‘Consideration and compliance’ – Council’s response to illegal camping

Staff training, public education and increased compliance activities are part of Council’s recent response to significant complaints from community members about illegal camping and rubbish issues in public places, particularly in coastal reserves.

Council’s Director of Planning and Regulation Vince Connell said whilst Council has extensive signage along its coastal reserves, it is a constant resource challenge to gather sufficient evidence for any court action to defend fines issued against illegal campers.

“Council is conducting increased monitoring and compliance activity involving illegal camping ‘hot spots’ in response to concerns from the community, however our approach has also involved education and advocacy,” he said.

“We’ve issued a number of enforcement notices in recent weeks, but our officers have also had many conversations with people at these sites about the regulations and sharing information on the many facilities available in the Tweed for legal camping.

“There’s also recognition that issues of genuine homelessness can overlap with those of illegal camping and need to be treated with careful consideration.

“It is a complex issue trying to balance the needs of some vulnerable people with community expectations about the environmental and social effects of illegal use and rubbish in public spaces.

“Council provides periodic training for staff and contractors to ensure that rangers, customer service staff, libraries, community centres, parks and gardens workers understand the wide range of circumstances that contribute to a state of homelessness.

“We want our staff to be aware of local service providers that can assist people in need but also to be able to identify when behaviour is unacceptable and is a police issue.

“Council also plays a major role in the advocacy to the State and Federal Government in seeking a greater funding and service provision for those people who are genuinely homeless.”

Love thy Neighbour (Day)

Happy neighbours also tend to be healthier neighbours and Tweed residents are being encouraged to hold a gathering to meet the people who live nearby.

Sunday 26 March is Neighbour Day, an annual initiative by Relationships Australia, to encourage and assist people to meet and build stronger connections to the people in their neighbourhood.

Invitations, posters and everything else needed to promote and host a Neighbour Day gathering can be downloaded from www.neighbourday.org and packs are available from Council’s Tweed Heads and Murwillumbah offices.

Council is going to get the Neighbour Day ball rolling in 2017 by hosting a morning tea at the South Tweed Community Centre on Friday 17 March from 10.30am.

“Representatives from some of the groups that help to keep our community vibrant and connected – such as residents association members, Neighbourhood Watch, seniors activities and the Country Women’s Association – have been invited for an early celebration to help spread the word about Neighbour Day,” Council’s Director of Community and Natural Resources, Tracey Stinson, said.

“We’re also extending an open invitation to members of the community to come along to share some light refreshments and get to know some of the active groups in their area.”

People living in neighbourhoods that are highly connected generally enjoy higher levels of physical and mental health.

“Social connection makes us feel better because it helps prevent loneliness, isolation and depression. When you connect with the people who live nearby, you’re showing you care about what happens locally and are directly supporting safe, friendly and resilient neighbourhoods,” Ms Stinson said.

Neighbour Day activities can be as big or small as you’d like. Organise an event on your own or work with a group of neighbours to host an event.

It could be BYO-everything gathering, a game of cricket in the local park, afternoon tea in the back paddock or an outdoor movie – just to name a few. Visit www.neighbourday.org for a number of event ideas.

“Whether it’s a cuppa, a picnic in the park or a message of support, Neighbour Day is the perfect opportunity to say thanks for being a great neighbour and for being there when needed,” she said.

“Everyone is encouraged to contact Neighbour Day through their Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts to share their neighbourhood stories and exciting plans. You can download a Neighbour Day sign from the Neighbour Day website for selfies and post neighbourly pics on your favourite social media platform.”

Neighbour Day is held by Relationships Australia, a national not-for-profit organisation working to improve relationships in all their forms. Visit www.relationships.org.au for more information.
Learn how to control large woody vine weeds by attending a workshop at Eungella on Saturday 18 March.

Rous County Council officer Kim Curtis and ecology consultant David Milledge will explain the threats posed by land and aquatic weeds and how they can be controlled.

Tweed Landcare, Council and Local Land Services are working together to provide the workshop for local landholders and other interested people. The event will be limited to 25 participants, who will learn how to identify and control weeds, prevent their re-emergence, and to restore native plants.

The workshop will be held at the New Govardhana Farm, 525 Tyalgum Road, from 9.30am to 1pm. A light lunch will be served and bookings are essential by emailing landcareofficer@tweed.nsw.gov.au or by phoning Jude Mason on (02) 6670 2199.

Participants should wear covered shoes, sun safe apparel and bring water. The workshop is part of a mid Oxley River riparian restoration and connectivity project, funded by an Environmental Trust restoration and rehabilitation grant.

**Food and feedback at Bogangar**

A feedback stand and youth activities evening will be held at Bogangar’s Les Burger Fields this Friday, to encourage community input on a planned youth space upgrade.

Council and the Cabarita Youth Service will hold the event, in conjunction with the Tweed Coast Raiders Junior Rugby League Sport Club, at the informal youth recreation space from 4pm to 7pm.

Plans to expand the youth space — including construction of a multi-function half basketball court area and additional seating and landscaping to accompany the existing skate park — are on exhibition for public comment until Monday 27 March.

The upgrade is in line with Council’s Youth Strategy and Action Plan adopted in 2013 and will help to cater for the Tweed Coast’s growing population.

“We’re really keen to hear from the area’s young people, their families and the broader population to ensure the planned upgrade meets their needs,” Council’s Community Development Officer – Families and Youth, Sylvia Roylance, said.

“Friday’s event is a chance to have some fun, share a free barbecue and discuss the features in the concept plans.”

Visit [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/ParksAndGardens](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/ParksAndGardens) to see the concept plans and further details about the Les Burger Fields upgrade.

**Cobaki waste water plans to go on public exhibition**

Council has received a number of local resident enquiries relating to a proposal to construct and operate a new private Waste Water Treatment Plant on the site of the existing golf driving range at No. 425 Piggabeen Road, Piggabeen to service the new Leda Cobaki redevelopment.

Council has been advised that the proponent Leda has engaged Northern Water Solutions to provide water and wastewater services to the development at Cobaki.

For Northern Waste Services to provide water and wastewater services to Cobaki it needs to obtain a licence from the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to operate and retail the services.

The proposed treatment plant is a private scheme and Council is not involved with the assessment of the proposal.

The Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) is the authority that will assess the proposed licence application.

It is expected that IPART will place the application on public exhibition in late March for community comment. The proposal will be advertised in the Tweed link, with the exhibition period expected to run for four weeks.

All submissions and any enquiries on the proposal will need to be addressed to IPART.

Further information on private water and wastewater schemes can be found on IPART’s web site [https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home](https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home), or by contacting IPART on (02) 9290 8400.

**History to be restored at Tweed Heads West**

Major improvements will be made to Tweed Regional Museum’s Pioneer Park site at Tweed Heads West during the next few months.

The site’s historic Tweed Heads Court House building will be refurbished and restored and a research office will be constructed for the Tweed Heads Historical Society.

The Court House will be closed to the public from Monday 13 March until the end of June, to enable Museum staff and volunteers to pack and move collection items while building work is underway. Public access to Tweed Heads Historical Society services will also be temporarily unavailable from 13 March while its members are involved in preparing for the building upgrade.

“The Court House will be refurbished to something of its original state and visitor access to the site will be improved,” Tweed Regional Museum Director Judy Kean said.

She said it would all help to provide a more enjoyable and informative experience for visitors and followed major changes to the site last year.

“The removal of the RSL Hall building on the site last year, because of its contamination with asbestos, was a loss,” Ms Kean said.

“However, its removal opened up beautiful views to Terranora Creek, and access to the Pioneer Park public jetty and the Creek, and have been welcomed. Views of the Court House and adjacent Boyd’s Shed have also been significantly enhanced. The upcoming work will help visitors appreciate the historical significance of both buildings, by providing comprehensive interpretations.”

She said the changes marked a new era for the complex.

“As part of these improvements, we will soon be calling for expressions of interest from anyone able to contribute a couple of hours a month as a front-of-house volunteer,” she said.

“We’d like to build on the success of our front-of-house volunteer program at Murwillumbah, which has been essential to the success of the refurbished Tweed Regional Museum. These wonderful volunteers have ensured Historical Society researchers can focus behind the scenes on answering enquiries and on the very time consuming tasks of preserving and documenting our history.”

Ms Kean said by contributing just a few hours each month or fortnight, front-of-house volunteers also enabled the Museums to open to the public for longer, provided a fantastic welcome to visitors and helped with general enquiries.

“We are also very conscious that the history and patterns of settlement at the northern end of the Tweed Shire have their own story and the Pioneer Park complex is important in telling that history,” she said.

“The area has a unique set of geographic, cultural and political factors which continue to impact today. We’d like to tell this story more fully, as well as providing visitors who find their way over the border with information about what can be found further afield in Tweed Shire.”
Temporary Razorback closure

Tom Beatson Outlook, the Tweed Heads reserve commonly known as Razorback, will be temporarily closed to the public later this month, while a radio transmitter is removed from the site.

The reserve and walkway will be closed from Monday 20 March to protect public safety during the removal of a Queensland Police Service Transmitter.

Members of the public will be able to access the lookout again from Saturday 25 March. For updates on the project and further information, visit www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/ParksAndGardens

ROAD WRAP

Road closure: Major upgrade of Tumbulgum Road, between Sunnyside Lane and Old Ferry Road, Murwillumbah (6 month closure). Pedestrians and cyclists can still pass through section with care but all vehicular traffic will be diverted around the site.

Temporary traffic lights: Henry Lawson Drive, between Coach Road and the Tennis Courts, Terranora.

One-lane flows: Blackspot programme to realign curve Clothiers Creek Road, Clothiers Creek, between the Pacific Motorway and Wallum Court.

Stop/slow flagmen, expect delays: Limited delays roadworks associated with two sub-developments on Fraser Drive, between Vintage Lakes Drive and Acacia Street, Tweed Heads South; also limited delays on Casuarina Way, near Kingscliff Bridge. Roadworks Cadell Road, Mt Burrell. Road reconstruction Airfield Avenue, Murwillumbah and Moolau Avenue, Tweed Heads. Stormwater and road upgrade Chinderah Road, between Naru and Terrace streets, Chinderah. Footpath construction Pioneer Parade, Banora Point. Fraser Drive cycleway construction, Dry Dock Road to Harrier Street, stop/slow on concrete delivery. Footpath construction Pioneer Parade, Banora Point, stop/slow on concrete delivery. Culvert reconstruction Palmvale Road, Palmvale. Revetment works Tweed Valley Way, South Murwillumbah. Revetment works Tumbulgum Road, Tumbulgum. Kerb and gutter works Byangum Road, Murwillumbah between Frangela Dr and Joshua St.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DETERMINATIONS

Notification of Development Application Determinations for the purposes of Section 101 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 (as amended).

APPLICATION DETAILS

APPROVED

DA16/0563 – In-ground swimming pool
Lot 1 Section 5D P9453, No. 5 Sutherland Street, Kingscliff

DA16/0564 – Shed
Lot 78 DP 826099, No. 24 Horseshoe Road, Terranora

DA16/0575 – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling
Lot 4 DP 864093, No. 12 Cudgera Avenue, Pottsville

DA16/0577 – Dwelling with attached garage and retaining walls
Lot 333 DP 1196575, No. 12 Freshfield Way, Murwillumbah

DA16/0581 – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling
Lot 4 DP 26837, No. 7 Olga Street, Kingscliff

DA16/0583 – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling, in-ground pool and 1.8m high front fence
Lot 32 DP 235189, No. 6 Vulcan Street, Kingscliff

DA16/0589 – Use of ensuite and front deck, new outdoor room and in-ground swimming pool
Lot 17 DP 828862, No. 31 McPherson Court, Murwillumbah

DA16/0600 – Two storey dwelling with attached garage
Lot 232 DP 1139108, No. 47 Coral Fern Circuit, Murwillumbah

DA16/0601 – Use of existing and new alterations and additions to existing dwelling
Lot 123 DP 258995, No. 4 Westray Avenue, Banora Point

The above development determinations are available for public inspection free of charge at the Planning and Regulation Division, Murwillumbah Civic Centre, during ordinary office hours OR viewed on Council’s DA Tracking site located at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/datracking

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Public exhibition of concept plans for Les Burger Fields informal youth recreation space upgrade

Tweed Shire Council invites feedback from all interested stakeholders and members of the community to concept plans for an upgrade of the Les Burger Fields informal youth recreation space at Cabarita Beach. Council resolved at its meeting on 16 February 2017 to put the concept plans on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, with a period of 42 days for submissions.

Plans include construction of a multi-function half basketball court area, additional seating and landscaping, to accompany the existing skate park and ensure the Les Burger Fields youth recreation space caters to a wide range of users, including families with young children.

Council resolved at its meeting on 16 February 2017 to put the concept plans on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, from 28 February 2017 to 28 March 2017, with a period of 42 days for submissions.

The upgrade follows on from recommendations in Council’s Youth Strategy and Action Plan (2013–2017) and is in line with the Community Safety Plan.

Further information about the concept plans and upgrade is available at yoursaytweed.com.au/LesBurger

Submissions may be made to tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au or by post to:
Les Burger Fields youth space upgrade
General Manager
Tweed Shire Council
PO Box 816
Murwillumbah, NSW 2484

Public submissions must be received by close of business 10 April 2017.

Contact: Sylvia Roylance, Community Development Officer – Families and Youth, phone (02) 6670 2736 or email roylance@tweed.nsw.gov.au

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DETERMINATIONS

Notification of Development Application Determinations for the purposes of Section 101 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 (as amended).

APPLICATION DETAILS

APPROVED

DA16/0526 – Multi-dwelling housing development comprising 4 townhouses in 2 stages
Lot 607 DP 792534, No. 102 Ash Drive, Banora Point

DA16/0750 – Alterations & additions to existing dwelling including dwelling additions, carport, 1.8m fence and new secondary dwelling
Lot 4 DP 800344, No. 33 Ti Tree Avenue, Bogangar

DA16/0708 – Boundary adjustment, partial removal of existing shed slab and construction of a new shed
Lot 1 DP 413764, Lot 2 DP 215032, No. 80 Wommin Bay Road, Chinderah

DA16/0572 – Use of unauthorised works comprising internal and external alterations and additions to a dual occupancy
Lot 2 SP 16253, Lot 1 SP 16253, Unit 2/No. 44 Vulcan Street, Kingscliff

DA16/0707 – Markets – Jack Bayliss Park and Lions Park Kingscliff
Lot 0 RES 1001008, Marine Parade, Kingscliff

DA16/0822 – Farmers market
Lot 2 DP 803772, Lot 102 DP 873985, No. 806 Cudgen Road, Kingscliff

DA16/0794 – Two industrial buildings (staged)
Lot 211 DP 1122768, No. 7–19 Honeyeater Circuit, South Murwillumbah

DA16/0486 – Demolition of existing structures and construction of residential flat building
Lot 9 DP 21234, Lot 10 DP 21234, No. 7 Florence Street, Tweed Heads

DA16/0769 – Whale watching, scuba diving and charter boat business operations
Lot 2 DP 1045752, Lot 2 DP 859328, Lot 437 DP 755740, No. 156 Wharf Street, Tweed Heads

DA16/0823 – Additions to existing factory building and new factory building
Lot 424 DP 1052551, No. 38 Enterprise Avenue, Tweed Heads South

DA16/0838 – Alterations and additions to existing child care centre
Lot 189 DP 840776, No. 205 Kennedy Drive, Tweed Heads West

DA16/0847 – Fence and two lot subdivision
Lot 7 DP 22375, No. 204 Kennedy Drive, Tweed Heads West

The above development determinations are available for public inspection free of charge at the Planning and Regulation Division, Murwillumbah Civic Centre, during ordinary office hours OR viewed on Council’s DA Tracking site located at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/datracking

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Murwillumbah Farmers’ Market – Every Wednesday 7–11am. All-weather shopping at the Murwillumbah Showground. Know your farmer, know your food. Support your local farmers.

Kingscliff Lions Beachside Markets – Always 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month – next market 11 March. For enquiries and bookings phone 0406 724 323.

Cabarita Beach/Bogangar Residents Association meets Monday 13 March at 7pm at the Cabarita Sports and Bowls Club.

Casuarina and South Kingscliff Residents Association meets Wednesday 8 March, 7.30pm (DST). Osteria Restaurant, 1 Barclay Drive, Casuarina.

REQUEST FOR OFFER

RF02017014 – Tweed Shire Council Road Pavement Stabilisation Program 2016–2017

RF02017016 – Tweed Shire Council Road Rehabilitation Program 2016–2017 Asphalt Works

RF02017017 – 2016–2017 Asphalt Resurfacing Program

Offers close: Wednesday 4pm (DST) 29 March 2017.

Offers must be lodged as specified in the offer documentation. Offer For Offer documentation is available at no charge from Council’s website at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/tenders.

Hard copy documentation is available and costs will be in accordance with Council’s advertised photocopying fees. All Offers will be opened at closing time and will be considered by Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. The lowest or any offer is not necessarily accepted and canvassing of Councillors or staff will disqualify.

For further information please contact Sean Harvey (02) 6670 2606.

Readers who are unsure of when their meter is read can look up their water week at: www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/MeterReading

The Tweed Link is published by Tweed Shire Council. It is available in full colour and e-subscriptions online at www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/TweedLink. Contact the Tweed Link: Editor Tweed Link, PO Box 816 Murwillumbah NSW 2484 or tweedlink@tweed.nsw.gov.au. Customer Service: Council’s offices are located at Murwillumbah Civic and Cultural Centre, Tumbulgum Road Murwillumbah and Tweed Civic and Cultural Centre, Brett Street Tweed Heads. Offices open from 8.30am – 4.15pm, telephones available until 4.30pm Monday to Friday. Closed public holidays. Phone (02) 6670 2400 or 1300 292 872. Email tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au. For Council information at your fingertips visit www.tweed.nsw.gov.au or download Council’s smartphone application from Apple App Store or Google Play. After hours emergency calls for Council services only contact 1800 818 325.