

WALKERVILLE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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15.11.06

Attention Joanne Stringer

RE: Walkerville Tourist Developments

I thank you for your reply to my letter, dated 5th July 2006. As you suggested, I have been liaising with you as General Manager Operations about where we all go from here. I am writing to you following up on our recent telephone conversation before I went on vacation.

Your last call suggested our group should meet with the ward councillors maybe sometime in November at one of their regular meetings to discuss our concerns. You also suggested we should document some of the issues we want to address. Putting aside the ongoing major issue of a boat ramp we want to speak generally about improvements for tourists and day trippers to both Walkerville South and Walkerville North that would make their experience more enjoyable. The proper way to attack the project I would have thought was to evolve a strategy plan with short, medium and long term objections in consultation with the Foreshore Committee Councilors and Council Officers.

However we have already collated a wish list from our current membership involving both short term and long term objectives. As we expand our membership there will no doubt be other issues that we hadn't thought that will come through on an ongoing basis.

I have been President of the Park Orchards Rate Payer Association in the City Of Manningham for several years. This organisation worked collectively with the local community and council to achieve many positive results for our local community over the past 30 years. Likewise, the WPA hope to achieve many positive outcomes by working with your council and the foreshore committee and the other funding agencies, these will make Walkerville look "loved" and a jewel in the crown of tourism in South Gippsland, while at the same time not ruining what we have.

I look forward to hearing your response and advising us of an appropriate time for a meeting.

Stephen Graham (P.Eng M.I.E Aust.)

President

Walkerville Progress Association

Walkerville Progress Association

- Wish list projects to improve the tourist experience (October 2006)
- Sealing the road through the camping ground to keep down dust
- Removal of rocks (small scale) to improve swimming at both Walkerville North and at Waratah Street.
- Provision of picnic tables and seating on the beach side at Waratah Street
- Provision of a small toilet block at Waratah Street on the land side
- Improvements to parking in the Waratah Street area
- Improvements to the BBQ and picnic facilities at the entrance to the camp ground
- Provision of a picnic table outside the kiosk on the landside out of the wind
- Face lift both inside and out of the toilets at the hall
- Improvements and landscaping of picnic area at the Hall
- Occasional seats on the beachside of the road overlooking the bay
- Provision of an exclusive pedestrian / cycle path between the camping ground and Walkerville North for safety reasons
- Fish cleaning facilities at both Walkerville North and Walkerville South at an appropriate location
- Fishing jetty at Walkerville South on the alignment of the old jetty
- Facelift both inside and out of the toilets at Walkerville South
- Provision of picnic tables and seating at Walkerville South and various locations(beside ramp and about kilns)
- Formalise current parking area at Walkerville South
- Beach grooming in peak season at Walkerville South for safety reasons
- Restoring the look out over the bay at the top of the hill above the camping ground
- Straighten up the parking bay at the look out over Wilsons of the loop road between Walkerville North and Walkerville South
- Underground power lines at Walkerville North

These are some of the issues that have been raised at our meetings. Some of them are costly and therefore long term but some are simple and easily addressed. We don't believe any of these issues are heretical and will result in the destruction of Walkerville, but rather very simple people orientated projects. If Walkerville is to be closed off to the public then most of these things would not be necessary, but if tourists are to be encouraged to enjoy the Walkerville experience, then most of them make a lot of sense.