

# Bonny Hills Progress Association News

July 2013

## **Approval for the Grant's Head Quarry Increase in Extraction Rate**

Council's Development Assessment Panel has recommended that the proposal to increase the extraction rate from the Grant's Head Quarry for five years, be approved subject to some conditions. Strong representations were made by the executive of the BHPA and a number of residents, particularly in relation to noise, safety issues and the abysmal state of the road through Bonny Hills.

There has been a high level of interest in this proposal with over 100 residents providing written submissions on the application and the recent draft Voluntary Planning Agreement. Up to 30 residents attended the meeting and all were understandably very disappointed at the outcome which effectively disregarded residents' concerns regarding the impacts of truck traffic through our village.

The Panel assessed that the modification sought complied with existing regulations. We have been advised that the decision is final and there are no avenues for appeal other than through evidence of non-compliance.

However, we have already contacted PMHC to organise a safety audit of Bonny Hills.

## **Finance secured for public toilets**

The BHPA provided a written endorsement to the PMHC for allocating **\$50,000** in the **2013/14 Operational Plan** which combined with the **\$35,233** from the *Community Building Partnership Program* will enable installation of public toilets adjacent to the skate-park and playground in the Hall Reserve. For more information see the BHPA website. We appreciate the support of all those people who took the time to write to the PMHC, indicating their support for this provision in the Operational Plan.

## **Water quality in Duchess Creek and Rainbow Beach**

Despite not obtaining grant funding for an enhanced regime of sampling and analysis of water quality in Duchess Creek, PMHC staff are going ahead with a program of work methodically inspecting all infrastructure adjacent to our STP (Sewerage Treatment Plant), and 'walking the lines' to determine if there is any possibility of leaks. Depending on these results and further sampling upstream of the STP, more sophisticated methods such as dye tracing and bore sampling of ground water may be required to determine possible sources of contamination.

## **Submission on NSW Planning Review White Paper and Planning Bills**

BHPA has lodged a submission regarding the proposed new planning legislation above. While it encourages the community to have an input at the early 'strategic stages' of planning, once this is decided there appears to be no chance of further input or any right of appeal for what residents might consider to be inappropriate development. Compliance of any development with the particular rules and regulations for the agreed 'zoning' will provide approval. So all hangs on how well and all-embracing the rules and regulations have been set – the devil is normally in the detail.

The submission is on our website. PMHC has also made a submission which we presume will be up on Council's website.

Monthly committee meetings of BHPA are open to all residents and minutes and important notices are emailed to all on our database. If you are not on email, minutes are on display at the BH Post Office. Fees for 2013 are now due. Annual membership is only \$10 per household and can be paid at any meeting or c/- the Bonny Hills PO.

**Contact us:** PO Box 44 Bonny Hills, 2445, email: [bhpa@bonnyhills.org.au](mailto:bhpa@bonnyhills.org.au) or visit our web site [www.bonnyhills.org.au](http://www.bonnyhills.org.au)