

Consultation Outcomes & Next Steps Tuesday, 13 April 2021

Killalea Consultation Outcomes and Next Steps

Community engagement meetings on the Killalea Enhancement Project were held via Zoom Meetings over three days and evening sessions, from Monday 22 March through to Wednesday 24 March 2021.

14 meetings in total were held including a briefing session and consultation with Shellharbour City Council, Councillors on the Tuesday evening.

Consultation Outcomes

Reflections Holiday Parks (Reflections) has been undertaking engagement with the local community and key stakeholders on the proposed enhancement project at Killalea Reserve (Killalea).

The proposal has included some elements which have attracted concern and opposition, primarily from residents and users of Killalea Reserve. In particular, the proposed multi-function community centre which may incorporate a 200-seat function centre, has received the most amount of feedback.

Reflections applied for, and was successful in receiving, a grant from the Regional Growth Environment and Tourism Fund after consultation with key economic and tourism representatives from the region who expressed support for the grant submission.

This included the proposal for:

- Investigation and design of an alternative access road.
- A multi-function cultural and community centre.
- Recreational and fitness facilities (including walking trails and a playground).
- Enhanced camping sites with improved services.
- 15 Eco-cabins based on Environmentally Sustainable Design Principles.

During the community consultation, the Reflections team advised the Community that **no development approval has been obtained** and that only investigation and survey work, on the alternate access road, has commenced.

Reflections confirmed that the original grant application was used to secure the grant and that ***ALL IDEAS AND LOCATIONS ARE INDICATIVE ONLY***, and the feedback of the community is being sought ***BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE MADE***.

Consultation Outcomes & Next Steps Tuesday, 13 April 2021

Everyone is invited to participate in a week of engagement activities from Tuesday 27th April – Saturday 1st May 2021.

Feedback from the community to date, includes:

- Concerns about the scale and nature of the function centre in terms of built form, activities, and location.
- The use of Killalea as primarily a day-visit park, with primitive camping appealing to a small minority of visitors whose primary purpose is to surf. Locals use the park for fitness (informal and formal running, walking and exercise); recreation (passive and active); picnics and gatherings and environmental pursuits (bird watching, bushwalking, land care).
- Existing pressures of traffic and vehicle impacts on the local road networks and residential precinct.
- The rapid and relatively recent encroachment of residential development on hitherto agricultural land, and the recent large-scale Marina development resulting in the Reflections proposal being seen as, '*the last straw*'.
- Offers of volunteering, assistance, and support from various parts of the community indicating their willingness to contribute to the maintenance and upkeep of the park, and to support Reflections in achieving alternate funding sources.
- Anxiety about the long-term future of the park and whether Reflections:
 - will develop the Reserve into '*a holiday park*'.
 - intends to initiate a 'Stage Two' of development, the community is not being told about.
 - intends that the provisions in the Plan of Management and Addendum will be exercised to develop residential, multistorey or something similar.

What is Reflections doing?

Reflections is:

- Listening to the community and reporting to the Grant Provider on the key issues
- Working on how best to engage the wider community in discussions about:
 - the long-term vision for the Reserve.
 - how to improve and preserve what is best about the Reserve.
 - how to secure sustainable revenue to ensure that maintenance and improvements, including compliance, can be sustained.

Consultation Outcomes & Next Steps Tuesday, 13 April 2021

Reflections have heard:

- The local community want a much-loved Reserve to remain a largely natural open park with environmental, surfing, and indigenous and local heritage values. However, “**ENHANCEMENTS**” could be explored.
- Killalea was always special but is particularly so now as it has become the last remnant of an agricultural and simpler past.
- Killalea is being 'loved to death'. Increased visitation has meant litter, increased wear and tear on simple improvements, anti-social behaviour (alcohol and driving), traffic and parking conflicts. Locals are concerned that development to increase visitation will make these situations even worse.
- The community want to be part of the future of Killalea – its planning and its implementation. There is enormous goodwill towards maintaining and protecting the environment, animals, plants, paths, and environmental education centre. Reflections needs to harness this goodwill to help look after Killalea Reserve.
- The community has raised alternate means of funding the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the Reserve, including investigating a paid entry model which has drawn a range of views from the Community during the consultation session.

What is next?

Community and Stakeholder Meetings will be held during the day and into the evening from the 27th to 30th April 2021, in or near Killalea Reserve, with a community day set for Saturday 1st May 2021..

We are currently working on the agenda and activities which will be incorporated into our consultation sessions and community day.

The following are our first thoughts:

- Activities to identify the community's long-term vision and priorities for Killalea Reserve.
- Activities to understand the community's priorities for Killalea Reserve.
- Testing ideas for how revenue for Killalea Reserve could be secured.
- Identifying the best way to engage with the local community and to test some ideas about how and when these can occur.
- Updates on all aspects of the enhancement project

It is intended that any activities held on Saturday 1st May 2021, will be accessible to all. There



Consultation Outcomes & Next Steps Tuesday, 13 April 2021

will be no need to RSVP for the Saturday 'drop-in' session. A Covid-Safe Plan will be in place.

For all other sessions we invite everyone to register their attendance at the Engagement Hub – <https://reflections.engagementhub.com.au>.

Reflections acknowledges there are many more discussions to be had and asks that the community work with us to understand the best way forward from here.

Together we can ensure that Killalea Reserve remains the local natural recreational park the community has come to enjoy.

Any questions you may have in the meantime, can be directed to KillaleaFeedback@reflectionsoliday.com.au.

Cameron Tynan

Acting CEO

Reflections Holiday Parks