

Supporting a fenced dog park in Batemans Bay and an area for dog training and agility lessons to be held in Batemans Bay.

Mrs Kerrie McCutcheon Speaking on a Non Agenda Item at Eurobodalla Council meeting of 22 November 2016.

Good morning Mayor, Councillors, General Manager and Council staff.

I would like to add my support for a fenced, off leash dog park in Batemans Bay and also for the need for Council to allocate suitable grounds where dog training and agility classes can be held in Batemans Bay.

A purpose built and well maintained, fenced dog park would become a social hub for people and their dogs to meet and to form friendships and would allow communities to connect through participation in activities and events with their canine companions.

Pets provide companionship and increase our quality of life. They can reduce stress and can encourage a healthier lifestyle by getting owners out on walks and social visits to the local dog park (if we had one).

Dog parks allow seniors and those with mobility problems to exercise their dogs and also to meet other people, which reduces their isolation.

This also leads to improvements in their mental and emotional health.

Owners of dogs with disabilities (such as deafness) and owners of sighthounds or scenthounds need a safe, fenced area to allow their dogs to be off leash; as do owners with young dogs in training or newly acquired older rescue dogs from pounds or shelters.

Visiting a dog park is a low cost, family friendly activity.

An increasing number of pet owners choose to travel in a caravan or motor home to enable their pets to travel with them.

A dog park, along with the off leash beach areas, would encourage more tourists to visit and stay longer in the area.

I am a member of Milton Ulladulla Dog Training Club and our classes are held on the cricket oval at Milton, in Shoalhaven Council.

In Bega Valley Shire, the Bega Valley Kennel And Dog Training Club hold classes on the Bermagui Oval.


There are areas suitable to hold dog training in Batemans Bay, such as one of the many under-utilised ovals.

This would only require a change of Council regulations for classes to begin.

Surely Eurobodalla Council could encourage responsible dog ownership within the Batemans Bay community by allowing training classes on one of these ovals.

I present to the Mayor and Councillors and to the General Manager of Eurobodalla Council, a petition supported by over 800 residents requesting that Council take action to redress the present lack of facilities for pet dog owners to safely exercise, socialise and train their dogs in Batemans Bay and to provide fenced, 24hour leash free dog parks and to allocate facilities suitable for the safe training and education of pet dogs and their owners and to promote responsible dog ownership in the community.

Thank you for your attention.


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