

From: [Trev and Helen](#)
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Re SSD 8406 and SSD 3846 Long bow Golf Course and West Culburra Development
Date: Sunday, 15 July 2018 10:33:54 AM

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 24th of July with respect to the above development plans as I work. I assume that the only people who could attend such a meeting would be those who do not work (predominately retirees) and whom represent only a part of the community. There has been several radio interviews by local politicians whom claim to have “80%” of the local population support for the above proposals. Perhaps correctly it should be 80% of those who speak to these politicians. It is also to be noted that the Progress society has been, and remains, a divisive group in this community and is not representative. Councillor Pakes, whom seems very vocal with respect to the above proposals, was elected to council on the bottom of a Shoalhaven wide group “ticket” and does not have the right to claim representation of the town.

I am the only full time General Practitioner in the town (the other GPs being part time and the Medical Centre being a corporate organisation that utilises area of need doctors from overseas whom are not General Practice trained and whom do not live in the town. They have a high turnover of staff). I also live in the town with my family and my children where schooled locally.

With respect to the West Culburra proposal my objection is that the town does not have the infrastructure to support a further 700 odd houses with an extra population of around 3000. From a health care perspective we could not provide services to this extra population growth. My practice has been actively recruiting General Practitioners for over 10 years and to this date have been unable to do so – like many other rural towns. We do not have the schools or public transport to cater for such population growth. More importantly, why would we encourage population growth in an area that has high unemployment? (current youth employment is in the low 20%). Building work may provide short term employment but at completion those people will be unemployed as well as the new resident. The social implications are obvious. Urban growth can only be sustainable in areas of available employment and adequate infrastructure.

With respect to SSD 8406 the area cannot sustain another Golf Course. Currently in the region there are 2 Golf Courses and my understanding is that one north of the Shoalhaven River has difficulties in running a sustainable business. In the last 10 years the area has had the closure of one golf course that was situated South of the Crematorium in Worrige. The business model will fail leaving environmental destruction. Golf course do not bring business to towns like Culburra.

My dream? If the Hallorhan Trust would given the land on both sides of Culburra Road, around the Lake and out to Currarong to the National Parks (Call it Hallorhan National Park) then we can have sustainable environmentally positive tourism. This is certainly a growth industry in Australia. This would allow the development of eco- friendly lodges/accommodation, allow the involvement of the Jerrinja community in the tourism, promote the awareness of the unique environment we have here through access to the National Parks walking trials etc and allow the tourism industry to develop in Culburra.

But alas this is a dream

Yours Sincerely
(Dr) Trevor Smith

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