



# HUNTER'S HILL COUNCIL

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Reference:

Alister Sharp  
President,  
Hunters Hill Trust  
Email: [alistersharp202@gmail.com](mailto:alistersharp202@gmail.com)

2 August 2021

Dear Dr Sharp,

Thank you for your letter dated 22 July 2021, the contents of which have been noted. Referring to the matters you have raised I advise as follows:

1. Council's draft Plan of Management for Figtree Park and Gladesville Community Reserves do not provide for any expanded use of these reserves. Whilst I acknowledge there was reference to Council's Draft Community Infrastructure Plan/Property Strategy this was under Section 8 of the plan which clearly states:

The creation of a Community and Civic Hub centred around Gladesville Rd and Figtree Park precinct (Village Green Hub) could be achieved following a series of due diligence investigations, planning studies and Local / State Government agreements. This future development, if progressed and agreed, and subject to a series of actions and activities, would be authorised in a new future Plan of Management.

2. There is no expected measurable or discernible increase in scale or intensity of uses in the short term of the park or general community use precinct. Permissible uses of the 2 reserves are detailed in the following tables from the Draft Plan of Management.

**Table 5** Permissible use and development of community land categorised as Park

PURPOSE/USE FOR LAND CATEGORISED AS PARK	DEVELOPMENT TO FACILITATE USES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Organised and unstructured recreation activities</li><li>– Community events and gatherings</li><li>– Active and passive recreation including children's play and cycling</li><li>– Group recreational use, such as picnics and private celebrations</li><li>– Eating and drinking in a relaxed setting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Development for the purposes of improving access, amenity and the visual character of the reserve and its uses, for example paths, public art, pergolas</li><li>– Development for the purposes of active recreation such as play equipment, exercise equipment, bike racks</li></ul>

PURPOSE/USE FOR LAND CATEGORISED AS PARK	DEVELOPMENT TO FACILITATE USES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Publicly accessible ancillary areas, such as toilets</li> <li>– Low-intensity commercial activities (for example recreational equipment hire)</li> <li>– Festivals, parades, markets, fairs and similar</li> <li>– Exhibitions</li> <li>– Events and gatherings</li> <li>– Filming and photographic projects</li> <li>– Busking</li> <li>– Public address (speeches)</li> <li>– Community gardening</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="261 842 804 920">Note: Some of the uses listed above require a permit from the council.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Amenities to facilitate the safe use and enjoyment of the reserve, for example picnic tables, BBQs, sheltered seating areas</li> <li>– Landscaping and finishes, improving access, amenity and the visual character of the reserve</li> <li>– Café or refreshment areas (kiosks/restaurants) including external seating</li> <li>– Lighting, seating, toilet facilities, paved areas</li> <li>– Hard and soft landscaped areas</li> <li>– Storage sheds</li> <li>– Car parking and loading areas</li> <li>– Commercial development that is sympathetic to and supports use in the area, for example hire of recreation equipment</li> <li>– Toilet/shower facilities</li> <li>– Community garden infrastructure</li> <li>– Structures to facilitate community events &amp; gatherings such as market days, fairs, movies, music, exhibitions</li> <li>– Shade structures</li> <li>– Storage ancillary to recreational uses, community events or gatherings, and public meetings</li> <li>– Locational, directional and regulatory signage</li> <li>– Heritage and cultural interpretation, e.g. signs</li> <li>– Equipment sales/hire areas ancillary to the reserve purposes and the approved uses</li> <li>– Advertising structures and signage (such as A-frames and banners) that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ relate to approved uses/activities</li> <li>○ are discreet and temporary</li> <li>○ are approved by the council</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

PURPOSE/USE FOR LAND CATEGORISED AS PARK	DEVELOPMENT TO FACILITATE USES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Water-saving initiatives such as stormwater harvesting, rain gardens and swales</li> <li>– Energy-saving initiatives such as solar lights and solar panels</li> <li>– Bio-banking and carbon sequestration initiatives</li> </ul>

**Table 9** Purposes, uses and development for land categorised as General Community Use

PURPOSE OR USE	DEVELOPMENT TO FACILITATE USE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Providing a location for, and supporting, the gathering of groups for a range of social, cultural, community service and health, or recreational purposes</li> <li>– Providing multi-purpose buildings with community uses</li> <li>– Casual or informal recreation</li> <li>– Meetings (including for social, recreational, educational or cultural purposes)</li> <li>– Community service delivery on site, and off-site, e.g: preparation for meals delivery</li> <li>– Community centres, including health, welfare and rehabilitation facilities</li> <li>– Educational and community information centres, including libraries, information and resource centres</li> <li>– Functions</li> <li>– Concerts, including all musical genres</li> <li>– Performances (including film and stage)</li> <li>– Exhibitions</li> <li>– Festivals, parades, markets, fairs and similar</li> <li>– Workshops</li> <li>– Leisure or training classes</li> <li>– Child care (for example, before and after school care, vacation care)</li> <li>– Designated group use (e.g. Scout and Girl Guide use)</li> <li>– Entertainment facilities</li> <li>– Filming and photographic projects</li> <li>– Busking</li> <li>– Public address (speeches)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Development for the purposes of social, community, cultural and recreational activities, such as libraries, childcare centres, health and welfare centres, youth services, aged services, men’s sheds, service delivery on and off-site, work hubs or meeting and learning rooms</li> <li>– Provision of buildings or other amenity areas to facilitate use and enjoyment by the community</li> <li>– Development (particularly within buildings) for the purposes of addressing the needs of a particular group (for example, a stage)</li> <li>– Landscaping and finishes, improving access, amenity and the visual character of the general community area</li> <li>– Amenities to facilitate the safe use and enjoyment of the reserve, for example picnic tables, BBQs, sheltered seating areas</li> <li>– Café or refreshment areas (kiosks/restaurants) including external seating</li> <li>– Lighting, seating, toilet facilities, paved areas</li> <li>– Hard and soft landscaped areas</li> <li>– Storage ancillary to recreational uses, community services, events or gatherings, and public meetings</li> <li>– Vehicle (car, community bus) parking and loading areas</li> <li>– Ancillary areas (staff rooms, meeting rooms, recording rooms, equipment storage areas)</li> <li>– Toilet/shower facilities</li> <li>– Shade structures</li> <li>– Water-saving initiatives such as rain gardens</li> <li>– Energy-saving initiatives such as solar lights and solar panels</li> <li>– Car parking and loading areas</li> <li>– Advertising structures and signage (such as a-frames and banners) that:</li> </ul>

PURPOSE OR USE	DEVELOPMENT TO FACILITATE USE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ relate to approved uses/activities</li> <li>○ are discreet and temporary and</li> <li>○ are approved by the council</li> </ul> <p>– Locational, directional and regulatory signage</p>

3. The term Village Green Hub has been used by Council for some time and was part of Council's resolution on 26 May 2021 when considering the draft Community Infrastructure Plan/Property Strategy.
4. On 15 March 2021 Council resolved following community consultation consisting of online feedback and community workshops:
  1. That Council authorise the General Manager to submit the following:
    - i. draft Plan of Management for Crown Reserves – Park and Natural Areas
    - ii. draft Plan of Management for Figtree Park and Gladesville Community Centre Reserves
    - iii. draft Plan of Management for Henley Precinct Open Space to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands for endorsement prior to giving public notice of these draft Plans.
  2. That Council proceed to public exhibition of these draft Plans of Management following endorsement by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment –Crown Lands, unless there are any substantial changes to the draft Plans required by the Department that would require further consideration by Council.
  3. That following the Public Exhibition of the 3 Plans of Management, Councillors be consulted about amendments responding to public consultation, before a further report is provided to Council.
5. Any ideas that are collected will be subject to further community consultation and only those permissible under the Plan of Management will be able to be considered by Council. It is intended that a summary of all feedback will be presented to Council for consideration and referred to Council's appointed Landscape architect to develop a concept plan for the open space area and number 48 Gladesville Road which may be included to improve access to the park.

I can assure you there is no intention to imbed the Draft Community Infrastructure Plan/Property Strategy into the Plans of Management for Figtree Park and Gladesville Community Reserve as detailed above, no such changes can occur without the exhibition of revised documents. All comments recorded during the consultation period will be included in the summary of feedback but as detailed earlier only those items which are permissible under the Figtree Reserve Plan of Management will consider.

I am more than happy to meet with you to discuss this project and others and hope we can do that sooner rather than later, Covid conditions permitting. Please do not hesitate to contact me on 0418 840 090 should you wish to discuss in the meantime.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'N. Tobin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nick Tobin  
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER