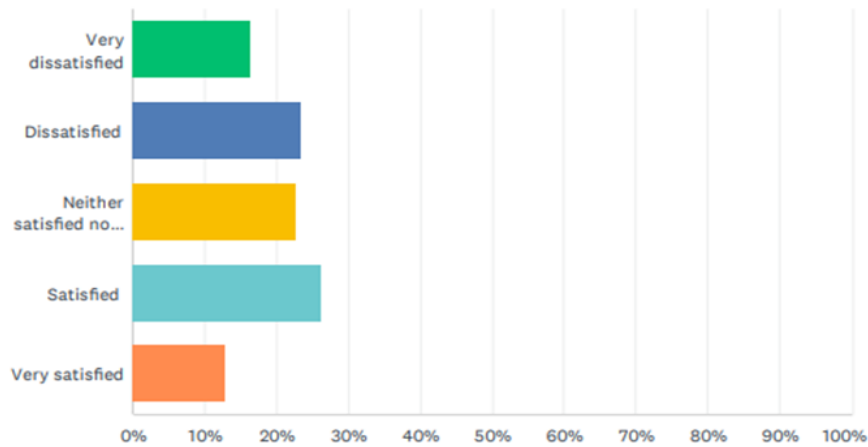
Answered: 141 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very dissatisfied	10.64%	15
Dissatisfied	18.44%	26
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	20.57%	29
Satisfied	35.46%	50
Very satisfied	14.89%	21
Total Respondents: 141		

## Q7 How satisfied are you with the public toilet facilities in Tomakin?

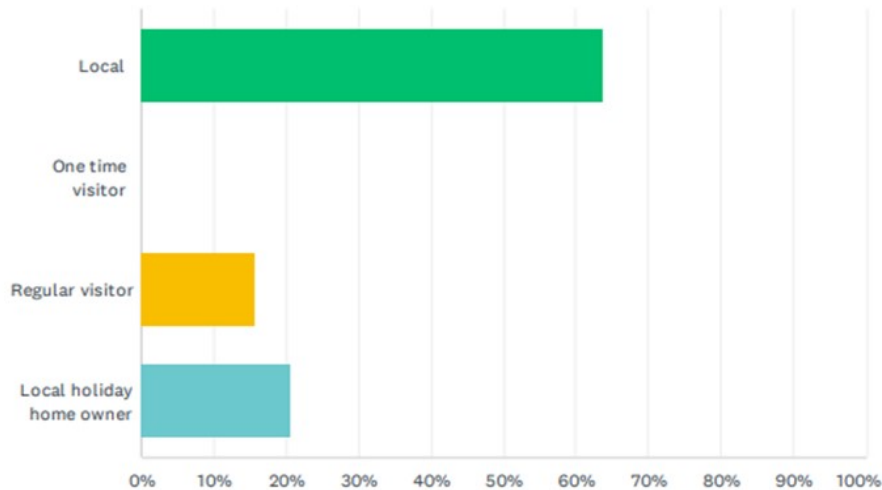
Answered: 141 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very dissatisfied	16.31%	23
Dissatisfied	23.40%	33
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	22.70%	32
Satisfied	26.24%	37
Very satisfied	12.77%	18
Total Respondents: 141		

## Q8 Are you a

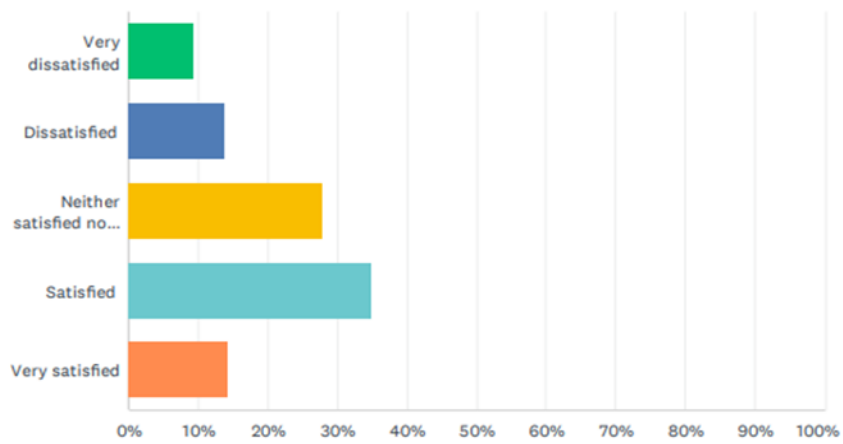
Answered: 141 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Local	63.83%	90
One time visitor	0.00%	0
Regular visitor	15.60%	22
Local holiday home owner	20.57%	29
TOTAL		141

## Q9 How satisfied are you with the access to Barlings Beach?

Answered: 140 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very dissatisfied	9.29%	13
Dissatisfied	13.57%	19
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	27.86%	39
Satisfied	35.00%	49
Very satisfied	14.29%	20
TOTAL		140

00000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000

1, Very dissatisfied 2. Dissatisfied 3. Neither Dissatisfied or satisfied	4. Satisfied 5. Very Satisfied	1	2	3	4	5
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin Cove beach access at Melville Pt/Red Hill Pde?						✓
How satisfied are you with the cove beach access at Sunpatch Pde?						✓
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access at Reid St?						✓
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access behind toilet block?						✓
How satisfied are you with the parking in Reid St?						✓
How satisfied are you with the parking in Kingston Place - near boat ramp?						✓
How satisfied are you with the public toilet facilities in Tomakin?						✓
How satisfied are you with the beach access at Barlings Beach?						✓

Please circle one

Are you a	Local	One time visitor	Regular visitor	<u>Local Holiday Home Owner</u>
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Comments

### TCA TOMAKIN BEACH ACCESS SURVEY

1, Very dissatisfied 2. Dissatisfied 3. Neither Dissatisfied or satisfied	4. Satisfied 5. Very Satisfied	1	2	3	4	5
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin Cove beach access at Melville Pt/Red Hill Pde?			X			
How satisfied are you with the cove beach access at Sunpatch Pde?			X			
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access at Reid St?			X			
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access behind toilet block?			X			
How satisfied are you with the parking in Reid St?		X				
How satisfied are you with the parking in Kingston Place - near boat ramp?			X			
How satisfied are you with the public toilet facilities in Tomakin?		X				
How satisfied are you with the beach access at Barlings Beach?		X				

Please circle one

Are you a	Local	One time visitor	Regular visitor	<u>Local Holiday Home Owner</u>
-----------	-------	------------------	-----------------	---------------------------------

Comments

Shower plus toilet block at Ballings Beach please.

0000000000000000000000000000000000

1, Very dissatisfied 2. Dissatisfied 3. Neither Dissatisfied or satisfied	4. Satisfied 5. Very Satisfied	1	2	3	4	5
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin Cove beach access at Melville Pt/Red Hill Pde?						✓
How satisfied are you with the cove beach access at Sunpatch Pde?						✓
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access at Reid St?						✓
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access behind toilet block?						✓
How satisfied are you with the parking in Reid St?						✓
How satisfied are you with the parking in Kingston Place - near boat ramp?						✓
How satisfied are you with the public toilet facilities in Tomakin?						✓
How satisfied are you with the beach access at Barlings Beach?						✓

Please circle one

Are you a  Local  One time visitor  Regular visitor  Local Holiday Home Owner

Comments

The No. 1 attraction of Tomakin is its originality, no development of beaches and old world charm. Original track to the beach should remain + no more facilities are required. Leave it all as is!

0000000000000000000000000000000000

1, Very dissatisfied 2. Dissatisfied 3. Neither Dissatisfied or satisfied	4. Satisfied 5. Very Satisfied	1	2	3	4	5
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin Cove beach access at Melville Pt/Red Hill Pde?						✓
How satisfied are you with the cove beach access at Sunpatch Pde?						✓
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access at Reid St?						✓
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access behind toilet block?						✓
How satisfied are you with the parking in Reid St?						✓
How satisfied are you with the parking in Kingston Place - near boat ramp?						✓
How satisfied are you with the public toilet facilities in Tomakin?						✓
How satisfied are you with the beach access at Barlings Beach?						✓

Please circle one

Are you a  Local  One time visitor  Regular visitor  Local Holiday Home Owner

Comments

I Like all these things just as they are now!  
All this adds to the charm of Tomakin.

Leave all the beach accesses as they are.  
Toilet facilities are adequate. There are two already.







1. Very dissatisfied	4. Satisfied	1	2	3	4	5
2. Dissatisfied	5. Very Satisfied					
3. Neither Dissatisfied or satisfied						
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin Cove beach access at Melville Pt/Red Hill Pde?						✓
How satisfied are you with the cove beach access at Sunpatch Pde?						✓
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access at Reid St?						✓
How satisfied are you with the Tomakin beach access behind toilet block?						✓
How satisfied are you with the parking in Reid St?						✓
How satisfied are you with the parking in Kingston Place - near boat ramp?						✓
How satisfied are you with the public toilet facilities in Tomakin?						✓
How satisfied are you with the beach access at Barlings Beach?						✓

Please circle one

Are you a	Local	One time visitor	Regular visitor	Local Holiday Home Owner
-----------	-------	------------------	-----------------	--------------------------

Comments

TOMAKIN'S CHARACTER + CHARM WILL BE LOST IF MASS - AMENITIES ARE INSTALLED AT THE HEADLAND. IT WILL ENCOURAGE EXCESS TRAFFIC AS WELL AS

RUBBISH AND POLLUTION TO THE BEACH AND COVE WE ARE AGAINST UPGRADING OR INSTALLING NEW PATHWAYS TO THE BEACH AT TOMAKIN COVE PDE THERE IS ADEQUATE ACCESS ALREADY OR POTENTIAL FOR IMPROVED ACCESS TO THE NORTH OF BARLINGS BEACH.

PERHAPS CONSULTATION SHOULD BE HAD WITH THE CARAVAN PARK FOR ACCESS TO THE NORTH OF THE LAND RELEASE AREAS RATHER THAN RISKING FURTHER EROSION + TRAFFIC TO TOMAKIN COVE WHICH IS SMALL + SENSITIVE.



# ATTACHMENT B - UNABRIDGED COMMENTS SORTED INTO CATEGORIES ONLY

## DO NOTHING

- Please don't change anything :) it's perfect
- As a local a toilet block would be detrimental to the feel and landscape of the area. From experience travelling around Australia, toilet blocks bring a lot of undesirable people who camp, leave rubbish and disfigure the land. The north coast has been ruined, why do people want to ruin our beautiful south coast. Tomakin is already becoming too busy, we don't need to encourage more development and loose the lovely feel of Tomakin. It is not progress at all. Toilets or change rooms are not required. Go to the boat ramp if need to use toilets. Please do not turn Tomakin into a coastal/city beach.
- Leave it as it is. If you want city facilities move to Bondi Beach.
- Overall satisfied with our access to our amazing beaches
- Building more car parks in Tomakin would be a terrible idea. Car parks are an ugly nuisance. Keep Tomakin as beautiful and as car-free as possible.
- We have two toilet blocks in Tomakin already which Council struggles to maintain. I think two toilet blocks in a small community like Tomakin is more than sufficient.
- I am strongly against erecting another toilet block at Melville Point. It is unnecessary. We are already troubled by free campers in that parking area and a toilet block would only aggravate that problem. It is impossible to move these people on. Furthermore from previous experience, at Nth Broulee, toilet blocks attract antisocial behaviour, lighting of fires, parties, drug dealing etc. A toilet block on Melville point will spoil the natural beauty of that area. I am more than happy with the toilet block near the boat ramp.
- Dog access is extremely important to us and the current arrangements work very well
- Tomakin's character and charm will be lost if mass amenities are installed at the headland. It will encourage excess traffic as well as rubbish and pollution to the beach and cove. We are against upgrading or installing new pathways to the beach at Tomakin Cove. There is adequate access already or potential for improved access to the north of Barlings Beach. Perhaps consultation should be had with the caravan park (*at Barlings*) for access to the north of the land release rather than risking further erosion and traffic to Tomakin Cove which is small and sensitive.
- The No 1 attraction of Tomakin is its originality, no development of beaches and oldworld charm. Original track to the beach should remain. Leave it all as is.
- I like all these things as they are now! All this adds to the charm of Tomakin. Leave all the beach accesses as they are.

## BEACH ACCESS

- There should be easier accessibility to Tomakin Cove at the very least - it is a very safe dog free beach regularly used by people with prams, wheelchairs and walking aids.
- All access points are fine. Maybe a bit of sand dune protecting needed at the access near the toilet block is needed.
- Access to all beaches are very unfriendly to babies and older people and disabled. It's very hard and uncomfortable. We also need showers and fresh drinking water at each beach.
- The only problem I have is the access to Tomakin Beach to the right of Melville Point. It is not wide enough for a pram. Better access is further along but is not as convenient.
- Compared to Broulee and other beach access points in the area Tomakin lags way behind. Tomakin Cove is a trip hazard and needs to be cleared and levelled. Rubber or plastic sand matting needs to be installed like it has at other beaches.
- The entry areas need widening and safety mats put in place.
- The access to Tomakin beach is a real issue as you can't easily get on the beach if you have any mobility issues.

- All the beach accesses are deteriorating and difficult to navigate. I'm sure a serious accident is waiting to happen. The entrance to the cove on Melville point is very dangerous and needs to be fixed urgently.
- None of the beaches are accessible for people with disabilities or the elderly.
- Access to the main beach and the cove beach is poor. The Cove especially, is dangerous and hard to navigate for people with mobility problems, and is full of deep ruts and overgrown bushes. This is also dangerous as it hides the many snakes we know exist in the bushland (as I have seen them on many occasions). Please fix the access to our beaches, and also provide some basic facilities such as a tap and a nearby seat to enable us to wash the sand from our feet and sit down while we put on our footwear.
- Beach access is poor at all the beaches due to lack of maintenance.
- Access at all entries is very poor for disabled or young with prams or elderly. Ripped my foot open on wood at Reid st path - Sunpatch entry could be rubber as erosion there is extremely bad.
- Need better access to Tomakin beach near the toilets.
- There is no beach access for the disabled. The stair access was taken away with no consultation and not being replaced. There are not enough facilities for peak times, bins are always overflowing and rubbish in the streets.
- The original access to beach should be restored with ramp to enable young families and disabled to access the toilets quickly. There are brilliant access ramps on other beaches in NSW which hold up in all weather conditions. Bring back original access to Tomakin beach. Use existing parking & toilet upgrade. Picnic tables are also situated near original path. This would stop people making their own tracks randomly everywhere else. The access at the moment is useless for prams and wheel chairs. In this day and age access should be all inclusive.
- Beach access could be better than just winding dirt tracks.
- Little safe access for elderly or disabled
- The beach access at the end of Redhill down to the Cove just needs keeping clear of overhanging grass. Beach access at the toilet block needs to be upgraded and have disabled access. This would give disabled people access to both the Cove and Tomakin Beach. Cannot believe there is no disabled access to any of our beaches.
- There is no disability access to any of the beaches. Very disappointing that only abled people can use the beaches.
- The road to access Tomakin Cove on SunPatch Parade does not have a ramp for prams, wheelchairs or bikes. People need to use the driveways from private residencies if they have a wheelchair/bike/pram.
- All access to the beaches and cove need to be improved for ALL ability access.
- Access for all people of varying ability is essential and a fundamental right! The access from Redhill to The Cove is too narrow, uneven and not maintained well. Access from Sunpatch to The Cove must have ramp from the road to the lane so prams wheelchairs mobility scooters etc can access it from the road. There should be a no parking space at the same spot. A rubber mat with a suitable grip rail is essential here. Kingston Pl main beach access needs maintaining and a grip rail to hold onto.
- Due to the poor beach access people are continually making tracks through the sand dunes which is causing unrepairable damage
- Also as someone with mobility issues the access to the beach is certainly unsatisfactory. Please look at improving access for people, surely there are options, as is the case for other beaches on the coast. I appreciate there has been some effort with railings (these are difficult to reach in some parts), however it is still extremely difficult to access the beach. Maybe some sort of boardwalk could be erected at Reid Street and behind the toilet block at the end of Kingston Place?, this will keep people off the dunes and improve access. In the days of inclusion and accessibility for all people, there needs to be more work done on this.
- I feel that we should be providing better access to all beaches in Tomakin. However, not putting stairs or a ramp back near toilet/shower facilities is ludicrous. All up and down NSW South Coast there is fabulous permanent access to beaches. Having a sound structure also ensures people only use the designated access they aren't tramping all over making easier access for themselves. We have a great covered seating area in Reid Street which was used often by families who had spent

time at beach. I was asked by a lady with a disabled daughter in a beach pram when access would be restored. She had great difficulty using newer access and gave up. I was actually embarrassed to say we were still trying to regain our original entry point to beach.

- Access to all beaches need urgent attention upgrades eg. Paths, railing steps and cutting down bushes which impact on users.
- The Tomaga River access is not good either for the elderly or disabled. The fencing along the bank needs attention too as it is falling down from the dune and is a hazard.
- You need to define access according to needs e.g. depending on your physical capabilities, disabilities, elderly, family with infants in pram/beach buggy, dog on leash...ps thank you for your efforts on our behalf.
- As a holiday home owner for the past 33 years we have seen some improvements with beach access and recognise the foot traffic and tidal issues will impact any access issues. It would be great for future planning if at least one point of access could be provided for people with disabilities perhaps a boardwalk type walkway. Consultation with appropriate people/local access committee would be required to ensure it meets the Australian Standards for people with disabilities.
- Access needs to be accessible for prams, wheelchairs etc Bush's cut back along path way at back of toilet block
- Compared with other local beaches the entrances to all three beaches is sadly lacking. The dunes are being eroded by people creating their own access to the beaches because entrances are poorly maintained and prepared. I have witness on several occasions, disabled people having to have several people assist them getting on and off the beach. Families and elderly people struggling to get on and off the beach. If we want people to visit and keep these beautiful beaches we need proper well maintain access points. Community members have spoken to Council numerous occasions and been told it is not possible to maintain access. The dangerous situation created by the removal of the stairs is a prime example of neglect or solving of this ongoing problem. It's a disgrace to this beautiful part of the world that is more populated and visited than ever before.
- Council needs to recognise these beaches have had a significant increase in use due to new housing development. Also there is no disabled access to any beaches in Tomakin.
- Replace the stairs to Tomakin beach, with disability access, improve access to Barlings beach. I have a family member who cannot access onto Tomakin or Barlings beach's.
- I actually love walking through the trees behind the toilet block to get to the beach, but the overhanging trees could be trimmed. But if they were removed it would ruin the ambiance created by this entry point.
- Melville Point entry is too narrow.
- -Dangerous access at all points to the local beaches -
- Reid st access needs to be repaired to previous state.
- Re beach access. I have been quite satisfied with the beach access although it was very disappointing when the stairs disintegrated at the main Tomakin Beach access and Council refused to make any repairs. I have put satisfied in the questionnaire however, the recent bad weather and beach erosion (late March/early April 2022) has now caused serious problems with the Reid Street access to Tomakin Beach and the main (Sunpatch Parade) access to Tomakin Cove. I know a number of people with physical disabilities who now cannot use either of these access points. As more visitors come to the area, over holiday periods especially, areas of Tomakin can become overpopulated with both people and cars. It is crucial that there are a number of access points to the beaches to accommodate the influx of people at these times. The load needs to be spread evenly across the area, therefore, it is vital that work is done to both Reid Street and Sunpatch Parade entrances to the beaches to ensure that people are parking not just at Barlings Beach car park area and Kingston Place but also at Reid Street and Sunpatch Parade. If these 2 access points aren't fixed there will be an excess of people and vehicles at the Red Hill Parade/Melville Point entrance to the Cove and at the Kingston Place main Beach access for Tomakin Beach. People could also be seriously injured trying to access the beaches via the damaged access points if they are not repaired. Not to mention the extra erosion that will occur as people start to create their own access points. I know there is an issue with access to the beaches for people with disabilities. If we can't have a disability access point to the beach (and I do understand the complications and issues that Council has regarding this).

However, when repairs are done to the Reid Street entrance and Sunpatch Parade entrance could Council ensure that both access points have a gradual slope down to the beach to make access easier for people? Could they also extend the hand railings at Reid Street to go right down to the beach? For some people, they are able to access the beach provided they have hand rails to hold onto and steady themselves.

- There needs to be improved access for people with disabilities in at least one access point. But maintain the ambience of access - the secret garden atmosphere from accessing behind the toilet block is wonderful and must be retained. Reid St access was destroyed by the wild tides and improvements need to take into consideration increased storm damage due to climate change.
- Recent erosion at Reid Street entrance to beach is of significant concern. Add more (natural) rocks to inner reef.
- have to use walking stick - access is a disgrace
- We need better and equitable access to all Tomakin beaches. Permanent structures that test and maintain stability during king tides and inundations. Barlings beach needs safe access. Many snakes on the treaded paths to the beach behind houses.
- While access is satisfactory in places now I think as the population ages better access will be required. People with disabilities may find great difficulty access the beach.

### **TOILETS**

- Tomakin needs a toilet block for Barlings/Cove.
- Toilets are needed at the Tomakin cove side. Better access to beach at Tomakin cove.
- Why is there not a toilet block near Barlings Beach Melville point. High traffic area. No water/tap
- I think we could do with another toilet block at Barlings Beach car park.
- Need toilets at Barlings beach car park.
- There should also be a small unisex toilet block at the Barlings beach car park this would save people using the bushes/ rocks for a toilet.
- Toilet facilities are run down and insufficient for the number of locals and visitors frequenting the beaches.
- Additional toilet facilities at the Melville Point car park would be a great improvement.
- Need another toilet block near Barlings Beach
- The public toilets are poorly maintained and cleaned.
- Toilets needed at Barlings end.
- Toilet facilities at Melville point would be good .
- The toilet block on Kingston Place is a disgrace. The outside is fantastic with all the art work, but 9 times out of 10 the toilets are filthy, there is no soap dispenser near the sink, and often they are out of toilet paper. They are also extremely dated. This all reflects poorly on the township, despite the beautiful artwork out the front. Thanks for taking comments.
- Need toilets at Barlings Beach car park.
- The carpark area at the bottom of Melville Point needs a toilet block, especially when it was a refuge location for many during the bushfires.
- A toilet block in the Melville pt area could be helpful nowadays with the increase in population.
- Public toilets - none available near the cove for young families. - lovely mosaics at boat ramp public toilets but poor internal facilities
- I would very much like to see a shower block/toilets on Red Hill Parade near the point for Barlings Beach beachgoers
- The lack of public toilets is a huge issue for everyone. There must be a new toilet block built at the Barlings Beach entrance as a matter of urgency.
- Please build a toilet/shower block at Barlings beneath Melville Point
- Tomakin needs a toilet block for Barlings/Cove.
- More public toilets for Barlings Beach.
- Shower plus toilet block at Barlings Beach please.
- A public toilet block with showers would be a great asset to Tomakin for Barlings Beach.
- Barlings Beach needs facilities: toilets/showers/fresh water.

- Toilets or lack of at Barlings Beach.
- It would be a good idea to include toilets/shower facilities on Red Hill Parade for Barlings access.
- More than one set of toilets would be great but I can't see that ever happening. Not acceptable in anyway at the state of Tomakins facilities atm.
- Their should be a toilet block constructed in the vicinity of the Tomakin Servo to the Tomakin Rally Shed. I always find that when I go to catch the bargains at the Rally Shed I always have to leave my browsing to get in the car to go to the toilet around at the park on the river. I then return to the Rally Shed to continue browsing. Tomakin residents who walk to the IGA shop could also find this useful knowing there was a toilet block in that vicinity.
- Re the toilets - I haven't used them, sorry.
- along with building a toilet-change room, outdoor shower at Barlings beach car park.
- A toilet block/BBQ facilities at Barlings Beach near Melville Point.
- Need toilets at Barlings beach
- I am more than happy with the toilet block near the boat ramp I am strongly against erecting another toilet block at Melville Point. It is unnecessary. We are already troubled by free campers in that parking area and a toilet block would only aggravate that problem. It is impossible to move these people on. Furthermore from previous experience, at Nth Broulee, toilet blocks attract anti-social behaviour, lighting of fires, parties, drug dealing etc. A toilet block on Melville point will spoil the natural beauty of that area.
- Their should be a toilet block constructed in the vicinity of the Tomakin Servo to the Tomakin Rally Shed. I always find that when I go to catch the bargains at the Rally Shed I always have to leave my browsing to get in the car to go to the toilet around at the park on the river. I then return to the Rally Shed to continue browsing. Tomakin residents who walk to the IGA shop could also find this useful knowing there was a toilet block in that vicinity.
- Timber doors in toilet block swell and unable to shut and lock, maybe stainless steel would be better. Love the mosaic wall pictures on the outside.
- Re Public Toilet Facilities: I am aware there has been discussion for some time now from a small group of people saying Tomakin needs another public toilet block located at Barlings Beach/ Melville Point. I'm also aware of a number of residents who do not want another public toilet block. I am strongly against this as I don't believe we need another toilet block in Tomakin, especially not so close to residents' homes. Public toilet facilities can facilitate anti social behaviour ranging from noise, partying, illegal camping, to alcohol and drug use and potentially breaking into residents homes in the area. It seems to me we are focusing more on a busy 6 week period of the year, rather than looking at the entire 12 month period. It also seems the focus is on visitors and not on Tomakin residents. I thought the Tomakin Community Association is about what the local Tomakin community want/need rather than what a visitor who may be here for 1 week wants. I'm aware that in future planning we of course need to look at the visitor numbers. Perhaps discussion/consultation with other Councils that have a heavy visitor load to their beaches about their public facilities would give a clearer picture of numbers/locations of public facilities/visitor expectations/issues/concerns etc. Has any research been done about this? There have been suggestions about putting an amenities block at the bottom of Melville Point. Another suggestion has been to put one on the grassed area immediately behind the walkway down to Tomakin Cove (Melville Point entrance). Not once has there been a comment or mention of the residents who live in this area and how this would affect them. I am also amazed that anyone would want to spoil the natural beauty of the area around the bottom of Melville Point by putting a toilet block there! There has been no mention of the potential negative impact of a public toilet block in that area and how it would affect residents living nearby. It appears to be all about 'the greater good' for the visitor, with no thought about the resident. If an amenities block was ever to be considered around the Barlings Beach area then the better place for it would be near the Barlings Beach car park on the grassed area on Red Hill Parade (as far away from existing housing as possible). However, this would also have a negative impact for residents in the area. I believe that 2 public toilet blocks are more than sufficient for the size of Tomakin. Broulee has a much larger population and yet they seem to cope well with their 2 public toilet blocks. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
- No more facilities are required
- Toilet facilities are adequate. There are two already.



## **PARKING**

- The boat parking needs to be better sign posted and then re-enforced. I'm sick of single cars taking up designated boat parking. I'm one of five local Tomakin fisherman who are constantly frustrated by this situation.
- Should a beach access area be designated for people with disabilities then a designated parking space would be required.
- Beach access is poor at all the beaches due to lack of parking.
- Limited Car parking in all areas is not enough.
- Boat ramp parking for cars and trailers should strictly available for cars with boat trailers. NOT CARS IN GENERAL. And in some cases DOUBLE PARKED!!!
- Car park areas have insufficient capacity during peak holiday periods.
- The Melville Point carparking area could be slightly enlarged too.
- There is a worrying issue in the boat ramp area with parking for boat trailers being taken up by cars. This makes it so hard for boat owners to find a double space up the street. This is nothing new but has been increasing each year, we had signs many years ago saying trailer parking but they were removed. I believe in holiday periods they should be replaced. As for parking on people's naturestrips and driveways it appears to be a permanent problem due to the fact that there doesn't seem to be any available land.
- As a permanent resident I am very dissatisfied with the parking at the boat ramp in Kingston Place. I live near the ramp and parking for my own residence is impossible, in the holiday season, there should be curb and gutting or no parking signs.
- Parking beach access points need to be improved along with the grassed play areas for families near parking at beach - this needs mowing as it is disgraceful and dangerous attracting snakes and rats. Thank you for this work you are doing.
- As regards parking at all beach access points defining the car spaces may be useful to ensure safety and reduce damage to the environment. It may also require the area at Reid St to be surfaced to limit damage in the area. Congratulations to the TCA in taking the initiative to survey the community in regard to this issue.
- More parking required.
- Parking between boat owners and beach goers is difficult at Tomakin beach car park. This area is dangerous for boat owners trying to use the ramp when beach goers park in the trailer bays.
- I get sick of cars parking in the trailer parking spaces at the boat ramp/Kingston street
- Wouldn't it be lovely to have more parking, boardgames style entry to our beautiful beaches. It's about time Tomakin gets some funding and attention from the State Government and local Council!

## **DOGS** (Not part of the survey but interesting comments)

- If you stop dogs coming to our beaches and have timeshare at Tomakin beach that will make access a lot better. This all started with allowing dogs 24hrs.
- Suggest a curfew for dogs between 10am and 4pm
- Love taking my dogs for a walk around the beach and river
- Way too many dogs on beach during peak times. Ridiculous, sort it out guys.
- I am a dog owner, but I do believe Barlings Beach would be much better as the dog friendly beach, in peak holiday time the dogs running wild on Tomakin Beach is crazy, it is near impossible to relax, it is only a very small majority of dog owners who do not control their dogs.
- Too many dogs off leash at Tomakin beach jumping on people. One near knocked me over post surgery on my knee. Pls make Barlings Beach dog friendly instead of Tomakin beach. Too many dogs off leash at this popular beach. Dogs should be on leash at Tomakin beach.
- Would like to see better signage in regards to dog beaches and timeshare times and no dog beaches. Non locals don't seem to care about it or how they leave our beaches. Eg dog poo left, rubbish and dogs on the cove.
- Dog access to Tomakin main beach should be time share only due to the large number of dogs making swimming for families unsafe. Barlings Beach should be changed from time share to full time dog access. The amount of dogs on Tomakin Beaches is totally out of hand making family swimming days unsafe and uncomfortable.

- There is more care and concern for dogs, then there is for people. Speaking of dogs, is there a possibility of time share on Tomakin Beach, rather than 24 hour access. Unfortunately, some dog owners are not responsible, and I am (as well as others) too scare to walk on the beach for fear of getting knocked over by out of control dogs. It would be good if there could be a tap at the toilet block to wash your feet, the shower and dogs water aren't really satisfactory.
- Would like to see the main beach dog access changed to allow some time for people to enjoy without dogs.
- You created this problem with allowing 24hrs dogs off leash. Make Tomakin beach timeshare dog access only. Return the beach back to people not animals. Dogs are killing Tomakin beaches, it's too busy now, I never drive my car to the beach anymore. Dog poo is becoming a big issue.

**MELVILLE POINT** (Not part of the survey but interesting comments)

- My main concern which isn't contained in this survey is the access to Melville Point Lookout. Pedestrian access is unsafe. Numerous times I have seen pedestrians squished up with nowhere to go as cars ascend or descend the lookout sometimes going too fast for the conditions. Perhaps there could be a metre of off road pedestrian access on the cliff side of the road if it was to be slashed back. Could this important access be included? The lookout is a jewel of our area but is sadly neglected at the moment. When we moved here the grass and shrubs were kept tidy around the fence line. It is a busy lookout on a daily basis as the views are spectacular. I have visited many clifftop lookouts along our coastline and ours certainly needs a spruce up when compared to others.
- Tomakin needs stairs up Melville Pt.

**PATHWAYS** (Not part of the survey but interesting comments)

- Concerned about pedestrian safety along Kingston place between shop and beach due to vehicles, prams, small children on road as no pathway.
- For safety reasons a footpath is required along Sunpatch Parade to get pedestrians off the road especially when it's busy and cars are parked on both sides.
- Foot paths to along roads with access to the beach would be very satisfying.
- A paved path.
- Poor beach access in Tomakin is secondary to no footpath along Sunpatch Parade
- Footpaths on Sunpatch Pde would help local access without needing to drive

**OTHER** –(Not part of the survey but interesting comments)

- Please return the basket ball ring to Jack Buckley Park.
- Need a tap at the Barlings Beach access car park.
- Need more bench seats at all locations
- I'm very dissatisfied about the lack of facilities for teenage youth. How ridiculous to take away the only means of recreation for this group of residents (the basketball hoop) if we want to progress as a community that is inclusive of all residents we need facilities for all age brackets.
- The mowing by Council on the paddock area between Beachside Boulevard and the Barlings Beach carpark is a joke.