

## **Acknowledging the Inclusion of Planning Submissions for Berry in the New Land Use Planning Scheme**

Submitted by: Cirs John Wells & Patricia White

### **Purpose / Summary**

The following Notice of Motion, of which due notice has been given, is submitted for Council's consideration.

### **Recommendation** That Council

- 1 Give priority to the finalisation of the Princess Street Heritage Conservation areas and the completion of a draft DCP for the area of Berry east of the Princes Highway (known as old Berry).
2. Incorporate this work in the new program for the Shoalhaven Land Use Planning Scheme.

### **Background**

Our colleagues may recall reviewing an email from Berry's CCB - the Berry Forum - on Saturday 26 August expressing concern that Report CL 23.279 - Proposed Approach - New Shoalhaven Land Use Planning Scheme appeared not to acknowledge or recognise two areas of significant planning concern to the Berry Community.

The areas of concern, which the Berry Forum is asking Council to specifically acknowledge, are the inclusion of a Princess Street Heritage Conservation Area (HCA) and the preparation of a Development Control Plan (DCP) for 'old' Berry, being the township to the east of the Highway.

An excellent deputation by Ms Catherine Barlow clearly outlined the case the Berry Forum has been pressing for some considerable time. Amendments were proposed by us to acknowledge that the new Land Use Planning Scheme would indeed need to address these matters, as the character of Berry is changing quickly.

Regrettably, our proposed amendments were washed over in the debate by other amendments (which we supported) on the grounds that one particular town or another shouldn't be given specific attention or recognition. This in our view does not have much merit given the report specifically mentions several townships, including Berry.

The point of difference here however is that few of the towns mentioned, if any, have put-in the hard yards to provide Council and its staff with draft planning documents for the HCA and DCP.

The Forum has used its own resources, expertise and time to progress the adoption of provisions to assist preserve the unique character of this remarkable township. Our motion is saying to that township "Yes, we've heard and acknowledged your submissions and yes, they will be part of the body of work comprising the Land Use Planning Scheme."

We believe we can also say to the community "The work you have done will facilitate Council's planning task and hopefully achieve an acceptable outcome!

Our motion conveys these sentiments to Berry. We commend it to you.