

Community consultation summary

Bulk reclassification of Council land - operational to community

1. Purpose of the consultation

At the meeting of Council on 22 August 2023, Council determined to propose to reclassify 80 lots of Council owned land from operational to community.

Full details of the proposal are set out in the report published on the Council website as item 2.5 of the [Agenda of Ordinary Council Meeting - Tuesday, 22 August 2023 \(infocouncil.biz\)](https://www.infocouncil.biz)

In order for the reclassification to proceed, it was necessary to carry out a process of public notification in accordance with the provisions of section 34 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Section 34 - Public notice to be given of classification or reclassification by council resolution

- (1) A council must give public notice of a proposed resolution to classify or reclassify public land.
- (2) The public notice must include the terms of the proposed resolution and a description of the public land concerned.
- (3) The public notice must specify a period of not less than 28 days during which submissions may be made to the council.
- (4) (Repealed)

2. Method & timing of consultation

Council's intention to reclassify 80 lots of Council operational land as Council community land was authorised by Council resolution on 22 August 2023.

Public notice was given by way of the Central Coast Council community information website known as Your Voice Our Coast.

The reclassification proposal was publicly notified via the website from Thursday 7 September 2023 to Friday 6 October 2023 inclusive.

Submissions were invited via an online submission form, via email and via post.

3. Summary of responses

A total of 5 responses were received via the online submission form and 1 formal submission was received via email.

Of the 5 online responses, only 2 responses included any comments.

These comments were confined to the 9 open space sites and a single comment in each submission was applied to each of the 9 open space sites.

The 2 comments that were made are as follows:

- *Should remain/revert to natural bush/parkland in keeping with Council objectives of improving environment and lowering street temperatures. Any loss of green environment is illogical and unacceptable.*
- *The impact of reclassification is not clear. This "council" (Dik Hart) cannot be trusted to act in the interests of the community. Leave it alone until we one day have a representative council.*

The first of these comments is taken to be generally supportive of the reclassification process as the effect of the reclassification will be that the sites in question are categorised as Natural Area – Bushland or as Park.

The second of these comments is taken to be generally critical of Council decision-making. The structure of the reclassification process, the method of selection of candidate sites and the fact that this process has been primarily undertaken to respond to previous community feedback are all clearly explained in the August 2023 Council report. A further response is not considered to be warranted.

As noted, a single formal submission was received via email. This submission was provided by the Community Environmental Network. The submission is fully reproduced as an attachment to the January 2024 Council report.

The submission is generally supportive of the Council reclassification initiative but suggests that some sites should be differently categorised once they have been reclassified and also that some other associated Council-owned sites should be considered for reclassification as well. Points raised in the CEN submission are dealt with in the next section of this consultation summary.

4. Summary of issues raised & how addressed

The following summarises the CEN submission and how/whether Council proposes to respond.

SITE	Proposed category	Summary of CEN comments	Response/ proposed action
SITES WITH BUILT IMPROVEMENTS			
Berkeley Sports Complex 1-3 Berkeley Vale Road GLENNING VALLEY	General Community Use (GCU)	Support	Acknowledge support
Lakelands Community Centre 3 Literary Close KANWAL	General Community Use	Support	Acknowledge support
Wamberal Memorial Hall 182 Ocean View Drive WAMBERAL	General Community Use	Categorise area occupied by mature	Note that area occupied by mature trees can be

		trees as Natural Area - Bushland	satisfactorily managed under proposed classification as GCU
St Barnabas Church 1669 Yarramalong Road YARRAMALONG	General Community Use	Should be Natural Area - Bushland	Acknowledge that site requires further investigation to address need for rectification of lot boundaries & access arrangements. Remove lot from list of sites to be reclassified.
OPEN SPACE SITES			
29W Karangal Crescent BUFF POINT	Park	Support	Acknowledge support
Davistown wetlands – multiple sections - Emora Avenue, Davistown Road, Pine Avenue & Kincumber Crescent DAVISTOWN	Natural Area – Wetland	In principle, support Other lots with wetland characteristics should be included	Note that other lots may be considered at a later date.
Cherry Blossom Crescent HAMLYN TERRACE	Natural Area – Wetland	In principle, support Other lots should be included	Note that other lots may be considered at a later date.
446W Hue Hue Road & 317W Dicksons Road & 155W Sandra Street & 11W Buttonderry Way & 95W Sandra Street JILLIBY	Natural Area - Bushland	In principle, support Other lots should be included	Note that other lots may be considered at a later date. For logistical reasons, some related lots need to remain as operational – explanation to be provided in more detail in a future CCC-CEN meeting
891 Pacific Highway LISAROW	Not stated	In principle, support Another nearby lot should be considered as well	Note that other lots may be considered at a later date.
27W Irene Parade NORAVILLE	Park	Should be partly categorised as Natural Area – Bushland	Council prefers to retain the greater flexibility of the Park category. As per POM,

			bushland values can be addressed & enhanced within this categorisation.
Clarence Road & Meadow Road SPRINGFIELD	Natural Area – Bushland	In principle, support Other lots should be included	It is acknowledged that there are a significant number of other Council owned lots in close proximity. Further investigation is required.
10 De L'Isle Drive WATANOBBI	Not stated	Categorise as part Park part Natural Area – Wetland	Council will investigate this site further before proposing a suitable category for the 2024 POM amendment.
157W Brittainia Drive WATANOBBI	Not stated	Categorise as part Park part Natural Area – Wetland	Council will investigate this site further before proposing a suitable category for the 2024 POM amendment.

5. Changes proposed in conjunction with community consultation feedback

As noted in the main report presented at the January 2024 Council meeting, it is proposed not to proceed further in relation to reclassification of the Yarramalong (St Barnabas) site.

It is acknowledged that there is substantial bushland on the balance of the lot (i.e. other than the part of the lot occupied by the former church building) and that this should be taken into account in any future initiative to reclassify this lot.

In relation to lots which are not part of the current reclassification proposal, Council representatives have taken steps to initiate a further consultation with the Community Environment Network to establish priorities for future reclassification and to provide certain further explanatory information. As these lots are not part of the current proposal, they are not covered by this report.