



Brooklyn

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

25/01/2021

D08100906

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?: No

Please explain below: I have discussed this Plan for future of Community and Cultural facilities where it applies to Brooklyn with many local residents and users of the current facilities at Brooklyn and I believe serious errors have been made. Lack of support by Council for facilities has been justified by relatively low resident numbers applicable to Brooklyn and surrounding Communities.

Firstly this does not take in to account the very large number visitors that travel to this area not only from other areas of the shire but from other areas of greater Sydney. I am a supporter of LHARA of which there are many members of the affiliated Clubs and organisations who live outside this area however who participate in activities in this area. For example I am a member of the Hawkesbury River Yacht Club and my yacht is moored in Brooklyn. I am now a resident of Brooklyn however when I lived elsewhere yet had a boat moored here, I was never consulted or given a chance to contribute to discussions on Brooklyn's future. Many fellow Club members share this sentiment and would like to participate in Brooklyn's future but are excluded because they are not residents.

These members come to Brooklyn and need facilities to use just as much as local resident do. Council should note some of the wonderful facilities that are provided up and down our NSW north coast for areas that welcome tourists and provide facilities and therefore support local businesses.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:
No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:
No

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

One point that is not noted is the lack of commercial facilities in Brooklyn that in other areas of the shire, give people options that we in Brooklyn do not have. For example Commercial premises suitable for social functions, fundraisers and club functions are limited to the Local Pub and perhaps the Mooney Mooney Club.

Residents of Hornsby for example have a wide choice of facilities within a couple of Kilometres including large school halls and large clubs such as the Hornsby RSL.

I would ask the Council to bear this in mind when they advise current facilities in Brooklyn are adequate.

Council seem to ignore the huge potential Brooklyn brings to a Hornsby Shire as the premium water access to the Hawkesbury River and its beautiful waterways.

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Council should consider input from local resident as well as all the other people from all over Sydney who flock to Brooklyn for their recreation.

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Council should take note of the population that flock to Brooklyn on weekends.

Parsley Bay recently over most weekend have all parking taken early each day with existing parking of approximately 130 car spaces say averaging 3 people per car is nearly An additional 400 people that the council have not taken into account. Population of Brooklyn is noted and referenced in this report as 670

Mount Colah for instance does not have an increase in population at weekends where Brooklyn has a significant increase however in this draft plan they are both treated per number of residents.

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Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

22/01/2021	D08091204
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November 11, 2020

Submission to Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Plan.

First, we want to thank the Council for partnering with the Brooklyn Community Association to create The Cottage. We have been able to work successfully together to bring back a derelict building to a beautiful heritage, tourism and community hub. We have recently emailed all the Councillors our last Council report.

You would be aware that the Brooklyn Place Plan is in active development, and we have found it a bit difficult to navigate through the 17 new strategies and how they fit in with the Place Plan. So, we have been anticipating the updated Community Facility strategy, and we would like to outline a few concerns we have identified before it goes to public exhibition.

The Plan seems to be one developed from set formulas and guidelines and not necessarily designed for separate villages in different natural environments and therefore meet local requirements. It is not clear if the count of Brooklyn residents is included in the Berowra Heights-North Eastern Rural Balance as it is included as a separate line below.

The population figure does not use the latest ABS, which is 722. However, as the Councillors would know, Brooklyn is the hub for river community groups and not a separate community and it includes Dangar Island, Mooney Mooney, Cheero Point, Milsons Passage, Bar Point, Cogra Bay and Little Wobby. We go to the same primary school, parent-run day care, playgroup, senior group activities, the health centre and other functions. The total population of the Lower Hawkesbury is approximately 1600 people.

Last October, we opened The Cottage, 10 Dangar Rd in Brooklyn. Unfortunately, the report states that there is not enough information to include in the document. However, the BCA has provided two reports already to the Council to show the incredible usage of this facility. The Cottage is a central place to provide information, history and art for many of the visitors on weekends. The Cottage is also a member of the Hawkesbury Tourism Collective to help promote the businesses and activities in the Lower Hawkesbury.

The Meeting room is a shared facility with Northern Sydney Health, where they pay market rates and pay the costs of utilities and most maintenance. It does not have any outdoor space, which is essential for a community facility. The usable meeting space is really about 108 sqm as the kitchen is a shared facility with the Health Centre. It has inadequate parking. It is in the middle of the village, where the businesses struggle already due to the well-known parking constraints. Additionally, the acoustics in the meeting room do not allow for any large groups in the space.

Baden Powell Hall is one of the traditional, community-built buildings which is located by the Oval and school which includes a fenced-in playground that is utilised for the playgroup which is also attended by families from Berowra. No other facility in Brooklyn is suitable for young children. The community is looking into the utilisation of this building for a Preschool, now that our population numbers are back up with many more young children.

We agree that there is some fragmentation of facilities within Brooklyn. The former seniors centre is not used effectively, and there is some potential to reuse the space occupied by the building.

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Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

We do not agree with the consolidation of the facilities as written in the document, none of the facilities meet the actual needs of the Lower Hawkesbury community. However, we realise that there would need to be some consolidation, but we remain firm that the Meeting Room is not sufficient for the community's requirements.

We find the document confusing on page 110, where it states that the plan does not support the delivery of smaller facilities (less than 500 sqm) for local community facilities is unlikely to accommodate multi-purpose and flexible use, but a larger facility is unlikely to be sustainable. This recommendation is based on insufficient knowledge of the area. The BCA, along with the Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic and Recreational Association, met with our Federal and State members, the Mayor, the GM, the Head of Community Services and many Councillors to present a concept for a new facility located at Parsley Bay. It is a multi-use centre that includes the three sailing clubs, kayakers and the Dragon boats to have storage facilities for safety boats, markers etc. and shower facilities. The top floor proposal is a multi-use centre of approximate 165 sqm (without kitchen facilities) for many different activities such as BCA meetings, school fundraisers and assemblies, exercise classes, workshops and educational facilities. This concept conforms with the currently approved Hornsby Council Sustainable Water Based Recreation Facilities Plan which states under Suggested Actions

Consider providing a small, shared clubroom facility for sailing clubs if a suitable site can be found adjacent to the water.

Whilst the proposed centre is only a concept at this stage, we request this is included in the document as this is a 10-year strategic plan.

We understand that preparing documents in COVID-19 time can be difficult; however, looking at just square meter figures does not depict an accurate snapshot of how the whole Lower Hawkesbury River Community works.

The recommendation is to use Hornsby regional centres which can work for many but not all. We live in an isolated area, and our train services are only minimal at times and bus services are only one a day. We do hope that with the lift opening early next year it will enable our older residents to get out more, such as to the Hornsby library, shopping and appointments. But this is 25-minute drive away for those in Brooklyn and even longer for those who must take their boat or ferry over first.

Another recommendation is to use other community facilities such as school halls. Unfortunately, Brooklyn Primary School does not have a school hall so there is no indoor facility to hold community and school events. Consequently, a facility such as mentioned above would not only benefit the afore mentioned parties but also the school as it would allow them to proceed with school events and meetings that are constantly cancelled due to the fact that there is no indoor facility available.

We believe that the current strategy is not representative of all possibilities, rather it is a limited vision with some fundamental inaccuracies of the knowledge of the community and data.

We ask that the concept facility be included in the strategic document, so that it is not automatically excluded by omission.

Yours sincerely

President
Brooklyn Community Association

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

22/01/2021	D08100912
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Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I disagree with the plan.

Because it doesn't provide adequate facilities for the community and the recreation associations operating in Brooklyn. Brooklyn is the centre for a number of more remote and inaccessible communities in the district. Communities who's residents cannot easily access other areas where facilities may be more appropriate.

The current facilities are too small to be viable as multifunctional community centres and simply cannot provide sufficient space for activities other than very small gatherings.

The sporting and recreation associations operating in the area would welcome a facility as proposed by the Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic and Recreation Association Inc. (LHARA). LHARA's proposal is to provide a community and recreation facility that is suited as a multipurpose facility serving the needs of the wider community and recreation associations to share.

Hawkesbury River Yacht Club Inc. has been providing aquatic recreation facilities since 1993. We have no access to suitable facilities in Brooklyn.

It is important to reconsider Brooklyn as the hub centre for the outer lying communities. Brooklyn Community Rooms do not provide adequate multipurpose facilities for this community.

Members of Hawkesbury River Yacht Club support the cultural and community facilities proposed by LHARA Inc. and we need Council support to achieve that goal.

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Key Strategy:

Brooklyn

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

27/01/2021

D08092379

Submission to the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan

To start from the beginning, What is the purpose of the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Plan? The opening paragraph on the Council website states:

This draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan (Plan) provides direction for the future planning, provision and management of Hornsby Shire Council's (Council) community and cultural facilities over the next 10 years.

And in the draft plan it states:

As this Plan sets the strategic, long term framework for all community and cultural facilities in Hornsby Shire, it will be supported by detailed planning for individual facilities.

A standard definition of strategic planning is:

At its core, strategic planning is the process of defining the goals of your organisation for the immediate future and the strategies by which these goals will be achieved and resourced.

In practice, it is a doorway to innovation, cultural change and proactive strategies to manage your response to a changing environment.

Traditional strategic planning models, developed throughout the 1960s, are heavily weighted toward quantitative analysis, and hardly stand up against today's rate of social and technological change.

If this is a proper strategic plan, then the question should be asked, Why does the Council provide facilities?

What innovation will be considered, and how do we allow for today's social needs and issues? What should facilities be used for both currently and in the future, Who are the users now and in the future, What are the benefits of providing these facilities? How can you improve the usage of current facilities, what are the barriers to use? How does the provision of these facilities meet the growing need for social connection and improve current mental and physical wellbeing? Should the Council make a profit, or should it be a break- even proposition and provide the ratepayers with sufficient facilities?

This Plan instead is limited and only focuses on the following questions:

Where should facilities be located – and what spaces and services should they include?

What size should facilities be?

What is a sustainable approach to fees and charges?

What principles and directions should guide planning for facilities?

What strategies should Council prioritise?

I believe that the Council should provide community facilities for many reasons. We know that people can live healthier physically and mentally if they feel connected to their community. So how can the Council increase connection? It is through the Council facilities. These facilities become the meeting places, places to celebrate, places to share ideas, places to learn and become the hubs of social connection.

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Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

The Brooklyn Community Association was truly fortunate to work with the Council to create The Cottage. They have provided many reports and also offered to review how they run the cottage as an example for the new Facility Strategy. The draft plan states there wasn't enough information regarding The Cottage. It was unfortunate that the consultants were not provided with our details to understand how well this can work and increase connection across all age groups in a community. The example of genuine community connection at 10 Dangar Road should be duplicated in all the smaller communities within the Shire.

Another area not addressed in the draft is how the Council can increase usage of their facilities. One of the strategic questions would be, why are local groups not utilising the current facilities?

One of these barriers is insurance. Perhaps the Council could be the umbrella policyholder for insurance. The Community Associations could pay the Council for the insurance, or another option would be to roll into the cost of insurance into the hire. How can the booking systems be designed for the correct usage- does a small community hall need to be on an inflexible booking system? Dangar Island Hall is an example of a Hall that was widely utilised in the past, but the community rarely uses their hall due to the booking system and insurance requirements.

Whilst we all understand that preparing a strategy during Covid-19 would come with some issues, we also understand that it was probably rushed due to the other strategic plan deadlines. However, we are disheartened that this plan was developed without any community input. Phone calls and Zoom have all been shown to be straightforward and effective ways to communicate, and even the Council meetings moved online. If it is to be a genuine Community and Cultural Facility Strategy for ten years, how can this be completed and finalised without the community?

It is more a numbers report rather than a proper strategy. And even then, the numbers are incorrect.

At the November Council meeting, the Councillors agreed that they would continue with the policy of posting the unadulterated consultant reports up on the website. Whilst I agree in Principle with this, it should be noted that incorrect facts should be corrected before it goes on public viewing. When a resident reads inaccurate information, they begin to doubt the legitimacy of the report.

For those of us reading this plan, it looked like it was done entirely by formulas and square meters and population data, all on a quantitative basis. But when you talk about community, qualitative data is imperative. Without this, there isn't an understanding of the way the Lower Hawkesbury Community actually works, Brooklyn is a hub for many communities. The incorrect population data does not reflect the reality of our community.

This strategy did not address the wellbeing of communities. There are so many innovative ideas and interventions being utilised today; for example, the Wheel of Wellbeing for Communities that should be considered in improving wellbeing, <https://www.wheelofwellbeing.org/wow-your-community>

This plan did not address the issue of loneliness. The Australian Government site, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare states:

- 1 in 10 (9.5%, or around 1.8 million based on 2016 population) Australians aged 15 and over report lacking social support (Relationships Australia 2018)
- about 1 in 4 report they are currently experiencing an episode of loneliness (Australian Psychological Society 2018)
- 1 in 2 (51%) report they feel lonely for at least 1 day each week (Australian Psychological Society 2018).

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

A question needs to be, How can community facilities work for communities to improve wellbeing and social connection? Both the Federal and State Government are focussing on these issues now; the Council can also provide input into improving mental health by looking closely and strategically at the Facilities.

Specifically, in my community, the report states the following:

There are four small existing facilities in Brooklyn which are reasonably well located and appear accessible to the local community. The total floorspace of 382sqm is very high for a local area, accounting for 20% of the total North Eastern district floorspace, while the population of Brooklyn (approx. 670 people) is only 3% of the current district population.

This information is incorrect.

Questions I have regarding this chart are:

1. How can there be a negative operating balance with no information on maintenance costs?
2. How can the plan include the Brooklyn Leisure and Learning Centre, which is not even available to hire and remains in a dilapidated state? Why was this not noted in this document?
3. How can it show a negative operating cost for the Brooklyn Meeting Room? Northern Sydney Health pays a market-rate lease for this property. It should show a profit.
4. How can you state that there is no information on 10 Dangar Road? The BCA signed a lease with the Council over a year and a half ago and provided reports. It isn't for 'community hire' it is a different structure of a one-year lease. The BCA sent in reports and asked that it be considered in this Strategic Plan. It is not in this draft.
5. Most importantly, how can the same outdated 10-year asset cost formula be applied to all buildings? How could the exceedingly small Leisure and learning centre's asset cost be the same as the Meeting room which is twice the size? This is not a true reflection of the facilities and the cost to the Council and ratepayers. They should each be reviewed on real-life figures, not an outdated, blanket formula

The consultants should have reviewed the possible future use of some of these facilities as part of a strategy. For example, In the past, Baden Powell preciously was used as a Preschool by KU. Due to changes in the State funding, they were unable to continue to lease this space. With our current baby boom in the community, there is a growing need to increase preschool facilities. The parent-run Hawkesbury River Day Care is a potential hire of this building as it is already built to suit a Preschool.

Finally, there is much confusion around this statement:

The fragmentation of the floorspace across four centres in Brooklyn also limits their flexibility and reduces the hub effect created by a vibrant multipurpose facility

Community and cultural facilities provision in Brooklyn should align with the principles of making the best use of existing facilities, such as improving financial sustainability and being multipurpose and flexible. This Plan does not support the delivery of smaller facilities (i.e. less than 500 sqm) for local community facilities, as this size is unlikely to accommodate multipurpose and flexible use.

However, a larger facility (larger than 500sqm) is unlikely to be sustainable in Brooklyn based on current and projected population numbers. The review should consider the balance between community value and sustainable Council management.

It seems that they only have considered Council management and not community value in this recommendation.

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Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

In summary, the document states that a good facility should be multipurpose and flexible. The plan doesn't support delivery of smaller facilities as it is unlikely to accommodate multipurpose and flexible use.

For any situation that does not fit into this box, such as smaller communities, they recommend making the situation worse for the community. Instead of keeping some smaller facilities that fit particular needs, it is recommended that we all get shoved into the meeting room for all of our community needs which is impossible. Did the consultant go see this room? How could they and the Council possibly consider this recommendation to be a viable one? There is no outdoor area, it is shared with the Health Centre, there is no provision for small children, there is no parking, the acoustics are horrible, and it is undoubtedly not multipurpose and flexible.

I am incredibly disappointed in this deficient recommendation for the Brooklyn and Lower Hawkesbury River community. I am aware that many other organisations and people are also unhappy with this recommendation. There is a lack of inclusion of additional options such as the Parsley Bay Centre. Additionally, some previous Council adopted strategies were not considered or referenced in this document.

I ask that the Councillors do not agree to put this up for review until it is a solid strategy with long term vision. I would imagine that most Councillors would agree that a Community Facility strategy without community does not provide a comprehensive, inclusive document. We ask that the consultant talks to smaller communities about usage, barriers, and future needs to determine how to deliver real direction for the next ten years.

Best Regards,

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

27/01/2021

D08100901

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I disagree with the Draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community.

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages. The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity.

The Brooklyn Meeting Room will NOT be sufficient to meet the needs of the Lower Hawkesbury River. It is an interim meeting room with no outside area, no parking, it is shared with the Health Centre and it is not big enough for the greater community. The recommendation to consolidate and just the meeting room is sufficient is ludicrous.

I am aware of a proposal by LHARA for a multipurpose centre on the water. As a patron of the sailing clubs and a member of the school and wider community, I request this be included in the plan.

Additionally, the information is incorrect in the document, I refer to table on page 104.

I don't feel comfortable with the Council and Councillors making decisions on incorrect data.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?: No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

It doesn't seem to be a strategic plan but rather just a document about the size of facilities vs the population. Not sure where the strategy is?

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Talk to the communities, as far as I am aware no one in my community, the regular users were contacted as a part of this 10 year plan. Disappointing....please talk to regular users and the community groups.

Revise this before it gets adopted.

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

28/01/2021

D08100891

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Yes

Comments:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Key Strategy:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

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Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

27/01/2021

D08100893

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I wholeheartedly support an upgrade and expansion of the facilities available in Brooklyn, and at Parsley Bay in particular. However, I am very concerned that, yet again, Brooklyn's role as a hub for the surrounding river communities is being overlooked.

Brooklyn itself is not large but it serves as the the gateway for many hundreds of other river residents. Any council plans for Brooklyn must take into account that they will also be the ONLY facilities available for the hundreds, possibly thousands, of residents of Dangar Island, Milson's Passage, Bar Point, Little Wobby, Cogra Bay, Cheero Point and many others.

Therefore I urge council to take Brooklyn's position as a hub for these many other communities into consideration and not make its decisions based on Brooklyn's size alone.

Thank you
Chris Haskett

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

Yes

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

See above. In general I would hope that council ALWAYS keep in mind, as I wrote above, that Brooklyn's needs are greater than just its resident populace. Water communities have even fewer options than their equivalently-sized mainland equivalents. How about a (small) library to replace the one at Mooney Mooney?

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

GO to Dangar Island, Milson's Passage, Bar Point, Little Wobby etc and ASK the residents about where and how they use civic resources. Failing that, put a targeted questionnaire in the post.

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021	D08100887
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Dear Steven,

As a 83 year old veteran with a 82 year old wife and ill health, I must make a comment on the above Draft Plan. We cannot lose our Medical Centre ! If that goes so will the Chemist, a disaster for the many seniors and young mothers in the lower Hawkesbury area.

Would you also consider including a Tourist information centre and Museum in your Draft plan? There is more history in the lower Hawkesbury than anywhere else in our Shire. I could be a great help in this regard.

Your would be well aware of the many tourists who visit Brooklyn, so let's tap into some of their money to pay for the information and history provided.

Wishing you well in your plans for the future .

With kind regards ,

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021

D08100886

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

There seems to be little investment in Brooklyn, particularly of the older facilities that seem to have no short, medium or long term plans to replace. As a resident I was really glad to hear of the option of the Parsley Bay toilets to be replaced with a modern facility as raised by the 'Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic and Recreation Association'. This appears not to have made a mention in the report.

Whichever projects do go ahead, I would suggest that a review of the very old and dilapidated buildings in Brooklyn should be undertaken.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Better community halls with enough space to fit community events would be a good start.

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Councillors should view and personally inspect the facilities in Brooklyn which they have suggested are sufficient for many years to come, in particular the facilities in Parsley Bay.

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021	D08100884
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Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

The draft plan does not adequately allow for the additional facilities that our community desperately needs.

Brooklyn is the central location that is used by a number of river-access communities, who otherwise have no other practical to access the area and so use Brooklyn as their central hub. This is well demonstrated in our School Community, where only a portion of the students are Brooklyn based, with a large number coming from Dangar Island and other water-only-access communities, as well as other locations further up the river accessed by road.

It is also noted on page 105 of the draft Strategic Plan, is assumed that the Village requires 20 sqm/1,000 people and 45 sqm/1,000 people for the District. This is incongruent with our view, that given the remote and isolated nature of the Village we live in, we would in fact require more facilities, which is especially true given the community nature which is so unique to Brooklyn. This remoteness means that the District allotment of 45 sqm/1,00 people is not easily accessible by Brooklyn residents given the aforementioned isolation, and so we believe that more space is required to compensate for this specific Brooklyn remoteness.

Additionally, the calculation fails to address the fact that Brooklyn is in fact the hub to so many communities, and is not purely the sum of the residents within Brooklyn, but should take into account the broader community which would almost double this number. This would be easily demonstrated by a visit to the community on a normal day, where the number of cars and people you can see far exceed what would be expected from the numbers used in your analysis.

As you have also noted on page 105 of the draft, the facilities that were reviewed were "Dispersed facilities", and therefore not always able to be used by large groups as is often required by the community. This is especially important for us as a P&C who have struggled in recent years to host our events, including community building, cultural and fundraising gatherings. Given the large number of students who attend our school, our events often have to cap number well below interest levels as there is no facility in the area large enough to host what would otherwise be our natural limit.

The constraint on community events, in both number and size, has in part lead to a slowing in our community engagement in recent years. We see the community engagement as critical in growing both our school, and in turn the broader area, with young families often looking to the school and community as a key decision in choosing where to raise their children.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Yes

Page Number:

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Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

Comments:

Floorspace provision does not factor in accessibility of District, Non-Council and Sub-Regional facilities to the specific village in question

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

We would like the project we previously supported, 'The Parsley Bay Centre', to be reconsidered for inclusion in the plan as this would be ideal for our Village (as attached). This would allow us to hold Community and Cultural events for Students, Parents, and Citizens of our community more in line with our P&C objective without the current need to decrease the frequency and reduce the size of the events we do hold.

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

It would be great if Hornsby Shire Council organised a meeting down in Brooklyn with the local community to observe and hear directly from the residents of our village as well as the surrounding villages.

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021

D08100883

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

It does not provide adequate facilities for the community, my sailing club uses facilities at Brooklyn. We are unable to support the growth of our club due to a lack of adequate facility to meet demand. Development of a proper sailing club with adequate storage is required especially in the Parsley Bay/Dead Horse Bay vicinity.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021	D08100882
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Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

According to HORNSBY DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2013 RIVER SETTLEMENTS Part 8 -Brooklyn plays a vital role in the maritime operations of the Hawkesbury river, providing a transport interchange, maritime services facilities and a gateway for tourists, visitors and residents of the Hawkesbury River. Yet the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan lists Brooklyn as a standalone suburb with Dangar Island, Milson's Passage lumped into the North Eastern District with Berowra Heights 16.5 km away.

The Plan for the Future For Community & Cultural Facilities fails to even list the Community Facility Heritage Listed Railway Shelter Shed at 6 Dangar Rd, Brooklyn which is being used for car parking and storage, this facility must be generating a large income due to its location close to railway and waterfront.

The Leisure and Learning centre also at 6 Dangar Road which is listed on the Draft Plan (snapshot Utilisation 0% pg 43)as a facility for Brooklyn is not available for bookings on councils website and is clearly not maintained and unsafe yet has a 10 year asset cost of \$294,413.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Our Brooklyn Meeting Room at 138sqm (minus 38sqm bathrooms and cupboards) meeting room will fit 5% of our population

Brooklyn deserves a multi function centre that would serve the community and visitors to Brooklyn.

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Brooklyn seems to be about what it can provide to visitors and not the liveability of the Brooklyn Community. Many Masterplans and Surveys are conducted but still nothing has changed, we still lack parking, a police presence, camera's to our amenities to catch vandals and somewhere to meet as a community. Our Brooklyn Meeting Room at 138sqm (minus 38sqm bathrooms and cupboards) meeting room will fit 5% of our population.

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ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021

D08100879

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

As Chairperson of the Brooklyn Community Hall Project Committee we have struggled since 1997 for council to recognise and provide a community hall that is fit and proper to meet our ever growing community's needs. We have on numerous occasions offered advice on funding options but, which each change of council, our vision has been relegated to the basement.

A 25 seat INTERIM meeting room at the medical centre does not meet our needs now, or into the future.

Attached is an updated information sheet as to Why Brooklyn Needs a Hall that was presented to the council meeting in November, 2020.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Please show that we can come together in conjunction with the LHARA group and present a state of the art aquatic, community and educational facility that meets the needs of the wider community and will showcase Brooklyn as the jewel in the crown of Hornsby Shire.

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Communication, consultation and using your place making team as a conduit.

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021

D08100878

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

Even I, as a 98 year old resident, can see that this proposal is deeply flawed. Brooklyn is the epicentre to many other settlements yet is geographically isolated and needs proper facilities to service its community now and into the future. A 25 seat meeting room doesn't cut it. Apart from a community hall that meets the population's needs, we require more facilities including a library, learning centre, internet kiosk and visitor information bureau.

I support the planned multi purpose facility at Parsley Bay.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021

D08100877

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below: I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community.

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only communities.

Brooklyn and surrounding river communities (including Little Wobby, Cogra Bay) are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn.

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activities in Brooklyn as it is the 'HUB' of the Lower Hawkesbury River wider community.

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms and Baden Powell Hall whilst both essential to community groups and need to remain available for use, they do not provide a large enough, adequate and flexible facility that our community needs.

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack – 2019

See attachments please.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

The Lower Hawkesbury River Residents Association (LHARRA) supports the LHARRAs submission. Please see attached.

Brooklyn and surrounding river communities (including Little Wobby, Cogra Bay) are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn.

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activities in Brooklyn as it is the 'HUB' of the Lower Hawkesbury River wider community.

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms and Baden Powell Hall whilst both essential to community groups and need to remain available for use, they do not provide a large enough, adequate and flexible facility that our community needs.

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Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

The Lower Hawkesbury River Residents Association (LHARRA) supports the LHARRAs submission. Please see attached.

Request Council to have further engagement and meaningful consultation on the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan;

Request the proposal to establish the Parsley Bay Recreation and Community Centre be registered and included as an option in further development of the Strategy

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021

D08100876

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community.

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only communities.

Brooklyn and these river communities (including Little Wobby, Cogra Bay) are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activities in Brooklyn as it is the 'HUB' of the Lower Hawkesbury River wider community.

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms and Baden Powell Hall whilst both essential to community groups and need to remain available for use, they do not provide a large enough, adequate and flexible facility that our community needs.

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack – 2019

See attachments please.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

HSC needs to shift it's focus to one that supports new and existing infrastructure for the benefit of all community members especially the council's smaller isolated communities.

Council should respect that many of the current community facilities in Brooklyn where built and paid for by the community.

This included the Brooklyn meeting rooms/GP centre \$1 for \$1 funded by the community and Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital and Baden Powell Hall built by the Scouts.

These facilities are essential venues that are valued and used by our isolated community groups to meet and engage with each other. Groups ranging from babies/toddlers attending the Playgroup at Baden Powell Hall to the seniors chair yoga at the Brooklyn Meeting rooms.

These facilities alone do not meet the needs of our growing community and there is much need and desire for a large multiuse facility. This need has not been addressed in your draft plan.

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ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

Please see attached facility proposed by LHARA for consideration to be included into the Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan.

Please see attached Parsley Bay Centre Info pack.

I supports the LHARAs submission. Please see attached.

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Council to have further engagement and meaningful consultation on the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan;

Request the proposal to establish the Parsley Bay Recreation and Community Centre be registered and included as an option in further development of the Strategy

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021

D08100875

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I do not support the draft plan in its current form.

Rather than four hubs, there should be some recognition to the position of Brooklyn within the Lower Hawkesbury and the significant community and cultural land / water interface that this provides.

A narrow definition of community and cultural is devised which ignores intersections between communities. This has disastrous consequences for Brooklyn in the current draft plan - a reduced population that ignores the numbers beyond Brooklyn that interface with our services, our facilities.

A formulaic method of dividing current population with potential sq.m. of available space results in a statement that facilities are currently adequate.

No strategic context is explored; no consideration of 'fit for purpose' principles is explored; no other context is explored.

The geographic isolation of this community (and surrounds) and deficits in services have been ignored.

Three community facilities in Brooklyn are identified in the draft plan and included in square metres yet there are only two on Council's website No one knows the old Senior Cits/leisure and activity centre is available for lease.

Key principles identified in Council's strategic planning documents are ignored and not considered with reference to Brooklyn.

Brooklyn - this old community with extraordinary community and cultural history - would see some form of vision of considering a multi-functional community /recreational facility that would meet the needs of the community more broadly

As part of a network with the Hornsby Town Centre hub it could provide contribute to a more cohesive network for the benefit of the densely populated areas within the Shire - to expand and provide alternate community and cultural recreation facilities- rather than to concentrate all into the refurbishment of the town centre.

Suggested edits or additions should be arrived at through consultation with the local community organisations.

This may have been just a regulatory standard five year review but should have been more robust. If you are going to have a network then make sure it is a network and recognises the location and attributes of communities and their distance.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

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ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

Key Strategy:

Brooklyn

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

As above.

The community more broadly would welcome consultation and discussion around Brooklyn and opportunities to address the needs of this local community.

Currently the draft Strategic Plan fails to deliver in its most essential form, where and how Brooklyn sits within this co-ordinated Network. There are 20 references to Network in this plan and Brooklyn given its location and distance, is not serviced by this so - called Network.

Network - definition:

- an arrangement of intersecting horizontal and vertical lines.
- a group or system of interconnected people or things.
- connect as or operate with a network.
- interact with others to exchange information and develop professional or social contacts.

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

In the first instance, take note of the Brooklyn draft improvement plan which was shelved. That identifies some of the key parameters of this community and its connections and opportunities.

Genuine consultation with the Brooklyn Community Association would be of value.

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

31/01/2021	D08100872
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Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

1. The census figure of 700 persons in Brooklyn does not take into account all the many who live in River communities and have as their mainland base, Brooklyn. If you want to disenfranchise us, Brooklyn businesses and its residents will be 'outlawed' by those people you demean in your draft strategic plan.
2. To be so petty and divisive does no goodwill at all.
3. Every day, people visit Brooklyn from Western and Southern Sydney. They park, they bring their own picnics, they swim and fish. You don't tax them, but you provide free facilities for their use. Yet at the same time, you want to limit parking by river residents, who shop, dine, and patronise businesses at Brooklyn.
4. Hornsby Council must change its thinking to include river communities.

NOTE I have not made specific comments as requested below. That's your job, not mine, to provide leadership. In this case, you have failed. We have gone through many 'community' sing-sings, all to the benefit and pocket linings of consultants. I've lived at Little Wobby for 28 years.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Please re-read my comments above.

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Re-read my comments above. Too many experts have put this stuff together. Make the meeting room a large gathering place at Parsley Bay.

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

29/01/2021

D08100870

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?

No

Please explain below:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

- Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only Dangar Island communities
- Brooklyn and Dangar Island are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn
- The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity
- Brooklyn and Dangar Island Meeting Rooms and halls do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community
- I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Yes

Section:

xxx

Page Number:

xxx

Comments:

The plan is silent on all issues important to river communities

Suggested Edits:

Review required

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Key Strategy:

Plan silent on river community issues

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

The plan is silent on river community issues and needs address these issues

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Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

The council and its consultants need to seek and display an understanding of river community issues and how they may be resolved.

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

29/01/2021

D08100868

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

29/01/2021

D08100866

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

29/01/2021

D08100860

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

Yes

Please explain below:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for our community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity.

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

Yes

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Keep things simple .KISS .. you confuse individual ratepayers with your ideas and plans. Thereby create suspicion and mis trust.

Then you just do what you want then say ... we asked for your comment.

Never any good analysis done to back up your plans. Who shouts loudest WINS.

Such a shame when some of us actually vote you in.

Very disappointed in HSC response to all things pertaining to Dangar island specifically. Roads, garbage, community hall, morning cooperative, Brooklyn handicap access onto ferry.... consistent unresolved issues for years.

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ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

29/01/2021

D08100858

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

The Council continues to ignore the need for adequate parking facilities for Brooklyn and Hawkesbury river rate paying residents and indeed has over the last 50 years reduced parking and unreasonably restricted parking at the transport hub area on Dangar Road while commercial activities have increased but not been required to provide parking for the traffic they create.

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

The local community groups in the Brooklyn and Dangar area should be consulted with regard to solutions for improving/ providing additional parking facilities.

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

28/01/2021

D08100857

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I disagree with the draft Plan because it does not provide adequate facilities for the community

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages

Brooklyn and these villages are isolated and remote and will not be able to easily or equitably access facilities outside of Brooklyn

The wider community comes together to access schooling, transport, medical facilities, as well as cultural and community activity

Brooklyn Meeting Rooms do not provide adequate and flexible facilities for this community

My local boating club uses the existing facilities at Parsley Bay and I support additional storage and amenities for the aquatic recreation clubs as proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack – 2019

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?

No

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

28/01/2021	D08100856
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Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?:

No

Please explain below:

I support the fact that there is a plan ... but I do not agree with some parts of the draft.

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

No

Key Strategy:

esp. Dangr Island Community Hall, and Brooklyn Parking

Do you have any other feedback on the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

I disagree with elements of the Draft Plan - in respect of Brooklyn:

Brooklyn is the hub of a wider community encompassing nearby mainland and water-access-only villages and is inadequately served by community facilities and parking.

I support delivery of Community and Cultural facilities proposed by LHARA in their Parsley Bay Centre Info Pack - 2019

And in respect of Dangar Island:

The plan needs to allow for increased / permit-based parking space available to residents of Dangar Island & other water-access locations that depend on Brooklyn, in close proximity to the Brooklyn Mooring Cooperative. Parking at a distance, such as near the fire station, is completely impractical.

The Community Hall should be available to small community groups at concessional hire rates, and use of the hall by these groups should be covered by the Council's own public liability insurance.

Do you have any suggestions on how Council can work with the community to implement the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

Council should work with their insurers to endorse their public liability insurance to cover small community groups ... such insurance should NOT be offered only to unincorporated groups. Small, not for profit groups become incorporated so that they may apply for government grants ... NOT because they are large organisations that can afford expensive insurance covers. In respect of the Dangar Island community hall, the requirement for additional PLI cover is absurd. If an incident occurred when a community group was using the hall, the reaction of that group's insurer would IMMEDIATELY be to make a claim against Council's insurer - depending on the circumstances the 2 insurers (maybe the same insurer ...) would probably settle 'knock-for-knock'. Council is facilitating double-dipping on the part of the insurance industry, and crippling what should be a community cultural hub.

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ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

28/01/2021

D08100852

Do you support the Plan for the Future for Community & Cultural Facilities as detailed in the Draft strategic Plan?

Yes

Please explain below:

As president of the Mooney Cheero progress association our members support the establishment of the Parsley Bay Community Centre as detailed in the LHARA Parsley Bay Centre info pack

Do you have any suggested edits or additions to the Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan?:

No

Do you agree with the key strategies identified for each District?:

Yes

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

28/01/2021

D08093717

LHARAs submission to:

YOUR VISION YOUR FUTURE
Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan
 (Hornsby Shire Council)

This submission is made by the Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic and Recreation Association (LHARA) on the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan (the Draft Strategic Plan - 2020) prepared by Hornsby Shire Council (HSC).

LHARA was formed to provide storage and amenities for recreational boating clubs which operate from Parsley Bay and Dead Horse Beach and to pursue improved community facilities for Brooklyn and nearby communities.

LHARA is an incorporated body established in 2019 by the following sponsors:

- Hornsby Ku-Rin-Gai PCYC Sailing Club
- Hawkesbury River Yacht Club
- Hawkesbury River Sailing Club
- Hawkesbury River Dragons (Dragon Boat Club)

The aquatic recreation clubs were joined by the following organisations to promote improved community facilities:

- Brooklyn Community Association
- Brooklyn Community Hall Project Committee

LHARA sponsors have been individually engaged over many years in numerous Brooklyn-focussed strategic planning and improvement initiatives undertaken by HSC. LHARA considers the delivery of improved community and cultural facilities critical to the future liveability of Brooklyn and surrounds.

LHARA asserts that the Draft Strategic Plan fails to acknowledge Brooklyn's place as the cultural hub and services centre of the remote and isolated Lower Hawkesbury River Community which numbers around 1500 permanent residents, and an estimated 500 "part-time" residents who regularly stay at their properties.

This critical oversight drastically understates the population reliant on Brooklyn's facilities – transport, education, medical, commercial, community and cultural. The proposition that the future needs of this community will be met by a meeting room with current capacity for 25 people is deeply flawed.

The Draft Strategic Plan also fails to acknowledge that sub-regional and district facilities in Hornsby Centre and Berowra are largely inaccessible to this remote and isolated community – particularly youth, the elderly, and those with impaired mobility.

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ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

IHWARA proposes that its concept for a shared-use multi-purpose facility at Parsley Bay would better meet the needs of our community and provide accessible facilities which leverage the strategic and environmental context of Brooklyn.

Brooklyn is the hub of the Lower Hawkesbury River Community

Brooklyn is the hub of a cluster of satellite hamlets which form the Lower Hawkesbury River community amounting to approximately 2000 permanent and part-time residents mainly in the 2083 postcode, as well as water access only settlements at Little Wobby, Sunny Corner, Marramarra Creek, and Mullet Creek.

Brooklyn's satellite hamlets include Little Wobby, Dangar Island, Cogra Bay, Milsons Passage, Bar Point, Sunny Corner, Coba Point, Marramarra Creek, Mooney Mooney, Cheero Point. Community Associations representing these hamlets combine to form the Lower Hawkesbury Community Coalition.

With the exception of a small hall on Dangar Island, there are no permanent community or cultural facilities supporting these hamlets, and many in the community are forced to travel more than 15km to access social programs, services, and facilities.

To the satellite hamlets, Brooklyn serves as transport and commercial hub, a centre for primary education, medical facilities, café/ dining and essential retail, and a limited array of sports, arts, and social groups.

Residents from Brooklyn and surrounds engage in common cultural and community activities such as special interest groups (gardening, sustainability, exercise religious), music and theatre groups, and all-ages soccer and sailing/paddling activities through the local clubs. Community members also participate in gatherings such as the Brooklyn Spring Fair, Christmas Fun Day, Trivia Night, Dinner Dance, and Theatre in the Park.

Generally speaking, Brooklyn is the only place where the wider community comes together. This valuable connectivity should be nurtured and fostered through the growth and enrichment of community and cultural activity. Accessible and flexible community and cultural facilities located in Brooklyn are critical in this regard.

Brooklyn and the lower Hawkesbury River hamlets are remote and isolated. The Draft Strategic Plan's focus on multipurpose sub-regional and district facilities at Hornsby and Berowra denies the significant impact of the "tyranny of distance" on accessibility – particularly for the less mobile or time-poor.

For the residents of "mainland" hamlets, a district hub at Berowra is 15km to the south and accessed via a 23 minute train journey and 8 minute walk. There is one to two trains per-hour servicing this route at peak times (less frequently off-peak and weekends) and the walking component assumes unimpaired mobility.

To access sub-regional facilities and services at Hornsby a car journey of 30km can be done in 30 minutes at off-peak times. The train takes around the same time.

The car commute to Hawkesbury River Station from land-based hamlets takes 10 minutes although parking in the station precinct is often not possible. The bus journey from Mooney Mooney and Cheero Point along the Pacific Highway and Brooklyn Road to the station takes 15-25 minutes. On weekdays there are three morning and two afternoon services, but no weekend services.

For water-access-only communities, their car and public transport journeys start with a boat ride of up to twenty minutes duration, and boat parking supply close to Brooklyn station is far outstripped by demand.

Many residents of Brooklyn and surrounds will not be able to access sub-regional or district facilities or participate in community activities and programs provided there. Community facility access benchmarks quoted from the North Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) Social and Cultural Infrastructure Strategy – 2019 confirm that our community will be disadvantaged.

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Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

For this reason primarily, the multifunctional district facility proposed in Berowra and sub-regional facilities proposed in Hornsby will not serve the identified social and cultural needs of the Lower Hawkesbury River community.

The Draft Strategic Plan does not provide for equitable and sustainable community access to quality community and cultural facilities for all Hornsby Shire Residents. In order to fulfil this objective, the lack of focus on non-urban and remote and isolated communities should be addressed. The unique characteristics of the Lower Hawkesbury River community and its social and cultural needs (and opportunities to leverage social, environmental and cultural connection) should be the subject of specific focus.

The needs of this community are changing with significant demographic shifts and increasing population density

In the 19th and much of the 20th century, Brooklyn was tightknit in that many resident families were represented across multiple generations, and many residents were connected by local work in fishing, aquaculture, or the railway.

Since the 1980's an influx of new families – often reliant on out-of-area employment - has changed the community make-up and social dynamic of the area. With innate cohesion reduced, the importance of community events and programs in the making of new connections and strong social networks has been highlighted.

The lack of community and cultural facilities serving the Lower Hawkesbury River community presents a challenge to the sustainable provision of these social touchpoints challenging. While young children may be served through the local school and sports clubs, the region's youth, adult, and aged populations frequently travel out of area to access community and cultural activities and programs which are unavailable in Brooklyn and surrounds.

Families and individuals seeking a broad and contemporary range of activities and social opportunities may be prompted to move away or commit to regular and time-consuming commutes to access these. If the pulse and vibrancy of the area diminishes with increased out-of-area participation, so too will the range of opportunities for the elderly and other less active community members to be engaged.

The value of a multifaceted and connected social ecosystem must not be overlooked, and the importance of community and cultural facilities supporting connectivity and integration cannot be overstated.

Our community is growing and changing (particularly the rate of full-time residency at water-access only properties). We anticipate that 2021 census data will show overall population growth across the Lower Hawkesbury River community greater than 3% and a demographic shift toward younger people, and families. Strategic planning must also take in to account the Peat Island redevelopment which is expected to add 268 dwellings to the community in the coming decade.

To sustain and invigorate the connected and cohesive Lower Hawkesbury River community, and provide for future liveability, Hornsby Shire Council must promote and support local activities and programs which engage residents across the age spectrum, and provide for these in accessible, fit for purpose facilities.

This would better fulfil the objectives of Hornsby Shire Council's Community Strategic Plan which counts among its Community Outcomes "Infrastructure meets the needs of the population". Agreed Indicators for which include:

- o Able to access a range of community facilities and services to meet needs
- o Aged care and disability services and facilities are adequate
- o Youth services and facilities are adequate

Also significant in the context of the draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan is the Community Outcome "People have good opportunities to participate in community life". Agreed indicators for which include:

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

- o A range of community events and activities take place that help bring people together
- o A good range of opportunities for cultural and artistic activities and expression
- o A good range of leisure and recreation opportunities.

Under the heading "liveable", focus areas include:

- Identifying, protecting and creating places and spaces for people
- Community wellbeing and neighbourhood amenity
- Advocating with the NSW Government for the infrastructure needs of the local area.

It appears that these objectives have been overlooked in the application of a simplistic and formulaic approach to development of the Draft Strategic Plan which consequently fails to consider the lack of access for our remote and isolated community to sub-regional and district facilities.

A bolder vision is needed to build community participation and one that recognises and embraces the value of the Brooklyn as the hub of the Lower Hawkesbury River community.

Local Strategic Planning Statement

The Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan is informed by a range of strategic documents, including the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) which sets out the need to:

"Consider additional opportunities for inclusive community facilities that are capable of shared use that will serve as social, cultural and economic hubs within different parts of the Shire".

The LSPS also notes the "opportunities to use public land for the provision of new or embellished social infrastructure in highly accessible locations or areas generating higher demand for services".

The proposal to locate multi-purpose district facilities elsewhere in the Shire is appropriate, but none of these can provide a community facility for the Lower Hawkesbury River community, or cultural facilities which leverage the waterside location and rail accessibility of Brooklyn.

Brooklyn is ripe for renewed social infrastructure which meets the needs of the local community and provides enhanced opportunities for the regional population.

Brooklyn and its satellite hamlets are underserved

Currently, Brooklyn's community and cultural facilities are largely outmoded and inadequate.

Whilst Hornsby Shire Council and the Brooklyn Community Association have worked to revitalise the property at number 10 Brooklyn Rd and generally improve the amenity of the town centre precinct, the community and cultural facilities need of the community remains poorly catered for in three small and dated facilities.

Number 10 Brooklyn Rd is now a valued community asset and provides a boutique gathering and gallery space, and pleasing grounds that are used to host popular village markets. Yet numerous gatherings and activities are still hosted at private homes, local commercial establishments (café's and licenced premises), or out of area premises.

Regular activities in this category include gatherings of special interest groups, as well as meetings of the local community associations, and sports clubs.

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Occasional activities in this category include the Brooklyn Public School Trivia Night (P&C fundraiser), Brooklyn Soccer Club events (dinner dance, comedy night, presentation days), and boating club events (regatta functions, presentation days).

Unusually for a remote and isolated community, there is no church or school infrastructure in the area to support cultural and educational/ extracurricular uses. Indeed, events and activities at Brooklyn Public School are routinely cancelled due to the lack of all-weather facilities there.

There is also no accessible community-use space in neighbouring Council areas. To be clear, there are no complementary facilities available for community or cultural activity.

For this community Council is the sole provider of community and cultural facilities. The Draft Strategic Plan comprehensively impacts the provision of services for many in the community, and is a critical document informing the next phase of the areas' growth and evolution.

Whilst Brooklyn's existing facilities may be fit for a limited range of purpose, they are certainly not multi-use, flexible, or sufficient for the needs of our community – now, or in the decades to come.

Planning for the future must aim to shift the needle and pave the way for outcomes aligned with modern expectations and strategic priorities.

The Brooklyn Improvement Master Plan project – 'draft' constraints and opportunities report identified the following:

- Place criteria including the importance of events space and communities facilities
- Opportunities to bring the whole community together (e.g.: a hall)
- Identified need for upgraded and additional community infrastructure and services

Whilst the Master Plan project has been shelved, it was comprehensive in its scope and incorporated extensive community consultation. Key findings and observations such as those above should inform specific strategic planning for community infrastructure, yet instead, the draft Strategic Plan proposes consolidation of existing largely inadequate and inflexible facilities – an approach which does nothing to change the status quo.

It is clear that the true number of residents reliant on Brooklyn's infrastructure must be considered, and that closer focus on the geographic situation and community dynamics of the Lower Hawkesbury River community is needed.

Clarity of current state, and bold vision for the future

Given the shifting demographics of Brooklyn and its satellite hamlets, and the outmoded state of Brooklyn's social infrastructure, the final Community and Cultural Facilities Strategy must be more realistic, equitable, and bold.

Our population is greater, and more geographically and culturally diverse than the Draft Strategic Plan recognises, and its recommendation for facilities which suitably and equitably service our community lacks consideration.

After a century of relative stability in the social and cultural dynamic of the area, change has come. If the Lower Hawkesbury River community is to thrive and progress, liveability must be at the forefront of strategic thinking. The dearth of social infrastructure that is undeniably the current state must be fixed.

The dowdy meeting room that is slated as "sufficient" to meet the needs of the next generation was set up as an interim measure in response to a decade of intensive advocacy by the community through the Brooklyn Community Hall Project Committee.

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

In the years since, numerous studies and documents have noted the need for improved community facilities in Brooklyn, and numerous commitments and statements of intent to resolve this acknowledged shortcoming have been made by Council representatives. It is an affront to find that Hornsby Shire Council now considers this room a suitable permanent facility.

Often touted as the "Jewel in the Crown" of the Hornsby Shire, the majestic Hawkesbury River and its intricate historical tapestry is worthy of more vision.

As the gateway to the Lower Hawkesbury River on account of its viewing opportunities and waterway access infrastructure, Brooklyn is already the focal point of engagement with this environment for passive and active users from across the Shire and beyond. Its offering to the region cannot be replicated in Cherrybrook, Galston, Berowra or Hornsby Town.

This place is the hub of a unique society of settlements amidst a natural and historical backdrop of national significance. The local and regional community deserves facilities in Brooklyn which are enabling, fit for purpose and adequate, and which acknowledge and respond to our remote and isolated context.

The Community and Cultural Facilities Strategy represents an opportunity to boldly turn the page on Brooklyn and pave the way for an exciting mixed-use facility which provides for future generations, and sets a new standard for the Hornsby Shire, its residents, and visitors.

The Parsley Bay Centre

Set among sandstone and gumtrees, Parsley Bay is emblematic of the LGAs northern border which tracks the sinuous run of the Hawkesbury River. For most, the opportunity to appreciate the interface between the bushland of Hornsby Shire and the river which is so much a part of the region's identity is unique to Brooklyn.

LHARA has established a vision for a shared-use, multi-purpose facility on the site of the toilet block at Parsley Bay. The proposed facility would cater to a wide range of community activities on a flexible upper-level floorplan of 150m² (excluding bathrooms and storage). Please refer to the attached Information Pack.

Sailing and paddle craft would be stored on the lower level, which would also house members amenities (toilets and showers), public toilets, and a small kiosk. In the same way that successful community facilities are co-located at playing fields, this proposed multipurpose centre embraces our river playground and promotes aquatic recreation for which this location is distinctively suited.

The draft business plan identifies uses such as community gatherings and meetings, exercise classes, and learning for young and old. Boat storage elements and member amenities would support and enhance the activities of the sponsoring recreational waterway user groups.

It is proposed that the financial sustainability model be underpinned by rent on storage areas and kiosk, one-off and recurring room usage fees, and regular visitation by school groups which would engage in a program covering cultural, heritage, and environment curriculum.

Design principles will guide the delivery of an environmentally sensitive and sustainable building, sympathetic to its setting, and accessible to people of all ages and mobility.

The facility is envisaged as:

- A collaborative enterprise which harnesses and leverages groups across the community in support of improved connectivity and community outcomes.
- A unique building utilising contemporary and sustainable architectural and operating principles,

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to provide a base for recreational waterway users and a facility for Lower Hawkesbury River community activities and events.

- A learning centre engaging young people to connect with the river and its ecosystems, the natural environment, the indigenous heritage and the river landscape.

Our proposal is aligned with various objectives of the Draft Strategic Plan and NSROCs Social and Cultural Infrastructure Strategy which supports co-location of community groups and complimentary activities, as well as Hornsby Shire Councils Sustainable Water-based Recreation Facilities Plan (2012) - leveraging existing infrastructure at Parsley Bay and improving access for passive craft, as well as the mobility impaired.

The most recent of a number of master-planning and placemaking exercises focussed on Brooklyn stated:

Brooklyn is a unique community, framed by the natural grandeur of the National Park and the Hawkesbury River. In this location, and since its founding, its activity has always been focused on the interface between land and water.

Brooklyn is the centre of myriad operations, movements and transactions across the riverine threshold. Beyond the attraction of this activity and employment, Brooklyn can also be the epicentre and stepping off point for the natural beauty and environments that surround it.

The community can not only be a setting for shared experiences within these environments, but also be a focal point of local identity, community pride, and common heritage and values. Successful municipal centres must be multifunctional social hubs built on existing assets and local desires, not simply short-term destinations or facilities for consumers and users.

Brooklyn has the chance to offer irresistible opportunities and experiences that do not exist elsewhere, and that are founded in the interests and needs of local people and their enterprises.

Creating an environmentally progressive community ecosystem that both protects and enhances its unique natural environment will allow Brooklyn to evolve with a rapidly changing world.

LHARA agrees wholeheartedly with this sentiment and has frequently engaged Councillors and staff since its inception. LHARA presented a detailed proposal to Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) at a Mayoral meeting in October 2019, and formally requested the inclusion of the proposed community facility in the Placemaking Strategy for Brooklyn via a letter to the General Manager in January 2020.

It is therefore very disappointing that there is no acknowledgement of our proposal in the Draft Strategic Plan, and that neither LHARA nor its sponsors were consulted in the course of developing this document.

Moving forward

Despite the unflagging commitment of many in the community to work with HSC to improve key aspects of liveability for the Lower Hawkesbury River community and Brooklyn in general, the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan leaves the region stranded on a low tide.

As the hub, Brooklyn's infrastructure is key. Considering tenets of Hornsby Shire Councils Community Strategy – Liveable, Sustainable, Productive and Collaborative – it is critical that this opportunity is taken to deliver accessible facilities which meet the needs of this remote and isolated community.

We formally request:

- further engagement and meaningful consultation on the Draft Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan;
- that as part of our submission to the Draft Strategic Plan, the LHARA proposal to establish the Parsley Bay Recreation and Community Centre be registered and included as an option in further development of the Strategy.

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

The Parsley Bay Recreation and Community Centre



A contemporary mixed use facility in Brooklyn to support the Lower Hawkesbury communities, aquatic sports and recreation, and learning and development opportunities for the Region.

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

Executive Summary

The Parsley Bay Centre will be located at Brooklyn, on the southern shore of the lower reaches of the Hawkesbury River and at the border of the Berowra and Robertson Federal electorates - easily accessed via Hawkesbury River Station from the Newcastle/ Sydney rail line, and the M1 Motorway.

The town of Brooklyn also serves as the main access point for water-access-only hamlets at Dangar Island, Little Wobby Beach, Cogra Bay, Milsons Island, Bar Point and Sunny Corner. A short drive away, residents of Mooney Mooney and Cheero Point access Brooklyn's Primary School, retail and social options, railway station.

Populations across the Northern Sydney and Central Coast regions continue to grow, as does the density and ethnic diversity in centres such as Hornsby, Gosford, and the North West Growth Area within the Hills District. Young people and the Over 60 demographics are well represented in the region.

The Hawkesbury River and surrounding National Parks provide passive and active amenity and recreational opportunities for Lower Hawkesbury residents, as well as numerous visitors from the wider region and beyond.

The Parsley Bay Centre will establish a place for recreation, learning and development, and community use. The facility will also house public amenities and a small scale food service outlet, and be central to placemaking opportunities to renew and activate the precinct.

The Parsley Bay Centre will be a regional hub for aquatic sports and recreation, a learning and development centre for people of all ages, and a critical social and recreational asset for the Lower Hawkesbury Estuary community.

Concept

A shared facility at Parsley Bay to support recreational waterway users, residents of Brooklyn and river settlements, and the regional community.

A contemporary, quality building, sympathetic to its surrounds, utilising modern architectural and 'living building' principles, with launch/ retrieval and storage areas for passive watercraft, and modern amenities.

The Parsley Bay Centre will be a hub for community activities and events, allowing groups with shared goals and interests to work and be together, and a learning centre to engage a broad range of interest and age groups, embracing and responding to the local environment.

A kiosk and public toilets will provide amenity for the many visitors to the Parsley Bay Precinct.



Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

Facility features

Ground Floor will have an aquatic activities base for sailing, dragon boats and paddlers. A kiosk-style food outlet will be located here, as well as change rooms with showers and toilets for members and guests.

The facility will incorporate the existing Council-owned public toilets, and sit adjacent to a passive craft rigging lawn, and launch and retrieval stage within the existing protected harbour.

First Floor will serve as a community hall and learning centre - a multi-purpose venue with kitchen and servery, and a flexible floorplan to suit events seating up to 150 people, or a range of smaller group activities.

Spacious covered decks will capitalise on northerly aspect and river views to the east over Parsley Bay.



Activities

The Facility will support a wide range of activity to engage people of all ages for the Lower Hawkesbury community, and wider Regional context.

The boatshed will have capacity to operate from dawn 'til dusk - 7 days a week, enhancing and growing participation in existing passive craft uses operating from Parsley Bay, and leveraging the strategic location and proximity to population growth areas along the Sydney/ Newcastle rail line and Pacific Motorway.

At present, Parsley Bay and surrounds support aquatic recreation clubs for junior and all ages sailing, dragon boats, and kayaks. Weekly activity rates peak in summer at around 400 participants - mainly on weekends.

Through establishment of a vessel storage "base" and modern facilities, it is proposed to grow weekend participation rates, and catalyse weekday utilisation including early morning and evening activities for local community and nearby schools, as well as on-water and passive recreation for groups of all-ages drawn from the local and regional population.

Target growth activities include sailing, kayaking and Stand-up Paddleboard, and rowing, with a key focus on children and young adults.



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Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

The Community Centre will service a diffuse group from across the Lower Hawkesbury estuary, connected through the local school and sports clubs, and general love of their incredible natural and cultural setting.

The upper floor of the facility will house a multi-purpose and flexible space to serve larger events such as community gatherings and fundraisers, sports club regattas and presentation days, and significant school assemblies and performances.

Existing arts, cultural, and health and fitness activities currently use private homes, open areas with no shelter, or small and inadequate meeting facilities. The Parsley Bay Centre will accommodate these with improved capacity and amenity, delivering enhanced experience and building participation and engagement across the community.

In addition, its anticipated that options currently unavailable to the community due to lack of appropriate space and shelter can be established to service the area. These include scouts, music performance, and martial arts.

Learning

It is anticipated that The Parsley Bay Centre would deliver a unique learning opportunity for school groups combining Environmental, PDHPE and HSE subject matter alongside rich Aboriginal and early European heritage.

In a landscape which has remained largely unchanged for millennia, the middens and art of ancient aboriginal settlements sit alongside Australia's earliest aquaculture, and the echoes of Arthur Phillip's voyages to chart the riverine artery that would stave off the starvation of Sydney Town, and kick start agriculture in the upriver farming lands to the west.

Of great significance, here is the birthplace of Federation and Nation-building.

The Australian Constitution was drafted aboard the S.S. Lucinda in the Hawkesbury River estuary in 1891, and the defining piece of Australia's rail history – the Hawkesbury River Railway Bridge – opened in 1889 to international recognition.

Sir Henry Parkes in his opening address said the railway helped bind the whole population of Australia in one chain. His toast calling for a United Australia was a forerunner to the Tenterfield federation speech some six months later.

A small-scale estuary fishing fleet and resilient oyster industry continues to operate from Brooklyn, and recent developments in disease-resistant oyster species underpin local hopes for resurgence. Active oyster leases and processing facilities lie within minutes of Parsley Bay, and the local fishing co-op brings ashore prawns and shallow water species for the Sydney Market.

Work is already underway with professional educators to develop various day-visit packages involving key curriculum and personal development elements for school groups, and the opportunity exists to offer health and educational programs to Seniors through partners such as University of the Third Age (USA).



Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

Passive Recreation

A number of self-guided walks will enable visitors of all ages to experience the history, beauty and diversity of the area.

Starting with the Federation Walk from Hawkesbury River train station via Flat Rock Point, visitors experience panoramic views to Brisbane Waters and Ku-ring-gai National Parks before arriving at the Parsley Bay precinct.

With proposed enhancements this precinct offers a modest parkland area with picnic facilities, public toilets, a kiosk, and the opportunity to relax and drink in the surrounds before exploring the causeway and rock pools, or taking one of the many walking paths of Ku-ring-Gai Chase National Park – including the most iconic sections of the Great North Walk.



Delivery

Delivery of the Parsley Bay Concept is proposed through a partnership between Hornsby Council and the Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic & Recreation Association (LHARA).

The LHARA sponsors are:

- ❖ *Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Sailing Club*
- ❖ *Hawkesbury River Sailing Club*
- ❖ *Brooklyn Community Association*
- ❖ *Hawkesbury River Yacht Club*
- ❖ *Hawkesbury River Dragons*
- ❖ *Brooklyn Community Hall Project Committee*

Submissions pertaining to Brooklyn

29/01/2021

D08095601

29 January 2021

Steven Head
General Manager
Hornsby Shire Council, NSW
hsc@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

RE: Comment on Community and Cultural Facilities DRAFT Strategy

In addressing the above plan may I congratulate Hornsby Shire Council on this initiative to analyse the assets to support the community and its cultural activities, especially in Brooklyn which is a hub for not only residents of Brooklyn but for the Lower Hawkesbury Communities for at least 1600 residents- not including the many visitors to this ever increasingly popular tourist area.

I acknowledge that Council is seeking to amalgamate its assets to purportedly to provide the most effective and efficient community and cultural facility for this hub. I also recognise that this is a very historic community, especially since, for instance the Constitution was written on the "Lucinda" on the Hawkesbury River. Many of our community assets have a history attached to these facilities, which does not seem to be recognised as a value to be retained-due to the fact that Hornsby Shire Council wishes to consolidate these assets. May I suggest that, Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) investigate this aspect more fully before eliminating the

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 5