

In Reply
Please Quote: E03.7770

5 January 2011

Lei Parker
Tuross Head Progress Association

turossheadprogressassociation@gmail.com

Dear Lei,

PLANNING FOR THE PROPOSED TUROSS HEAD COMMUNITY GARDEN

The January edition of the Tuross Giant includes a notice of a meeting to develop a site plan for the Tuross Community Garden. Council welcomes the Committee's enthusiasm in establishing a community garden in Tuross, however considers the development of a site plan is at this stage premature.

As you are aware, Council is currently preparing, in consultation with the community, a master plan for Kyla Park. Whilst it is acknowledged that the community has indicated a desire for a community garden at Kyla Park as part of that process, Council has also had community members suggest alternative locations. Council has not yet agreed on a specific site for the community garden and Council has previously indicated to the Committee that an appropriate site will be determined through the Kyla Park master planning process. Until such process has completed and an appropriate site been determined by Council in consultation with the community, it would be premature to start at this early stage, detailed site planning. It could also be considered that such action may compromise the overall planning process by way of reaching a predetermined outcome ahead of the planning process.

In addition, due to the recent and growing interest in the establishment of community gardens and other uses on Community Land or Crown Land under Council control, it is proposed to establish an overarching policy position to guide the potential use, allocation and management of such land. The preparation of this policy will commence early in 2011 and will be developed with community input.

Whilst Council appreciates the enthusiasm for a community garden, given the circumstances it is suggested that the Committee may be better served to concentrate at this time on the development of a business plan for a community garden. Detailed site planning could then commence once a final decision has been made on the location of a community garden in Tuross.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact Councils Strategy and Recreation Planner, Lane Tucker on 4474 1246 or lane.tucker@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully



Lindsay Usher
Director
Strategic, Development & Environmental Services



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