
From: Linda Rumney <lindarumney@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 6 September 2021 10:31 PM
To: Enquiries
Subject: RE: Opposition to MCUI 2021_4156 L78 Captain Cook Hwy Mowbray

To the Douglas Shire Council,

I would like to lodge my strong opposition to the application to seek development approval for the establishment of a "private helipad and pilot accommodation with permission to fly in/out by helicopter ,Lot 78 on SR41,

and Permit for Material Change of Use on the basis that it would negatively impact Yule Point and surrounds.

Yule Point has important biological and cultural significance. A known dugong habitat with kms of beautiful sand flats and ecologically important mangroves, it's a place locals and tourists love to visit and explore.

Loud noise created by helicopters coming and going will disrupt and detract from this very special location not only for those visiting Yule Point but also for those residents in the Mowbray, Yule Point, Pretty Beach and Oak Beach area.

Has there been any assessment of impacts for the coastal/migratory birds under the take off/set down flight path? I have been a resident in this area since 1978 and we have fought hard to retain the natural beauty and pristine landscapes which draw so many visitors to this area. Please **don't underestimate the value of these unique natural landscapes** which we are so fortunate to have in our shire.

Another helipad seems excessive and unnecessary as Port Douglas and surrounds already have several helipads and landing strips that surely could be used for this purpose and are only a few minutes away by air! **If the materials are airlifted from other designated storage points why is this one even necessary?** Why is a hangar and accomodation for two pilots necessary...are these pilots employed by Helibiz? If so, wouldn't this make it a commercial venture? And how is it a private helipad when the proposal states that the helicopters are for use in airlifting materials for the construction of the Wangetti Trail. Again, isn't that a commercial venture? The company, Algona Developments, Helibiz specialises in helicopter sales, servicing, training and safaris. If the rezoning of this application were approved then I fear that this could lead to a much bigger development than servicing the Wangetti Trail or even the possibility that it is a part of a larger development. If so, it should be assessed as such from the start.

An application for the new Paws and Claws to be built in this same area was originally rejected by the State Government when they decided to deny Council's bid to relocate to Yule Point reasoning that the area was a known Cassowary habitat. The Department said they knocked back the sale of the land due to environmental values, incorporating wetlands, of concern regional ecosystems, and essential habitat for the endangered Southern Cassowary. Does this not still apply?

Due to poor signage, this came to my attention and other concerned locals only a few days ago. An application for a change of zoning is a matter of huge concern for shire residents and therefore should be widely publicised and open for community consultation.

For the reasons above, I implore the council to reject the rezoning of this very special place so that Yule Point remains a valuable natural asset, undisturbed and preserved, for future generations to enjoy.

Kind regards,

Linda Rumney

10 Sherrington Road, Mowbray