

## 10<sup>th</sup> May Council Meeting: points

I am here today on behalf of those people who want to **keep Melaleuca Park as it is** and not have it re-designated to allow buildings on the site.

We are **not** against the education centre, but we do not want to exchange a park for it.

It is a small park, sheltered from the sea, free of bats, and of a size suitable for those children who find such spaces as Corrigans too open and too challenging. It is the only designated park space in Catalina and, it seems, in Batemans Bay, and is both free-form open and flat, with playground equipment suitable for a range of children.

The **process** so far has not been that helpful for community involvement, e.g.

- a meeting on the topic was held in Moruya, not in Batemans Bay, and was not well advertised; I was the only person there from Batemans Bay.
- the notice on the park does not give that meeting information, nor the date for submissions, only an internet link;
- links to key documents are broken - such as to the document that outlines the Catalina area land management - and
- important information, such as the proposed footprint of the buildings, was not displayed, only an image showing the breakup of the park parcel boundaries, and
- local resident letters that do not appear to have been received).

I am aware another meeting is to be held on the matter on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May in Batemans Bay. And I understand an unofficial request has been made for

- that meeting to be held on-site (in the Childcare centre, away from bats and to allow easy access for those nearby who would be most affected)
- that the submission date be postponed till after that meeting, preferably until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May
- That the notice at the park **have added** the date, time and venue of the next meeting, plus the new date for the submissions to be lodged.

I am here to make this a formal request. I also ask for an answer that gives plenty of time for the community to be notified.

Background points/other questions if needed:

- What are the parameters of the meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup>?
  - Will there be an independent convenor? (The last one was very fair)
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