

# Summary of the 2008 Community Survey Results

As a summary of the survey responses the following general comments can be made:

- Overall there were 64 responses<sup>1</sup>
- There was a high level of agreement with the BHPA current strategic direction [as given in the table attached].
  - No fewer than 78% of respondents supported all items in the strategic vision statement.
  - Support was highest for 'water quality and management', followed by 'safe roads' and 'maintaining village character and lifestyle'
  - While there was a number of useful suggestions in relation to each of the four themes in the vision statement, there were no strong patterns to the responses
- In response to the question about what values you think we need to add to the BHPA vision statement:
  - there was strong support for the existing themes – particularly 'road safety', 'environment and dealing with rubbish', and 'maintaining village atmosphere', and again there were some useful suggestions to consider regarding existing themes
  - Only one new theme emerged with mild support - 'energy use/climate change'
- With regard to the question about the type of development that we must resist:
  - There was overwhelming support for restricting building heights to 3 stories or less
  - This was followed by discouraging intensive, industrial or inappropriate large developments
- With regard to the question about what additional facilities, qualities or amenities must be promoted, protected and developed:
  - There was strong support for improving facilities for younger people
  - There was quite a number and range of other suggestions which focused on providing modest sized but improved facilities such as a small shopping precinct, café etc.
- The community was close to being evenly divided about whether a name change for the BHPA is warranted, suggesting no strong case for moving away from BHPA
- In conclusion it appears that the current community vision statement is still in synch with community expectations based on this sample of BH people.
- The challenge now is for the BHPA to take on board the additional information that came out of this survey, and to integrate what BH needs are with those developments proposed in adjacent communities [eg Area 14 and Lake Cathie]

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<sup>1</sup> Which represents about 6% of households in BH - this means that the survey is heavily biased toward those who are interested in the future of BH – perhaps disappointing, but not unexpected.

## Outcomes of BHPA 2008 survey

### How important to you are the values in the table below?

(place an "X" in the box that best reflects your feelings, from 1 (lowest importance) to 5 (highest importance)).

Please write additional suggestions, if any, in the blank rows provided, or attach a separate sheet. Thank you for your participation!

#### **Conservation of our natural environment and wildlife:**

	1	2	3	4	5	TOTs	% 4+	Av
effective wildlife corridors	4	2	5	10	40	263/61	82	4.3
habitat protection zones to ensure long-term viability of wildlife corridors	4	2	5	13	39	270/63	83	4.3
coastal vegetation strip between Bonny Hills and Lake Cathie remains intact, restored and protected	3	-	5	10	45	283/63	87	4.5
no new development in 'Area 14' (between BH and Lake Cathie) close to or visible from the beach	3	2	6	9	40	261/60	82	4.4
eco-sensitive tourism focus on natural features	3	1	9	10	37	257/60	78	4.3
<b>Average</b>							<b>82.4</b>	<b>4.35</b>

#### **Maintaining village character and quality of lifestyle:**

	1	2	3	4	5	TOTs	% 4+	Av
residential village atmosphere maintained	2	-	6	9	44	276/61	87	4.5
safe and friendly environment protected for all the community	1	2	-	9	49	286/61	95	4.7
open spaces for both passive and active recreation	-	-	7	7	47	284/61	89	4.7
<b>Average</b>							<b>90.3</b>	<b>4.62</b>

#### **Safe roads for people and wildlife:**

	1	2	3	4	5	TOTs	% 4+	Av
safe pedestrian access between various parts of Bonny Hills	2	1	3	7	48	281/61	90	4.6
pedestrian and cycle routes between Bonny Hills and Lake Cathie linking current and future housing clusters, beaches, lake, wetlands and forests	1	-	5	10	46	286/62	90	4.6
safe traffic management through the village to retain residential amenity	1	2	3	8	47	279/61	90	4.6
<b>Average</b>							<b>90</b>	<b>4.60</b>

#### **Water quality and management:**

	1	2	3	4	5	TOTs	% 4+	Av
clean ocean and creek water	1	-	-	4	57	302/62	98	4.9
total water cycle management with dual water reticulation in new development areas	1	1	1	11	47	285/61	95	4.7
<b>Average</b>							<b>96.5</b>	<b>4.77</b>

**Comments provided under each of the headings in the table above:**

**Conservation of our natural environment and wildlife:**

- *No development in low-lying areas. Preserve wetland.*
- *Too much open space is being destroyed by over-development.*
- *Lantana weed control in State Forest and National Parks/Conservation Areas/ Council spaces, roadsides etc: funding resourcing*
- *Name for strip between BH and North Haven*
- *Conservation of large trees, especially near beach.*

**Maintaining village character and quality of lifestyle:**

- *Upgrade of surf club and area*
- *Take a bag on your walks and pick up rubbish.*
- *Best urban design principles applied to all new developments.*
- *Walking tracks open to leashed dogs.*
- *Sports field.*

**Safe roads for people and wildlife:**

- *Lower speed limits between BH and LC*
- *Remove/replacement of current dangerous traffic calming devices.*
- *Village by-pass road.*

**Water quality and management:**

- *Encourage use of rainwater tanks especially on public buildings (community)*
- *Tanks*
- *Adequate sewerage.*

## Other values or issues you wish to add:

These have been grouped under the following headings:

### Roads and road/pedestrian/cyclist safety

- Upgrade road – need better quality. (3 mentions)
- Roundabout at junction of Ocean Drive and Seawind Chase
- Road patching is not done well – NB corner of Ocean Drive and Thompson Place – very poor quality work.
- Bonny Hills Bypass (would stop a lot of hooligans using Ocean Drive as a race track) (3 mentions)
- Speed control methods on northern section of Panorama Drive. (mainly P platers roar up and down the straight section)
- Upgrade Houston Mitchell Drive.
- Ban cyclists on Houston Mitchell Drive
- Footpath from Bonnyview Store to Panorama Drive
- Footpath to Bonnyview Estate

**13 mentions in total**

### Environment

- No concrete paths south of Bartletts Beach – keep them all natural!
- Promote natural assets
- Logging of forests in region – protect remaining old growth (2 mentions)
- Air Quality is a logical addition to these major issues – trail bike noise and smoke from fires.
- No culling of deer

**6 mentions in total**

### Rubbish

- Dog droppings must be picked up by owners
- Parents pick up your rubbish and teach your children to do likewise
- Fine concrete truck drivers for dumping leftover cement in bushland in Seafront Circuit – and builders for dumping rubbish
- No rubbish dumping
- Mail out re dumping of rubbish and use of green bins.
- Spoons Bay needs a big clean-up by Landcare or Council

**6 mentions in total [could add this to Environment above?]**

### Safety

- Policing to avoid hoons from destroying village atmosphere
- Concerned about vandalism and antisocial behaviour by local youth.
- Street lighting from Binilla Drive to Store and Community Hall.
- More effective street lighting
- Better street lighting at all intersections on Ocean Drive to Lake Cathie.

**5 mentions in total [these might be fitted in under village atmosphere and road/pedestrian safety?]**

### **Village atmosphere/ Development**

(2 mentions)

- *BHPA Values are perfect – we must avoid indiscriminate development at all costs*
- *Village atmosphere of prime importance with natural attractions for families*
- *Environmentally sustainable initiatives*
- *Village shopping area – NOT a supermarket complex.*
- *Assistance to retain Wauchope/Bonny Hills identity – danger of becoming south Port Macquarie.*
- *A public school to protect and promote community cohesion.*
- *No further housing developments other than already planned and approved.*
- *A whale watching platform at the old lookout on Honeysuckle Drive (where the old bus went over the cliff)*
- *Restoration of old dam at Bartletts Beach – use for watering park.*

**10 mentions in total**

### **Energy use/climate change**

- *Solar energy – solar cars*
- *Renewable energy opportunities encouraged*
- *Climate Change impact recognised and included in all planning decisions*

**3 mentions in total**

### **Other**

- *Too many surf competitions at Bonny Hills*

**[might fit under village atmosphere?]**

## What in your view, is the type of development that we must resist?

### Building height

High rise 22  
Not more than 3 storeys  
No 3 storey development overlooking the beach 2  
Large multi storey tourist development along coastal strip 2  
Apartment buildings  
Retain views of existing houses

**28 mentions**

### Type of development

High density 4  
Industrial 4  
Commercial  
Woolworths/Coles/Maccas, KFC etc.  
Large shopping complexes  
No holiday rentals

**12 mentions**

### Environmental considerations

Anything that removes large trees – esp. near beach  
Any type of development that may cause pollution  
Noisy recreational  
Things that create noise (other than constructions)

**4 mentions**

### Other

Lifting of road speed limit

## What additional facilities, qualities or amenities must be promoted, protected and developed?

### General principles

Sustainable living concepts  
Kerb & guttering  
Air quality 2

**4 mentions**

### Specific development suggestions

Small supermarket (IGA or ALDI) 2  
Proceed with proposed neighbourhood shopping centre (Jungarra)  
Doctors surgery/ and chemist 2  
Newsagency  
Swimming pool  
Police station  
New surf club 4  
- with restaurant/cafe  
Cafes/eating precinct which complements views and village atmosphere and natural beauty 3  
Mobile library  
Art gallery?

**17 mentions**

### Facilities for younger people

School  
Safe cycleways to adjoining towns – and to high school!-completed, good quality 8  
Sporting facilities/playing fields 5  
Childrens entertainment amenities 2  
Shade for all childrens playgrounds 2

**18 mentions**

Environmental amenity

Walking trails (leashed dogs permitted)

Preserve existing wildlife corridors at all costs

Coastal walkway – LC (with café enroute)

- Nth Haven

Keep maximum bushland around beach

**5 mentions**

Broader district issues?

Waste Transfer Station 2

Replace Stingray Ck bridge asap so coach for Sydney can pick up again from BH

**2 mentions**

**Suggestion of a name change for the BHPA**

24 people wanted to retain the current name and 22 wanted to change it – 18 of these suggesting BH Community Association. This suggests no strong case for a change.